

NEW \$100 BILL ON THE BLOCK *Are You Ready?*

By Bruce C. Mitchell

Nothing lasts forever, including the look and feel of U.S. currency. The government has made various changes to both coins and bills over the years, and although these changes don't occur often, they can cause issues when they do.

One of the main issues for any business or organization that takes in cash is the possibility that counterfeit bills will sneak their way into your tills. If you own counterfeit detectors or currency-counting machines with built-in detectors, you're ahead of the

game, but the change in the bills will bring a change in your needs. It's time to upgrade your equipment.

You may wonder what will necessitate this upgrade. Well, come this fall, a new \$100 bill will enter circulation—Ben Franklin will be getting a makeover. Among the visual differences are color and image changes that occur with movement of the bill and a different perspective of the image of Independence Hall, showing the back rather than the front of the building. There is also micro-printing on Ben's collar stating, "The United

States of America" as well a large "100" on the back of the bill to aid those with visual impairments. A tactile difference will be present, as well, in the form of raised printing across Mr. Franklin's shoulder, which can be felt as a slightly rough texture.

Your money counters will still do a fine job of checking and detecting the current counterfeit \$100 bills that will remain in circulation, but counterfeit versions of the new and different bills will slip right through, causing you loss of revenue and potential legal issues.

That is, of course, unless you upgrade your equipment. You may be wondering how to do this and where to even begin finding out how, but it's actually pretty simple.

Your best source for upgrading information is the point of purchase of your equipment. Your sales rep at the company from which you purchased it can help with your specific machines; they will also direct you to educational materials from the U.S. Treasury that recommend specific industry-designed packages to train your employees on the new bills.

Being aware of and prepared for the change will ensure a smooth transition whenever changes occur in the currency you count and scan every day. Your machines will continue to be an important part of making your day-to-day operation run smoothly and efficiently! **N**

Bruce Mitchell is an expert on currency equipment and the owner of Mitchell Enterprises, a company that distributes money-counter and coin-counter equipment to retailers and the banking industry. For more information, visit the website at <http://www.count-money.com>.



3-D Security Ribbon

Tilt the note back and forth, focusing on the blue ribbon. You will see the bells change to 100s as they move. The ribbon is woven into the paper, not printed on it.

Bell in Inkwell

Tilt the note to see the color-shifting bell in the copper inkwell change from copper to green.

