

Credit Card Fraud Gets New Remedy

Have you had fraudulent charges on your credit card account? We just had it happen to us for the fifth time. We are tired of new card numbers and updating our bills each time it occurs. Like many people, we are frustrated with the process and searching for a solution to prevent this from happening in the future.

The usual procedure after someone receives the dreaded email notification that their card has been compromised is relatively simple. First, the account holder reports the false charges via phone or website of the credit card company. After the charges are marked by the account holder, the credit card company sends a new credit card in a few days. Then, the customer updates their related accounts and life goes back to normal.

However, in the meantime, the customer is inconvenienced by having to use cash, a debit card, or write checks. We don't carry much cash because it's dangerous and are even more scared of using our debit card for fear of a security hack directly into our checking account! Seriously, when is the last time you wrote a *check*?

The advice on how to protect yourself from credit card fraud is everywhere on the internet. Shop only on trusted and secure websites, don't click on links in emails from strange sources, and never hand out personal information to untrusted sources are just a few of the tips. Most consumers are aware of these strategies, but what if there was a better way to prevent the fraud in the first place?

The credit card companies have been working diligently to keep up with the hackers. They have used tactics such as signatures, picture IDs, and now the chip in the card is supposed to be the latest innovation. However, there is still rampant fraud and companies are spending huge amounts of their budgets to try and keep up with apprising their equipment and technology.

One upcoming innovation in credit card design may have the answer – change the card constantly in the moment. Oberthur Technologies in France has already designed a card called the [OT Motion Code™](#). This card contains an extra layer of security by using a tiny screen on the back of the card to display a random code that changes automatically every hour. This will take the place of the currently printed three-digit security code. [This video](#) from the OT website shows how the card works. The image below depicts how the card looks. (Oberthur Technologies, 2016)



It is powered by a very thin lithium battery supposed to last for three years. One negative aspect of the card is customers won't be able to memorize their security code. They will have to check the back of the card every time they want to make an online purchase.

Consumers are still going to have to implement the usual safe practices to help prevent fraud, but perhaps this will be a more cutting edge feature that will make change more convenient than the old processes. I know that my family and I are looking forward to more innovative thinking in this area of information security and hope to see our lives improve as a result.