



Why 40 office workers in Wisconsin let a tattoo artist put a microchip in their hand

Editors, USA TODAY Published 5:54 p.m. ET Aug. 1, 2017 | Updated 5:56 p.m. ET Aug. 1, 2017

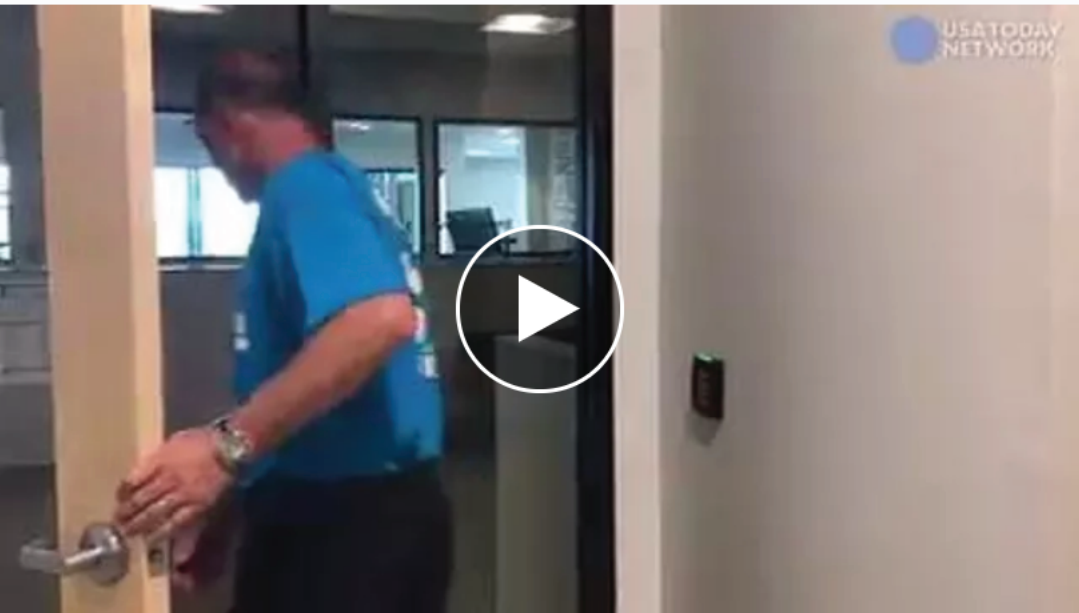


(Photo: James Brooks, AP)

It was the tattoo artist, in the cafeteria.

In one of the oddest corporate ceremonies we've heard of, [a tattoo artist inserted rice-sized microchips into the hands of employees](#) at Three Square

Market, a Wisconsin firm that makes cafeteria kiosks to replace vending machines. The point: convenience. Chipped employees can bypass key fobs and badges and corporate log-ons to computers. And the company would like to see payments go cashless. The pain: "It stung for about an hour and a half," company president Patrick McMullan said. The entire process took about a minute. The tattoo artist cleaned the skin, found a spot in the hand to pinch, inserted a syringe, installed the chip, then covered the spot with a bandage. The privacy concern: The chip does not have GPS in it, so the boss can't track your movements. Is it dangerous? Some [Swedes have been chipped for years](#).



Employees at a Wisconsin firm got embedded with microchips--USA TODAY and the Wausau Daily Herald are on the scene. Video by Laura Schulte and Jefferson Graham