Documents of English news archive

Part II: International

N. khorshidi

1394

International Cooperation Division of NOCR
Preface

In order to keep work experiences and provide Documentation and archive of the taken proceeding in international cooperation of NOCR, the news archive had been created in 2013 upon the collection of news in the 2011 (2011 is the date of launching the International Affairs sub portal). Following the process, the present collection consists of 250 news and classified to 3 categories; have been set on the mentioned sub portal on 2014; from 5 March to 14 October. We hope it should be considered by the current and future staff or clients to achieve the interested research studies goals.

International cooperation Expert

Nasrin Khorshidi.
### A. **ID-Smart or ID card:**

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<td>Datacard Group continues to add to its product portfolio to offer the most complete line of stand-alone and inline card delivery solutions for issuance of payment, citizen ID and membership or loyalty cards</td>
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B. E-government ;biometric; trust Services(security)

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1. New EU regulation for electronic ID and trust services

On 4 June 2012, the European Commission proposed a draft Regulation on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the internal market. The Regulation is due to be formally endorsed by the European Parliament in the April plenary session and by the Council of Ministers in June. It will come into force on 1st July 2014 and will be directly applicable across the EU from that date. The economic effect will be immediate, overcoming problems of fragmented national legal regimes and cutting red tape and unnecessary costs. Vice-President Neelie Kroes and Commissioner Michel Barnier welcomed Member States’ endorsement of a “Draft regulation on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions” in the internal market.

The Regulation will enable, for example, students to enrol at a foreign university online; citizens to fill online tax returns in another EU country; and businesses to participate electronically in public calls for tenders across the EU. Neelie Kroes said: “The adoption of this Regulation on e-ID is a fundamental step towards the completion of the Digital Single Market. This agreement boost trust and convenience in cross-border and cross-sector electronic transactions. I would like to thank the European Parliament, especially ITRE’s rapporteur, Marita Ulvskog and IMCO’s rapporteur, Marielle Gallo, the shadow rapporteurs, as well as the Greek, Lithuanian, Irish and Cypriot Presidencies for all their work on this file.”

EU ambassadors endorsed the political agreement reached between representatives of the European Parliament, Commission and Council on Tuesday 25 February on the final elements of this significant single market proposal.

A predictable regulatory environment for eID and electronic trust services is key to promote innovation and stimulate competition. On the one hand, it will ensure that people and businesses can use and leverage across borders their national eIDs to access at least public services in other EU countries fully respecting privacy and data protection rules. On the other hand, it will remove the barriers to seamless electronic trust services across borders by ensuring that they enjoy the same legal value as in paper-based processes.

Michel Barnier, Commissioner for Internal Market and Services added: “I welcome this agreement which is key to completing our work on the Single Market Act. It is an important step for the development of e-commerce, e-invoicing and e-procurement. The new rules will allow all actors in the single market - citizens, consumers, businesses and administrative authorities - to develop their “on-line” activities.” European Union
2. **Tumblr boosts security with two-factor authentication**

In an effort to deter hackers, the blogging platform introduces added security that requires users to log-in with both a password and cell phone code.

Tumblr introduces two-factor authentication. Tumblr

Tumblr has joined the ranks of Google, Apple, Microsoft, Twitter, Dropbox, and many others in beefing up users' online security with two-factor authentication.

The blogging platform announced on Monday that it has launched the added security measure via users' Settings page. Now, Tumblr bloggers have the option of making it more difficult for outside actors to access their dashboards.

"You know how you need two keys to launch a nuclear missile?" Tumblr wrote in a blog post. "Two-factor authentication works like that. One key is your password, the other key is your cellular phone, and you need both to access your Tumblr Dashboard. Keep your Dashboard safe and secure, like you do with your nuclear missile."

**Related stories**

- [Tumblr activates SSL, but with a catch](#)
- [Multifactor authentication extended to all Office 365 users](#)
- [Tumblr lets loose its first Transparency Report](#)
- [Twitter fights hacking with two-factor authentication](#)
- [How to set up Google's two-step verification](#)

The goal of two-factor authentication is to make it more difficult for hackers, stalkers, or any other nefarious actors, to access users' accounts. The security measure won't necessarily stop bad guys in their tracks, but it does make it harder for them to access user accounts.

Most two-factor, or multi-factor, authentications requires users to type in their password and then the Web site creates a random code that is then sent to the users' cell phone or some other device -- only after users type this code back into the Web site, can they log into their account. In the case of Tumblr, the site will send the code to users' cell phones.

"The smile of a loved one. Your childhood blanket. A handsome bodyguard to take you in his arms," Tumblr wrote. "'Security' can mean a lot of things in this crazy life, but nothing says 'security' like Tumblr's two-factor authentication."
Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates & London, March 25, 2014 – NEC Corporation (NEC; TSE: 6701) announced today that it is showcasing its latest range of physical and cyber security solutions for a wide range of enterprise and government applications at the International Security and National Resilience 2014 (ISNR) in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, on 1-3 April 2014.

Exhibits will include NEC's market leading biometric solutions, including a contactless hybrid finger scanner that simultaneously assesses a citizen's fingerprint and finger vein to provide the highest possible level of recognition accuracy and prevent identity fraud. NEC's biometrics technologies have been used in more than 40 countries worldwide in a broad range of applications including border control, national voter registration, national ID and criminal investigation systems.

During the show, NEC will also demonstrate its NeoFace Watch facial recognition surveillance service. The solution matches security camera images in real-time against a watch list database of individuals suspected of presenting a criminal or public safety threat, in addition to missing persons. NEC was recently awarded the 2014 Global Frost & Sullivan Award for Customer Value Leadership for its facial recognition solution.

NEC will also highlight its cybersecurity and counterintelligence services. This includes the introduction of "Cyber Range", a comprehensive platform for training, testing and validating large-scale IT and network security systems. It enables governments and enterprises to simulate cyber-attacks against their systems in a secure and virtualized environment in order to develop effective strategies and countermeasures for protecting their intellectual property and customer data from cyber-attacks and preventing fraudulent activity which can cause significant public, financial and reputational damage.

Noboru Takahashi, President & CEO, NEC Saudi Arabia Ltd. said “NEC is an end-to-end provider of advanced security systems on a global basis. We offer a combination of market leading biometric technologies, specialist expertise in large-scale cloud computing, big data and IT system integration projects in addition to advanced cybersecurity monitoring and audit capabilities. This puts us in a unique position to help private and public organisations create a safer society.”
Financial services firms have been highly aggressive in their pursuits of advanced banking and transaction technology in the past several years, and as data tends to be sensitive in this sector, access controls have been a focal point of priorities. From mobile banking applications to more advanced ATMs and other machines, these firms need to ensure that all potential endpoints and systems that will handle financial information are properly secured.

As one of the most common reasons for security breaches continues to be user error or negligence, the trick is to create a set of access controls that are as intuitive as possible, as this will boost engagement and minimize risks. Multi-factor authentication has started to shine through as the most popular and effective way to control access from the ever-expanding variety of devices, applications and networks used to complete transactions.

**App attacks**

Several reports have been released in the past few months regarding the relatively horrendous security of applications that are being used on mobile devices, especially those related to banking functions. Now, CNBC reported that iPhones might represent a significant security risk because of un-patched vulnerabilities that are present on a variety of Apple devices, including iPods and iPads.

According to the news provider, roughly 20 percent of the personal finance apps are using the latest version of iOS, and developers have unlocked a flaw that leaves banking information at risk of theft and loss. It is important to note this represents one of the more common reasons why avoidable events occur: the lack of diligence when maintaining operating systems and applications on personal devices.

Most updates will include patches that defend against discovered security flaws, and in the instance of this specific iOS issue, as much as 80 percent of users might be at risk because they have not upgraded. The source asked Jake Fuentes, the chief executive officer of Level, about the issue, and how he feels Apple and his firm will need to go about correcting the problem before more significant damages become a reality.

