

SECURITY IS SERIOUS

5 QUESTIONS. 5 ANSWERS

How does HID address the challenge of insecure environments?

We know that most humanitarians operate in insecure environments. Thus, we have taken important steps with HID to help protect your safety. First, you have complete control over what and how much information you share. Second, we have built in a “human verification” process which can then be used to help protect contact lists in certain situations while retaining access for verified responders. And, third, we have implemented modern technical tools and safety approaches. We continue to listen to our field colleagues and will soon begin to build even more features for security purposes.

How will you use my data and ensure that it is safe?

HID takes all precautions and actions possible to ensure that your data remains safe and secure. In more dangerous crises, we apply additional security and only allow users who are verified by an HID manager to access contact information.

As well, we will:

1. Never publish any data that you do not explicitly provide;
2. Never sell your data;
3. Never share your password;
4. Always encrypt all connections through the use of security certificates (SSL / HTTPS);
5. Require your authorization for third-party websites to access HID on your behalf.

Since anyone can register, how can I know if someone is “real”?

HID includes the ‘verification’ of users. This process is a manual one conducted by Humanitarian ID managers around the world. To be verified, a manager must know, or have a reliable reference for, a responder. Managers will only verify known people who can be trusted to access all HID contact lists including those lists related to insecure environments.

How does HID prevent abuse or SPAM?

First, we have ensured that HID cannot be scanned by any search engines. So, your contact details will not show up in public searches. Second, we have made it difficult for an individual user to copy a large number of emails from HID. Managers do have advanced abilities to export such information, but these are HID trusted managers. Third, all HID users have implicitly committed to abiding by our Code of Conduct. And, finally, should you experience or suspect any abuse, kindly report it to info@humanitarian and we will investigate it promptly.

Can I restrict who sees my details on HID?

In 2016 we will build a “connection” type feature where you will be able to select who can see your full HID profile. We want to keep HID simple-to-use but powerful enough to be useful. Thus, we will take some time to investigate how to properly implement this idea before moving forward.