17. An article comprising one or more infrared-detectable identification markings comprising

an infrared-absorbing particulate component, wherein the infrared-absorbing component is chosen from inorganic materials, particularly the material class of oxides, sulfides, and selenides of tin, zinc, antimony, molybdenum, tungsten, bismuth, and their mixed compounds, and a carbon derivative, wherein the carbon derivate is chosen from soot, graphite, fullerenes, graphenes, and carbon nanotubes, their derivatives, and their compounds,

wherein the weight ratio of the infrared-absorbing particulate component to the carbon derivative in the range of 100:1 to 10,000:1.

18. The article of claim 17, wherein the article comprises a surface and the one or more identification markings are on the surface of the article.

19. The article of claim 17, wherein the one or more markings form a security code or a data matrix code.

20. The article of claim 17, wherein the article is selected from the group consisting of identification cards, credit cards, debit cards, and combinations thereof.

21. The article of claim 17, wherein the article is a consumer good.

22. The article of claim 17, wherein the article is a textile.

23. The article of claim 17, wherein the identification markings are visually undetectable.

24. A method of marking an article comprising applying the composition of claim 1 to the article in the form of one or more identification markings.

25. The method of claim 24 wherein the composition is applied to the article by ink jet printing.