"We are in a situation where we have a fairly widely known and easily exploitable security vulnerability," he told CNBC. "We don't how much of it is being accessed, but data like your contact information, banking passwords and a lot of other things that people thought was safe, isn't."

**Do not phone in access controls**

Pedro Pavon, writing for Lexology, recently explained some of the characteristics of commercially reasonable bank security frameworks, which has become an important matter for banks in the United States after a landmark decision in the battle between People's United Bank and Patco Construction. A court ruled that the bank had commercially unreasonable structures in place, and awarded restitution to Patco.

However, this goes back to the argument of Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards, in that banks should not do the bare minimum and simply hope for the best. Instead, using more advanced authentication solutions and going above and beyond the call of duty when it comes to commercially reasonable frameworks will be a far more effective approach.

*connect:ID Report - Law enforcement and the military*

27/03/14
In the second of a series of reports from the recent *connect:ID* conference and exhibition, the *International Biometrics & Identification Association* reveals how biometrics are crucial to success in the military and law enforcement sectors…

5. OT and Network International announce strategic partnership on banking cards and personalisation & celebrate the inauguration of OT’s largest service centre in the MEA Region; Colombes, France, March 26, 2014

News Group: International 2  Date: 2014/04/06

Oberthur Technologies (OT), a world leader in digital security solutions for the mobility space and Network International, the leading payment solutions provider in the Middle East, today announced a strategic partnership which brings together a complete portfolio of payment solutions including card personalisation, EMV and related payment security services to clients across the Middle East and Africa. OT is also pleased to announce the inauguration of the largest service centre within the MEA region, located in Dubai.

The partnership leverages on OT’s expertise in the smartcard industry and on its Common Personalisation System (CPS). With the opening of its state of the art service centre located in Dubai, OT will provide personalisation and fulfilment services to its customers across Middle East and Africa. It is fully certified by both MasterCard and Visa, measures 800 m2 and has a capacity to issue 15Mu cards annually. The new service centre consolidates OT’s acquisition of Cupola Plastic Cards in 2012 and Obernet in 2013 to create a centre of excellence in this region.

Network International’s strong customer base and relationships across the Middle East make them an ideal partner for OT, in order to introduce advanced solutions in personalisation, mobile payments, NPC and authentication. Their decision to use OT’s technologies is proof of how the company is transforming itself to accelerate its development and capture new market opportunities.

“We are pleased to announce this partnership with Network International which has certainly played a vital role in transforming the UAE’s payment service industry. The continued cooperation between both companies and especially this new agreement enables us to increase the scale of our local business and offer an array of new valuable services in the country” said Eric Duforest, Managing Director of the Payment Business Unit at OT.

“We are also pleased to have inaugurated our service centre in Dubai, which is the largest in the MEA region.”

Bhairav Trivedi, Chief Executive Officer, Network International, said: “With cards becoming an object of prestige and value beyond their payment capability, card personalization is becoming increasingly important today. Financial institutions view their payment cards as primary drivers in strengthening cardholder relationships, and are often on the lookout for innovation and security focused features that can add considerable value. Network International is confident that this partnership with OT will enable us to offer clients tailored solutions that will exceed their expectations.”

ABOUT OBERTHUR TECHNOLOGIES
OT is a world leader in digital security solutions for the mobility space. OT has always been at the heart of mobility, from the first smart cards to the latest contactless payment technologies which equip millions of smartphones. Present in the Payment, Telecommunications and Identity markets, OT offers end-to-end solutions in the Smart Transactions, Mobile Financial Services, Machine-to-Machine, Digital Identity and Transport &
Access Control fields, OT employs over 6,000 employees worldwide, including 600 R&D people. With more than 50 sales offices across 5 continents and 10 facilities, OT’s international network serves clients in 140 countries. For more information: www.oberthur.com

ABOUT NETWORK INTERNATIONAL

Established in 1994, Network International LLC is the largest acquirer, and one of the leading payment solutions providers in the Middle East, geared to meet the needs of banks, financial institutions and large and individual retailers. It is a Principal Member of Visa International and MasterCard International for the UAE, offering customers the most comprehensive range of payment products and services for both the Issuing and Acquiring segment of the card payment industry. Offerings include credit and debit card processing services, ATM management and monitoring, merchant acquiring plus consumer finance applications. Network International provides consultancy services ranging from planning and designing, to developing of new card and consumer finance products and services. Network International is the first independent vendor certified by both Visa & MasterCard for card payments in the Middle East. It is the UAE’s largest payment acquirer for Credit & Debit Cards and the largest third-party processing vendor offering complete EMV certified solutions as institutions migrate to EMV Smart Card technology.

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5. South Africa: Applicants Urged to Collect Their Smart Card IDs

News Group: International 2     Date: 2014/04/06

Pretoria — The Department of Home Affairs on Wednesday urged those who have applied for their smart ID cards and have received notification to collect them, to do so.

Home Affairs Deputy Minister Fatima Chohan on Wednesday said that many of the calls made to the department’s offices were from people calling to verify whether their IDs are really ready. The notifications, she said, were not a “hoax”.

It is possible for citizens to receive their smart card’s two days after applying for one, she said.

To date, the department has processed over 140,749 smart card IDs and as of 24 March, 26,866 cards have been collected.

"We encourage citizens to collect their smart ID cards," said Deputy Minister Chohan.
Meanwhile, Cabinet has approved the approach on the expiry of permits issued under the Special Dispensation for Zimbabweans Project (DZP).

"The permit holders will be expected to re-apply for their permits in their country of origin. The Minister [Naledi Pandor] will in due course provide more clarity on the process to be followed and the date of commencement," said Deputy Minister Chohan.

SAnews.gov.za

7. LaserLock Technologies, DuoChrome+ Chosen to Protect National ID Cards in the Dominican Republic

LaserLock Technologies, DuoChrome+ Chosen to Protect National ID Cards in the Dominican Republic

News Group : International 2  Date : 2014/04/07

Corvus Integration, Inc., in collaboration with Vista Imaging, Inc., is pleased to announce the VistaEY2-P dual iris & face camera.

March 28, 2014 - The EY2P performs single pose collection of ISO/IEC 19794-5/6 compliant iris and face images at a distance of 22 inches, ensuring the consistent collection of quality images that are optimized for iris and face recognition. The EY2P is a user friendly, multi-modal biometric collection peripheral that is suitable for a wide variety of identity management applications and programs to include: national identity, border control, law enforcement, customs and visa, finance and banking, and healthcare. Utilizing quality components, custom optics, and proprietary distance sensing, the EY2P provides accurate focus analysis and auto acquisition capabilities. The EY2P features an integrated flash for poorly lit environments to optimize the collection of facial images and real-time liveness detection for iris acquisitions. The EY2P is integrated into Raven, Corvus’ proprietary identity management application software, which provides users with a multi-modal biometric collection, matching, and enrollment capability.

PACS/LACS Migration For Large Multi-Site Organisations

Canberra Rex Hotel, Canberra, Australia: 2-3 July 2014

PACS/LACS • MOBILE & DATA SECURITY • PLAID • MULTI-SITE MANAGEMENT • SECURITY
8. **Identity & Access Management 2014**


**Target Audience**

This event will be targeted at CIOs, CSOs, VPs, Directors and Managers of IT Security, IT Compliance and Risk Management, IAM Program Managers, Enterprise Solutions Architects, Systems Integrators and Suppliers of solutions and Equipment for identity management and access control throughout the region.

**About the Conference**

The conference will enable government agencies, financial institutions and commercial organisations to discuss the changing requirements for enterprise identity management, latest security trends and the future roadmap for access control in the workplace. Also highlighted will be technologies that are creating new ways for organisations to manage multiple sites and supporting technologies for employees to access facilities, assets and information systems in the workplace.

**Topics to be discussed include:**

- Multi-site Physical Access Control Transition
- Platform for Lightweight Authentication of Identity (PLAID)
- State of Play in Australia for PACS and LACS
- PACS / LACS via Mobile Devices
- High level mobile voice and data security
- Security Apathy in a Screen Swipe World
- Multi-Application token Initiatives across the Organisation
- Migration planning for new cohesive Security of Networks

**Who Attended Previous IAM Events**

Since 2012, APSCA’s IAM conferences have been attended by a growing number of industry experts from across the region. In 2013, over 90 senior-level delegates responsible for IT Security, Fraud & Risk Management and IAM Program Management from government agencies, financial institutions, MNOs, solutions providers and research institutions from 8 international markets attended the 2nd conference in Taipei.

**Business Opportunities**

This international event will be an opportunity for IT professionals and security professionals from around the world to network, share experience and discuss the future of identity management, information security & business efficiency for connected organisations.

**Sponsorship & Exhibition Opportunities**

Speaking and Exhibiting opportunities are available for suppliers of identity management and access control solutions, devices, software and services who would like to promote their solutions to public and private sector enterprises. For details, please contact Scott Austin (details below).

**Further Information**

For details, please contact Scott Austin at the APSCA office in Australia at scott.austin@apsca.org, or call +61 41063 3849 (Australia), +65 9487 5521
DuoChrome+™ is a unique pigment offered by LaserLock through ABnote for the protection of plastic cards and secure documents, including national ID cards, passports, bank and credit cards and government documents. It utilizes green technology to change color instantly when moved between fluorescent and other kinds of light sources. It contains multiple, embedded covert features as well.

"We are thrilled to be expanding our security pigments into new markets," said Neil Alpert, Chief Executive Officer. "We look forward to continue our strong partnership with ABnote and we are confident that LaserLock's pigments are going to continue to become the security feature of choice for governments around the world."

LaserLock offers a variety of security pigments containing both overt and covert security features, providing for multi-layered security. The pigments are ideal anti-counterfeiting tools for government documents, such as national ID cards and passports, as well as pharmaceuticals, luxury retail goods, apparel and electronics. The company entered into a strategic partnership with ABnote in April 2013.

"We strongly value our relationship with LaserLock," said Keith Goldstein, CEO of ABnote North America. "A key part of our strategic direction is for us to have innovative partners offering unique technology so we can continually offer increased value and security to our customers."

ABOUT LASERLOCK TECHNOLOGIES, INC.

LaserLock is a high-tech solutions company in the field of authenticating products and people. It offers state of the art solutions to combat counterfeiting and identity fraud for governments, health care providers, the gaming industry, the financial services industry and high-end retailers.

To learn more, visit us at www.laserlocktech.com or follow us on Twitter @LaserLockTech.

ABOUT AMERICAN BANKNOTE CORPORATION

Founded in 1795 by American patriot Paul Revere, ABnote has locations in the Americas, Europe and Australasia, and is a leading and trusted global provider of secure document solutions. Its primary products include EMV and mag stripe financial cards (such as debit and credit cards), identification documents (such as passports, national identity cards and driver's licenses), commercial plastic cards (gift, loyalty and membership), and secure documents (savings bonds, stock certificates, vital records, and checks). The company is also a leader in innovative services and solutions, such as its NFC mobile payment platform, multiple TSMs throughout the world, and personalization, secure warehousing, distribution and fulfillment capabilities worldwide.

LaserLock Technologies, DuoChrome+ Chosen to Protect National ID Cards in the Dominican Republic

10. Over 11,000 Users Register For Dubai’s MyID Service
    News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/04/07

The service provides users access to over 250 government services.
Up to 11,200 people have so far registered for the Dubai government’s MyID service, which offers users a single platform to access various Dubai government services.

Users can currently access over 250 services provided by five government entities including the Dubai Department of Economic Development, Dubai Electricity and Water Authority (DEWA), Roads and Transport Authority (RTA), Dubai Public Prosecution and Dubai Smart Government (DSG).

The MyID service is part of the Dubai government’s Smart City initiative announced in October last year, which is aimed at ensuring that government services will be accessible, quick and efficient through the use of hi-tech smart devices.

As per the government’s strategy, 1000 government services will go ‘smart’ in the next three years.

The MyID service is continuing to attract more users, both from the business sector and the public, since it is time-saving and provides easy and fast access to all government services, DSG said in a statement.

Ahmad Bin Humaidan, director general, DSG said: “Due to the overwhelming response from the public over the past period and the many calls that we received to inquire about the MyID service and the best way to benefit from it…we responded to their requests with another group of government entities of concern to customers joining the service soon including Dubai Land Department, Dubai Courts, Dubai Customs, Dubai Health Authority (DHA), Dubai Police and Mohammed Bin Rashid Housing Establishment.”

He added that the service “adheres to robust security measures.”

Interested users can register at one of the 16 DSG kiosks located across Dubai, the statement added.

DSG has also announced the addition of new features to the MyID service, including re-setting the Emirates ID’s PIN through the service’s touchscreen and adding a user guide on the MyID website.

The first phase of the service is being implemented across 20 Dubai government entities and will be later be widened to include semi-government entities.

11. **PTA requires biometric verification in Sindh, Balochistan**

   News Group : International 2  Date : 2014/04/07
The Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) has announced that Sims in the provinces of Sindh and Balochistan can only be activated through the biometric Sim verification system from 1 April. The PTA earlier required operators to install biometric verification systems to curb Sim fraud and is now requiring the system to be used in the two provinces for all Sim sales, including replacements and supplementary connections, the Daily Times reports. Despite orders, the operators have reportedly not installed biometric identity verification systems across all their shops and franchises or are not always using the system.

12. **JULIA SPITZ: No real ID? No real problem – yet**

In a flurry of mid-winter story-spinning panic, it seemed as if we would all need passports before April was out.

But unless you're looking to get into a restricted area at Department of Homeland Security's headquarters in Washington, you're still OK in the eyes of the federal government.

For now.

The full enforcement of Real ID - the 2005 law establishing uniform security standards for state-issued identification - starts April 21 for restricted areas at DHS HQ.

That's also the day a three-month grace period begins for restricted areas at all federal facilities and nuclear power plants, when "agencies will provide notice to individuals attempting (to) use driver's licenses or identification cards from non-compliant states but still allow access," according to Homeland Security's website.

Yes, Massachusetts is one of the 14 "non-compliant" states and territories, and we don't even have an asterisk indicating "federal officials may continue to accept enhanced driver's licenses from these states," like Minnesota and New York.
Of course, most of us don't routinely visit restricted areas of federal buildings or nuclear power plants, which, to the best of my knowledge, don't routinely allow random tourists to wander about anyway.

So, all's good. For now.

Next January is when things could get dicier for a few more of us. The full enforcement of Real ID at "semi-restricted'' federal facilities begins Jan. 19, 2015, according to the most recent Homeland Security timetable.

You could still go to the Smithsonian in Washington, or other federal sites that don't require ID to enter, but the Moakley Courthouse in Boston could be off-limits to Massachusetts residents who currently rely on the Massachusetts driver's license to let them attend a trial. Alabama, Iowa, South Dakota and Utah residents don't have to worry. Should Whitey Bulger be back for a retrial, they'd be able to get into court for the spectacle because their states are among those deemed compliant. Someone from Southie? Maybe not.

But again, the number of us affected by that potential Real ID barrier may not be enough to cause an all-out uproar.

The all-out uproar will start "no sooner than 2016," the Homeland Security site notes.

OK, it doesn't say anything about all-out uproar. It says "Phase 4." But "Phase 4" involves the ID you'll need to board a domestic flight, and the way things stand now, your driver's license from a non-compliant state like ours won't be enough. You'll need a second form of ID to fly anywhere in the United States. What constitutes an acceptable second form of ID has not yet been spelled out.

There's a chance the feds might back off. Real ID deadlines have been delayed more than once, in part because of resistance from lawmakers in Massachusetts and other non-compliant states. Among the concerns: the financial burden of implementing the changes is not adequately funded by the federal government; the massive public sector database could actually put more people at risk for identity theft; the requirement for home addresses on licenses could put certain people, such as undercover police officers, in danger.

13. • Frost & Sullivan: Governments in Europe are Ruling the Game for e-ID Business

News Group : International 2     Date : 2014/04/08

National documents are expected to match global standards

March 27, 2014 --
LONDON, March 27, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- The threat of terrorist attacks and illegal immigration are pushing the use of electronic identity (e-ID) cards as a means to quickly validate the identity of citizens. In spite of financial constraints governments across Europe are investing in new e-ID management technologies, such as contactless chips, biometric identification, and public-key infrastructure, as they consider e-services a cost-effective way to help mitigate security concerns that affect nations all over the globe. Nonetheless, official e-ID deployment will take a while as the technology is still expensive and the market fragmented.

New analysis from Frost & Sullivan, Government ID: A Fragmented and Competitive Market, finds that the unit shipment of government ID documents stood at 459.6 million in 2013 and is expected to reach 911.1 million in 2018. The research covers e-Passport, e-Health card, e-ID, e-Driving License cards, and other electronic documents.

"International regulations for travelers and immigrants are shaping the e-ID document ecosystem," said Frost & Sullivan Information & Communication Technologies Global Programme Director, Jean-Noel Georges. "One such regulation requires countries across Europe to ensure that the third generation of e-Passports is strongly encrypted and has new security features, such as supplemental access control, by December 2014."

In addition, for international documents such as e-Passports, European countries must comply with the standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO). National documents also need to correspond to global standards. As a result, some countries across Europe have started to issue documents similar to those available overseas such as the European Citizen Card.

Even though these standards and regulations are expanding the market for e-ID cards, it is difficult for new entrants to penetrate this mature space. The lack of competition is generating conflicts and lobbying among the major players to win national projects. Elections, parliamentary discussions, and industry pressure all directly affect these projects, pushing up costs. The varying requirements of countries, based on particular security needs, services and distinct objectives, cause further delays and cost escalations to e-ID projects.

"To minimize the impact of these challenges, market players should partner with local participants or at least have local representatives during national ID deployment," advised Georges. "They must also clearly define and deliver on client expectations to quickly gain acceptance among customers across Europe."
If you are interested in more information on this study, please send an email to Edyta Grabowska, Corporate Communications, at edyta.grabowska@frost.com.

**Government ID: A Fragmented and Competitive Market** is part of the Smart Cards ([http://www.smartcards.frost.com](http://www.smartcards.frost.com)) Growth Partnership Service program. Frost & Sullivan’s related studies include: Payment Privacy Protection - Global Security Implications, The Future of Mobile Payments in Europe, Global One-time Password Market, and Electronic Funds Transfer Point of Sale TerminalsImplications for Digital Identification Payment Providers. All studies included in subscriptions provide detailed market opportunities and industry trends evaluated following extensive interviews with market participants.

**About Frost & Sullivan**

Frost & Sullivan, the Growth Partnership Company, works in collaboration with clients to leverage visionary innovation that addresses the global challenges and related growth opportunities that will make or break today's market participants.

Our “Growth Partnership” supports clients by addressing these opportunities and incorporating two key elements driving visionary innovation: The Integrated Value Proposition and The Partnership Infrastructure.

- **The Integrated Value Proposition** provides support to our clients throughout all phases of their journey to visionary innovation including: research, analysis, strategy, vision, innovation and implementation.
- **The Partnership Infrastructure** is entirely unique as it constructs the foundation upon which visionary innovation becomes possible. This includes our 360 degree research, comprehensive industry coverage, career best practices as well as our global footprint of more than 40 offices.

For more than 50 years, we have been developing growth strategies for the global 1000, emerging businesses, the public sector and the investment community. Is your organization prepared for the next profound wave of industry convergence, disruptive technologies, increasing competitive intensity, Mega Trends, breakthrough best practices, changing customer dynamics and emerging economies?

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**Government ID: A Fragmented and Competitive Market**

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Contact:

Edyta Grabowska

Corporate Communications Europe
14. **Corvus Integration, Inc., in collaboration with Vista Imaging, Inc., is pleased to announce the VistaEY2-P dual iris & face camera**

March 28, 2014 - The EY2P performs single pose collection of ISO/IEC 19794-5/6 compliant iris and face images at a distance of 22 inches, ensuring the consistent collection of quality images that are optimized for iris and face recognition.

15. **Smart cards could be used to restrict purchase of alcohol**

April 3, 2014 by admin 1 Comment

**Dear Editor,**

I recently came across an article in *Irish Medical Times*, published in January, entitled ‘Ireland’s high rate of alcohol is related to cancer deaths’ (17.01.14), in which *Dr Marie Laffoy* indicated that more than half of alcohol-related cancers are preventable by adhering to alcohol consumption guidelines.

It is important to emphasise, however, that the guidelines of 21 units per week for men and 14 units for women do not take into account the pattern of drinking.

The majority of people do not drink in an ‘average’ manner, or on a daily basis. Recent work in ‘Alcoholism: Clinical and Experimental Research’ found that amongst adults aged 55-65, those with excessive episodic drinking habits showed increased total mortality (vs regular moderate drinkers), even when average consumption was moderate.

Those who binged at weekends or on a night out doubled their risk of dying early, even when they consumed less than the total maximum weekly amount.

One unit (or one standard drink) is 10g of alcohol and is equivalent to half a pint of beer or a small glass of wine (half a medium-sized glass) or 35.5ml of spirits.

One bottle of wine contains eight standard drinks (8 units). So 21 units are equivalent to approximately 10 pints of beer and 14 units are approximately seven medium glasses of wine.
NHS guidelines advise that men limit their intake to a maximum of two pints of medium-strength lager per day (or two medium glasses of wine), and women’s daily intake should not exceed one medium glass and a half of wine (or one and a half pints of beer).

Given the Irish predisposition to excess alcohol (which may have resulted from our traumatic history), our driving offences while under the influence, the multiple stories of assaults and the levels of suicide and depression, it is clear that much needs to be done to reduce alcohol-related problems in Ireland.

‘People need to be protected from themselves’ Image: Getty

A good place to start is in pregnancy. All pregnant women should be advised not to drink alcohol during pregnancy.

The Government also needs to liaise with the drinks industry.

Supermarkets should only sell single individual cans of beer rather than six- or eight-packs, and wine should be sold in half-bottles (4 units).

It is possible too that smart cards could be issued to everyone, in an effort to restrict alcohol intake to the recommended maximum daily amounts. Ideally, this card would have to be used when purchasing alcohol in any shop, supermarket, pub, wine bar or restaurant.

People need to be protected from themselves, for the sake of their own health, and hospitals and the general public need to be protected from the fall-out of excess alcohol consumption.

It is time to leave the emergency room for unforeseen illnesses and the inevitable traumas that can occur in spite of every effort to prevent these.

Binge-drinking problems are ones we can all do without.

T. Mitchell,
MD FRCP FFPM,
Arklow,
Co Wicklow.

16. Fujitsu, ImageWare partner for biometric, cloud identity

Fujitsu announced the availability of multimodal biometric cloud identity and authentication services. Through a partnership with ImageWare Systems this offering provides data security and enables integration into existing or new corporate programs and applications.

The new biometric-as-a-Service solution leverages the Fujitsu Cloud Infrastructure-as-a-Service Trusted Public S5 platform, as well as its Software-as-a-Service enablement tool, SystemWalker Catalog Manager.

Fujitsu is leveraging ImageWare’s GoCloudID, a cloud-based, biometric identity management platform. GoCloudID manages access to biometric enrollment and verification to ensure data integrity and protection. In
addition to being algorithm and hardware agnostic, the system includes a software development kit for integration into existing company programs and applications.

Operating with a pay-as-you-go model, GoCloudID makes it cost effective to incorporate biometric identity verification into new and existing enterprise and service provider applications.

The new offering also addresses security on mobile devices through ImageWare’s GoMobile Interactive, a biometric-enabled mobile platform that provides multifactor identity management. GoMobile delivers app-level identity verification, fraud and theft prevention of mobile transactions and active monitoring for unauthorized access/use.

**BIO-key, IDEX partner**

BIO-key International Inc. and IDEX ASA have entered into a license agreement to collaborate on a sensor-to-server infrastructure solution for in device and online authentication for consumer applications with smartphones, tablets and PCs.

Since 1997 IDEX ASA has been in the field of capacitive fingerprint sensing technology offering its miniaturized SmartFinger swipe and touch fingerprint sensors for mass market applications. SmartFinger is suited for smart phones, tablets, PCs and other devices. BIO-key develops and supplies its NIST-validated, fingerprint matching software and WEB-key secure multifactor authentication platform.

When combined, the IDEX/BIO-key solutions will provide handset, tablet, PC as well as other device manufacturers and value-added resellers identity assurance and fingerprint authentication solutions on device and in the cloud.

**HID settles multi-tech reader lawsuits**

HID Global announced that it has settled patent-infringement lawsuits against Apollo Security, Applied Wireless IDentifications Group Inc. and Secura Key. The lawsuits included HID Global’s multi-technology reader patents.

AWID and Secura Key have agreed to license HID’s multi-technology IP applicable to their product lines.

**Coppel taps DigitalPersona**

DigitalPersona Inc. announced that Coppel Corporation, a group of retail and finance companies, has chosen DigitalPersona fingerprint technology to verify employee and customer identities in more than 800 banks and 1,000 Pension Fund Offices throughout Mexico, Argentina and Brazil.

Coppel also maintains similar biometrics-based solutions in its retail stores and warehouses throughout its network.

Coppel Corporation’s initial goal when deploying DigitalPersona fingerprint solutions was to improve customer service levels by simplifying the identification and authentication process in branch locations. Instead of undergoing a document-based process, customers now simply place their finger on the DigitalPersona U.are.U fingerprint readers and their identities are confirmed instantly.

**Identiv releases new card readers**

Identiv unveiled its uTrust TS Readers product line. uTrust TS Readers are building access readers that support all major credentials in a single reader format. uTrust TS Readers enable customers to migrate from multiple disparate legacy systems, and deliver a single identity across the entire enterprise, from door to data.
Identiv’s uTrust TS Readers support all major credentials, including proximity, smart cards and even PKI. Enabling PKI certificate-based authentication provides the highest level of employee identity verification and supports government standards, such as FICAM.

uTrust TS Readers are available in both Wiegand and Ethernet versions

17. Notify organisations of your new address

ews Group : International 2 Date : 2014/04/13

Are you redirecting your mail permanently? If so, you can take advantage of our Notify Organisations service.

We can share your new address with selected organisations, such as your bank, superannuation fund and insurance providers.

How to apply

Applying for our free Notify Organisations service is easy. Once you've redirected your mail, just login and follow these simple steps:

1. Check our list of organisations (see below) to see which of your regular providers are on the list
2. Enter the information required (this may include further proof of identity requirements for specific organisations)
3. Click the 'add' button to add each organisation to your 'My Organisations' list Once you complete the process, we will notify the organisations you selected of your new address.

What you'll need

- Your Mail Redirection Customer Reference Number (hint: you'll find this at the top right of your application form if you applied in person - or if you applied online, on your confirmation email)
- Proof of identity - if you aren't the person who lodged the original Mail Redirection application (some of the organisations listed may still require you to provide further proof of identity)
- Your account, policy or membership details for the organisations you'd like us to notify

You can come back and use the service as many times as you want, so don't worry if you don't have all the required details on hand. Please note, however, you can only notify each organisation once per individual listed on your Mail Redirection application form.

Login now

Moved? Notify organisations of your new address.

18. Dutch govt starts expertise platform on eID
Monday 7 April 2014 | 14:15 CET | News

A new technical platform to develop the eID in the Netherlands has started, housed at ECP-ECN, the government's ICT advisory body. Supported by the ministry of the interior, the platform will work on developing governance, business models and the migration of existing facilities to the eID system. Public and private providers of electronics communications, systems suppliers and registry operators will participate in the platform. The exact costs and functions of the eID system are still under development.

19. EC wants to issue 'smartcard' to voters

Moinul Haq Chowdhury, bdnews24.com


Voters in Bangladesh can now hope to dump their old laminated national identity (NID) cards for new multi-use ‘smart cards’.

The Election Commission (EC) says it is planning to issue them free-of-cost by the end of this year.

The present NID cards have the owners’ names, their parents’ names, dates of birth, and ID numbers on one side and the residential addresses on the other.

The EC and the World Bank had reached an agreement two years ago on the production and distribution of the new cards.

But the EC blames the delay in rolling them out on legal complications.

It plans to invite tender and place orders for their printing after a legal framework is put in place.

“We plan to distribute in phases the new ID cards resembling smartcards by October this year,” EC’s acting Secretary Md Sirajul Islam told bdnews24.com.
If the October deadline is missed somehow, the Commission will then start the process in early 2015.

Chief Election Commissioner Kazi Rakibuddin Ahmad is currently in the US attending a programme on NID cards.

Islam said these cards would be manufactured locally with the help of advanced technology.

“These slick-looking smartcards will be machine-readable and counterfeit-proof,” he said. “Each will cost at least $2 to make.”

EC officials say the new identity proof will be valid for at least 10 years. The fee for getting a duplicate if the original is either lost, damaged, or needs rectification will be decided later.

The CEC and EC officials are touring various countries to learn about the manufacture and use of smartcards there. Bangladesh has over 92 million registered voters. Nearly a million are yet to collect their NIDs.

The ATM Shamsul Huda-led EC in 2007 started preparing voter lists with photos and handing out NIDs with army help.

Last year, the National ID Amendment Bill was passed, making it mandatory to give each voter an identity proof.

As a result, those below 18 years of age can now have NIDs.

The amended law provides for preserving voter information and maintaining secrecy. Anyone violating the clauses could be jailed for a maximum of five years and fined Tk 50,000.

The EC, however, is yet to collect full data on those below 18 years.

20. INEC detects 114,882 multiple registrations in Ekiti, Osun

The Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) said it has detected and removed 114,882 multiple registrants from the Ekiti and Osun States voters registers, ahead of the governorship elections in the states. The INEC Chairman, Professor Attahiru Jega, disclosed this in a chat with journalists in Abuja on Monday. The governorship elections in Ekiti and Osun states would hold on June 21 and August 9, respectively. Jega said after the consolidation of the data in the voter registration in Ekiti State, there were 688,950 voters, but after running the Advance Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS), 77,609 multiple registrations representing 12 per cent of the total number of voters, were detected and removed.
He said 76,091 people registered recently after the Commission did the Continued Voters Registration (CVR) in the state. In Osun, the INEC Chairman said after consolidating the data, it got 1,355,393 voters, but after running the AFIS a total of 37,273 multiple registrants representing 2.75% were discovered and removed. He said after conducting the CVR in Osun State, the Commission had 149,755 new voters on the register.

The INEC Chairman said the Commission would still conduct AFIS in both states because politicians have devised means to engage in multiple registrations noting that the plan to conduct fresh exercise was aimed at thwarting the efforts of the politicians.

“We are now consolidating these data with what we already have and we are going to run AFIS. In fact, in both Ekiti and Osun, we have seen how our politicians were using vehicles and moving people from one polling unit to another. So we are going to again catch multiple registrations,” Jega said.

“You can see that by their attitude we are wasting resources and time because it costs money to do this thing. We have already decided that we are going to run AFIS in Ekiti and Osun States. We will run AFIS in Ekiti States with the neighbouring states particularly with the local government areas because these ones, it is easier to move there to do multiple registrations,” he added.

On the 2015 general elections, Jega said the consolidation and de-duplication of the biometric register of voters have been completed.

He said the voters register now has integrity that surpasses the register with which 2011 elections were conducted.

Jega said the register would compare favourably with anyone on the African continent.

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21. TSYS’ Vietnamese Client Goes Live with Biometric Solution

ews Group : International 2       Date : 2014/04/14
**Eximbank implements fingerprint identification and authentication for over-the-counter and ATM transactions**

COLUMBUS, Ga., U.S., and HO CHI MINH CITY, Vietnam, 7 April, 2014 — TSYS (NYSE: TSS) announced today that its leading Vietnamese client, Vietnam Export Import Commercial Joint Stock Bank — Vietnam Eximbank, has begun to deploy fingerprint authentication technology for over-the-counter or ATM transactions.

Vietnam Eximbank is one of the first banks in Vietnam to apply this technology that enables customers to make a transaction without having the physical card, ID, phone or card number present for identification, and uses only fingerprint verification when performing transactions at the counter or at the ATM.

As a client of TSYS since 2003, Vietnam Eximbank licenses TSYS' PRIME single-platform payment processing solution to manage its issuing, acquiring and payment acceptance services. The rollout of Eximbank's Transaction Identification and Authentication solution was enabled by leveraging Fingerprint Technology solutions and supporting technology within TSYS PRIME ATM controller and online secure authentication messaging functionality.

Vietnam Eximbank is planning to extend the biometric solution to point-of-sale networks where fingerprints can be used instead of ID and payment cards. It plans to make these types of transactions common across Vietnam by working with other banks in the country to build acceptance of its fingerprint authentication solution as the de facto standard deployed across the national switch.

"Ease of payments is central to the Eximbank vision of financial inclusion and the implementation of transaction identification and authentication with the support of TSYS and Fingerprint Technology is key to achieving this objective," said Mr. Mitsuaki Shiogo, vice president, Eximbank.

"Eximbank's initiatives in launching card-not-present, fingerprint authenticated transactions, demonstrate that it is a leading innovator of advanced banking technologies in the Asia Pacific region," said Amit Sethi, managing director of Asia, Middle East and Africa, TSYS International. "We are delighted to be working closely with the bank and supporting its financial inclusion strategy, sharing the extensive strengths of our licensed PRIME solution combined with our expertise as a leading global payment solutions provider."

PRIME has an extensive footprint throughout Asia, Europe, CIS, the Middle East and Africa. It has a proven track record in Asia dating back to 1992 and its footprint extends across more than 70 countries.

**About TSYS**

At TSYS® (NYSE: TSS), we believe payments should revolve around people, not the other way around. We call this belief "People-Centered Payments®." By putting people at the center of every decision we make, TSYS supports financial institutions, businesses and governments in more than 80 countries. Through NetSpend®, A TSYS Company, we empower consumers with the convenience, security, and freedom to be self-banked. TSYS offers issuer services and merchant payment acceptance for credit, debit, prepaid, healthcare and business solutions.

TSYS' headquarters are located in Columbus, Ga., U.S.A., with local offices spread across the Americas, EMEA and Asia-Pacific. TSYS is a member of The Civic 50 and has been named one of the 2013 World's Most Ethical Companies by Ethisphere magazine. TSYS routinely posts all important information on its website. For more, please visit us at www.tsys.com.

**About Eximbank**

Vietnam Export Import Commercial Joint Stock Bank — Vietnam Eximbank is one of the first Commercial Joint Stock Banks in Vietnam, officially coming into operation on 17 January 1990. Over 24 years in operation, Vietnam Eximbank is currently one of the leading banks in Vietnam. With its sustainable development strategy considering innovation as the core, Eximbank is continuously improving its competitiveness.

Today, Eximbank is one of the Commercial Joint Stock Banks having the largest shareholders' equity in Vietnam. Eximbank has developed its nationwide network of 207 branches and transaction offices and has established correspondent relationships with more than 871 banks and their branches in more than 80 countries worldwide.

The strong development of Vietnam Eximbank during the past time has been recorded and highly evaluated by
domestic and international organizations, e.g. The Banker Magazine has voted Eximbank to be in Top 1000 world's largest banks in many consecutive years; The Asiamoney awarded Vietnam Eximbank as the "Best Domestic Bank in Vietnam 2012"; most recently, The Asian Banker has awarded Eximbank with the "Best Managed Bank in Vietnam 2013". In August 2013, Vietnam Eximbank was honored to be presented with the "Best Domestic Bank in Vietnam 2013” by Euromoney. In the country, Vietnam Eximbank has also received many prestigious awards from organizations and communication agencies.

22. IDA setting up integrated database before issuing IDs

By Gadiosa Lamtey

9th April 2014, News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/04/14

The National Identification Authority (NIDA) has said the agency is setting up an integrated system that will enable various national institutions to easily retrieve an individual’s information, before it issues the IDs.

According to the authority issuance of the IDs will be the last stage of the whole process.

NIDA Director General (DG), Dickson Maimu, told The Guardian in a telephone interview on Monday that NIDA’s data system will be linked to systems of Tanzania Revenue Authority, the immigration department, financial institutions and others of national importance.

“I know many people want to have their national identity cards but the process itself is complicated. Currently, we are finalising linking our information system with other important institutions in the country. It does not help to issue one with an ID if the data is not linked with other institutions,” he said.

According to Maimu, around 80 percent of the country’s population does not have access to banks and loans, partly because there is no system of formally identifying such people.

He said it is through linking of the system that all the people in the formal and informal sectors will be easily identified and enabled to access some services that they could not get before.

Dar es Salaam residents were due to get the national IDs during this month. The DG did not say when the IDs shall be available, but stressed that once the integrated system is in place, issuance will not be much of a problem.

NIDA plans to issue national IDs to more than 2,000,000 Dar es Salaam residents anytime after installation of the integrated data system. It has so far issued IDs to 220,000 civil servants and a few selected citizens.

Janet Stratton a Kinondoni resident said the national ID is a very important document, calling on NIDA to speed up the exercise. “You know most people don’t want to hear about any challenge that the agency is facing. What we need are the IDs. Sometimes it is boring to wait for something for so long. It is almost six month since agency took our details,” she said.

Ubungo resident Hamis Kajuna called on the residents to be patient, pointing out that the exercise needs to be
handled with a lot of care.
NIDA started collecting biometric information in Zanzibar in February this year after completing the exercise in Dar es Salaam.

President Jakaya Kikwete inaugurated the national identity cards project in February last year. At that time the first 46 IDs were issued to top government leaders and a few prominent persons.

This marked a milestone in the registration and identification of Tanzanians for the first time since its independence on December 9, 1961.

SOURCE: THE GUARDIAN

23. **Muscat: The Royal Oman Police (ROP) will launch electronic passport and electronic visa app, and some other mobile apps to make it easier for people to pay traffic fines.**

The ROP will also establish a direct data link with the Ministry of Manpower's Public Prosecution and Information Technology Authority, said Brigadier Abdullah Al Jabri, general manager of IT section of ROP.

The apps will enable citizens and residents to avail themselves of electronic policing services in a very secure way.

Al Jabri said that the ROP has recently launched an alert service to warn people about expired personal documents like passports, IDs, driving licences and traffic fines.

**Morpho in talks to put biometric ID in consumer products**

French IT security company Morpho plans to expand from enterprise and government work into the consumer market, parent company Safran's CEO, Jean-Paul Herteman, told Les Echos. Safran has been discussing a major partnership with an IT or consumer electronics group such as Apple, Amazon or Samsung to co-develop a biometric ID system to be used in the latter's products. Morpho does not envisage any exchange of money at the outset, but discussions are well underway and could lead to an announcement this summer, Les Echos learned.

Morpho works on face, iris and fingerprint recognition technologies. Its customers include Aeroports de Paris and the FBI, for its 70 million-entry fingerprint database. Morpho CEO Philippe Petitcolin predicts that the market for securing digital exchanges could grow to USD 3 billion, from EUR 300 million a year at present. "It
is a new market with an enormous potential. We want to be a major player”, he said. But to get there, it needs a partner with direct access to internet users.

**25. Bitcoin launches first ATM in Israel**

A new Bitcoin-based ATM has been launched in Israel which will operate through Bits of Gold, a company that specializes in Bitcoin services for the Israeli market.

The Israeli Bitcoin Association informs that hundreds of Israeli businesses already accept Bitcoins. Bitcoin had risen from USD 15 at the beginning of 2013 to a peak price of over USD 1,150. At the end on March 2014, it was trading at around USD 447.

People can purchase Bitcoins through online exchanges, but there are often fees involved in the process. The difficulty of assessing the trustworthiness of an exchange has proven to be an obstacle.

The Bank of Israel has been warning citizens of Bitcoin’s possible risks. The warnings were strengthened with the bankruptcy of Mt. Gox in February 2014. Moreover, in February 2014, the financial institution has agreed that virtual currencies are not considered legal tender which means that virtual money cannot be used to make payments.

**26. Zong expands biometric verification system**

KARACHI: Zong has said that it will expand its’ Biometric Verification System (BVS) at their customer service centers by initially introducing it throughout Karachi and Baluchistan.

This endeavour is set to make a substantial contribution towards eliminating unregistered SIMs by adhering to the directives of Pakistan Telecommunications Authority (PTA). and the government of Pakistan.

It was in the latter half of 2013 that Zong introduced the BVS system in Pakistan. The verification system requires each citizen to approach one of their retailer, franchisee or customer service centers of Zong and provide their fingerprints for authentication against their national identity card. Upon positive verification, the SIM will be activated.

**27. Police start issuing electronic IDs for foreigners living in Slovakia**

Police start issuing electronic IDs for foreigners living in Slovakia.
1 Apr 2014 Flash News

THE FOREIGNERS’ police departments will start issuing new electronic IDs, so-called eDoPP cards, for foreigners living in Slovakia. Similar to the electronic IDs issued for Slovak citizens as of December 1, 2013, the cards will be used for authentication in electronic communication.

“It will be possible to record to the electronic chip in the eDoPP card all data to the extent and under the conditions that are set by the rules regulating the residence of foreigners in Slovakia and electronic signatures,” the Interior Ministry said, as quoted by the TASR newswire. “The validity of the card will depend on the purpose of the residence permit the foreigner gets.”

Foreigners will pay €4.50 to receive a new eDoPP card.

Electronic card holders will, if they want to use the electronic services, request activation of the chip. This means they will choose their own security code, the so-called BOK, which will be used to confirm the identity of person using the card, the ministry explained, as reported by TASR.

Source: TASR

28. China: Bitcoin trading accounts to be shut down by 15 April 2014

Wednesday 2 April 2014 | 02:24 PM CET

News Group: International 2 Date: 2014/04/22

close Bitcoin trading accounts until 15 April 2014, the Wall Street Journal reports.

According to the source, these rules have a direct impact on more than a dozen Bitcoin exchanges, and are a further consolidation of regulations the financial institution put in place in 2013.

Authorities have closely monitored Bitcoin's expansion, as it has been regarded as inflicting financial stability and because it has attracted speculative retail investors looking for ways to make profits. In 2013, China recorded a huge increase in demand for Bitcoin and this has led to a growth in global prices and also attracted the attention of regulators.
In December 2013, the People’s Bank of China ordered financial institutions to stop dealing with Bitcoin. Later that month, it made clear that third-party payment processors could not help exchanges collect money from users.

According to sources familiar with the latest directive, cited by the Wall Street Journal, the People’s Bank of China has no intention to ban the currency trading in China, and mentions that the move is aimed at enforcing what was already said in the December 2013 document. More specifically, the document stipulates that Bitcoin is not a currency with "real meaning" and does not have the same legal status as a currency, but that the public is free to buy and sell Bitcoin online provided that they accept the risk.

Keywords: China, Bitcoin, regulation, prohibition, virtual currency, crypto-currency, online payment

29. EMV Migration Forum issues revised Standardization of Terminology

Princeton Junction, N.J., April 1, 2014 – The U.S. payments system is changing as we join 80+ other countries and move to chip card payments. As new payment cards, new acceptance terminals and a new way to pay in-store are being introduced to the market, our basic terminology will evolve. To ensure consistency and accuracy in the way card issuers, retailers, consumers and the media talk and write about chip technology, the EMV Migration Forum has released a new version of its Standardization of Terminology document.


“Moving to chip card payments requires internal and external education throughout the entire payments industry,” said Randy Vanderhoof, director of the EMV Migration Forum. “This document is a great resource to help the industry to use consistent language when speaking and writing about chip technology in order to facilitate broad understanding, reduce confusion and allow for a smooth migration.”

The document, developed by the EMV Migration Forum Communication and Education Working Committee, is available for the payments industry to use and distribute as they develop internal and external communications and educational deliverables relating to the migration to chip payments. It contains commonly used terms relating to chip card payment technology, their definitions and less-preferred synonyms that can be misinterpreted as having alternate meanings.

Recommended terms included in the document include:

Card reader. The recommended term for the area of the chip-enabled terminal where consumers insert their card to initiate a contact chip card transaction, or tap their card to initiate a contactless chip card transaction. Preferred over synonyms dip reader, manual reader and motorized reader.

Chip card. The recommended term for referring to new payment cards containing embedded secure integrated circuits. Preferred over synonyms EMV card, smart card and integrated circuit card.
Chip-enabled terminal. The recommended term for point-of-sale terminals that have, or are connected to, a chip card reader, an EMV application and are able to process chip card transactions. Preferred over synonym EMV terminal.

Dual interface chip card. The recommended term for a chip card that has both contact and contactless interfaces, enabling payment transactions with either interface. Preferred over synonyms dual interface card, dual chip card and contactless card.

While all U.S. market stakeholder groups were considered in the development of this list of terms, technical terms have been limited to those that would be used in educational and marketing communications.

Contributors to the Standardization of Terminology included: American Express; Bank of America; Barclaycard; Chase Card Services; Cryptomathic; First Data; FIS; Heartland Payment Systems; MasterCard; MTA NYC Transit; SHAZAM; Target; Vantiv; Visa; Walmart.

For more information on EMV chip cards and U.S. migration, visit www.emv-connection.com.

About U.S. EMV Migration
Commonly used globally in place of magnetic stripe, EMV chip technology helps to reduce card fraud in a face-to-face card-present environment; provides global interoperability; and enables safer transactions across contact and contactless channels. EMV implementation was initiated in the U.S. market in in 2011 and 2012 when American Express, Discover, MasterCard and Visa announced their roadmaps for supporting an EMV-based payments infrastructure. Acquirer processor readiness mandates to support EMV were established for 2013, with liability shifts for managing fraud risk in a face-to-face environment set for 2015.

About the EMV Migration Forum
The EMV Migration Forum is a cross-industry body focused on supporting the EMV implementation steps required for global and regional payment networks, issuers, processors, merchants, and consumers to help ensure a successful introduction of more secure EMV chip technology in the United States. The focus of the Forum is to address topics that require some level of industry cooperation and/or coordination to migrate successfully to EMV technology in the United States. For more information on the EMV Migration Forum, please visit http://www.emv-connection.com/emv-migration-forum/.

Source: Company press release.

30. connect:ID Report - Biometrics and consumer acceptance

News Group: International 2 Date: 2014/04/22

02/04/14

In the third of a series of reports from the recent connect:ID conference and exhibition, the International Biometrics & Identification Association reveals that biometrics still suffer from the perception that biometrics is in some way invasive to personal privacy, despite the opposite being predominantly true.
One issue came up again and again at connect:ID, a conference bringing together experts and companies in the fields of biometric and secure identity technology. That issue is the perception that biometrics is in some way invasive to personal privacy.

When it comes to biometrics, "One of the hardest things we have to deal with in law enforcement is the public's perception of what we do. Not the reality, but the perception," said Maj. Sean Jowell, of Pinellas County Sheriff's Office in Florida.

To many at the conference, public unease about government and even commercial use of some biometric technologies – most recently with facial recognition, for instance – was also inexplicable, or at least irrational.

But speaker after speaker recognized that perception becomes reality, with several citing the controversy underway in Florida. Lawmakers at the state assembly in Tallahassee are pushing a bill to ban the collection of biometric data in schools. The ban would kill very helpful, successful and money-saving programs in several county school systems.

The bill's backers have repeatedly – and inaccurately – cited the danger of "identity theft" as a reason for the ban, and seem determined to push ahead.

**Big Brother Fears**

"Identity and biometrics has taken a step back," because of public concerns about privacy and government intrusiveness in other areas, said Kenneth Gantt, the acting deputy director of DHS' Office of Biometric Identity Management.

### 31. Iris ID announces new Will-Burt Company integration

By Adam Vrankulj Tweet

April 2, 2014 -

Iris ID has announced that the Will-Burt Company has certified the IrisAccess 7000 as an integrated biometric solution, compatible with the LINX access control system.

According to the company, the IrisAccess 7000 offers more features, applications and integration flexibility.

“We have a strong relationship with Will-Burt and are very pleased that our new devices are going to be a part of their integrated solution,” Iris ID President and CEO, Charles Koo said. “Based on our field-proven IrisAccess systems, the world’s most advanced and deployed iris recognition platform, the new generation is designed to meet increased need for speed, accuracy and value in today’s demanding biometric identification market. We are committed to set the industry standard for iris recognition technology.”

The IrisAccess 7000 includes an interactive visual interface and also includes customizable voice prompts, according to the company. This new model expands the capabilities of the basic iCAM7000 model to deliver a wider range of uses for either a single biometric identification solution, or as a part of a multi-factor system.
"The versatile and easily-integrated Iris ID iCAM 7000 series iris recognition reader solution is an important contribution to the LINX access control platform," Jim Wench, VP and GM of LINX security solutions said. "The Iris ID iris recognition reader offers the maximum protection, versatility, simple operation, and cost efficiency that we need in our security management system."

The core LINX system is certified by the U.S. Air Force and is approved under Protection Level 1 Nuclear.

Reported previously, Iris ID recently announced that the SekureID Corp has joined the Iris ID certified partner program and will integrate the company’s iris recognition products into its workforce management solutions.


Co-organised by the Statistical, Economic and Social Research and Training Centre for Islamic Countries (SESRIC) and the Islamic Development Bank (IDB), the Fourth Session of OIC Statistical Commission (OIC-StatCom) will be held on 21-23 April 2014 at SESRIC Headquarters in Ankara, Republic of Turkey.

The draft agenda and organisational details of the Session were discussed during the “Meeting of the Delegates of the National Statistical Offices (NSO) of the OIC Member Countries” held on the margins of the Forty-Fifth Session of the United Nations Statistical Commission on 6 March 2014.

The Fourth Session of the OIC-StatCom will discuss and share experiences and best practices on issues related to Open Data, Poverty Statistics, Post-2015 Development Agenda and Implications for NSOs, Health Statistics, Integration of Statistical and Geospatial Information, and Tourism Statistics. In addition, the Session will review the activities of the OIC-StatCom.

Documents:

- Draft Agenda (English) (Arabic) (French)
- Information Booklet (English) (Arabic) (French)
- Participation Form (English)

Presentations:

Improving Statistical Capacities in Tourism Sector

- Improving Statistical Capacities of Tourism Sector in Mediterranean and Gulf Regions, SESRIC (Report - English)
Reports:

*Implemented Activities of the OIC-StatCom*

- Executive Work Plan Activity Report on OIC-StatCom Forum (English)
- Executive Work Plan Activity Report on OIC Certification Programme for Statisticians (OIC-CPS) (English)

Follow-up Report on Outcomes of the Training Programme on "Statistical Database Design and Visualization Tools Development" (English)

33. **Somali MP’s Suspend Issuance of National Identity Cards**

*Print* 📢

News Group: International 2 Date: 2014/04/22

**Apr 10, 2014 | By Somalicurrent**

Somalicurrent – Somali Federal Parliament has approved a motion allowing Somali citizens to directly apply for Somali passport without having country’s national Identity cards. MPs have also voted for the suspension of the issuance of ID cards. Parliamentarians in their session have debated problems that faced people while they are applying Identity cards and after 2 days of hard discussion, they finally agreed and unanimously suspended of taking Identity cards from Banadir local administration.

MP’s have emphasized that all Somali people are required to have the Somali National Identity cards and that the process of the application needs to be decentralized so that all people can have access to apply passports not only in Banadir region, but also in other regions of the country.

34. **B.C.’s new ID cards will not be linked to transit, monetary transactions**

News Group: International 2 Date: 2014/04/22
VICTORIA — B.C.’s new all-in-one digital ID card won’t be loaded with money, or used to geographically track people’s location, after a user panel told government that the public would not support such activities.

It would not be appropriate for the government to use the new B.C. Services Card as a payment tool because of the risk of fraud, nor should the card be used to access public transportation services and track a person’s movements like the TransLink Compass Card, the public panel concluded in a report released this week.

The provincial government agreed, and won’t use the cards for those purposes, said Citizens’ Services Minister Andrew Wilkinson.

“We’re not pursuing the things (the panel) did not endorse,” said Wilkinson.

The $150-million B.C. Services Card project will replace 4.6 million B.C. drivers’ licenses and CareCards with the new combined ID card by spring 2018, except for those who specifically want separate cards.

Approximately one million residents have already been issued the new card.

The government has said the Services Card, which has chip-based digital security features, will one day allow British Columbians a secure way to identify themselves on government websites to access online services.

Wilkinson said the government is only moving forward with services approved by the panel, including using the card for: student loan applications; vehicle permits; disability parking and bus passes; birth, death and marriage certificates; medical appointments; online health records, lab results and prescriptions renewals; freedom of information requests; address changes; jury duty; and criminal records checks.

Some of those services will be ready by 2018, while others will be rolled out as budgets allow, said Wilkinson.

Wilkinson said the complex project remains on time and on budget.

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35. NYC Council introduces bill to create city ID card

Karen Matthews, Associated Press
NEW YORK (AP) — New York City Council members introduced legislation Thursday to create a municipal identity card that would provide photo identification for New Yorkers who are not legal U.S. residents.

To continue reading this story, you will need to be a digital subscriber to SFChronicle.com.

36. **Ugandans register for IDs for 1st time**

By Halima Athumani, Monday, April 14, 2014

KAMPALA – Millions of Ugandans will have their biographic data electronically recorded and their fingerprints taken on Monday in a nationwide registration exercise for citizens over 16 to obtain national ID cards.

"This is the first time a Ugandan is going to own a national identification card," Ministry of Internal Affairs spokesperson Pamela Ankunda told Anadolu Agency.

"Previously, people could be identified by the residential cards, school IDs, birth certificates and local council letters," she explained.

The registration process is taking place at around 7410 places around the country, mostly churches and schools.

The exercise targets nearly 18 million Ugandans above the age of 16, out of a total population of some 37 million.

People will be required to use all forms of identification documents, including voters' cards, birth certificates and passports to get the IDs, which will be issued at a later date.

Ankunda said that in cases in which people do not own any form of identification, such as those from northern Uganda whose documents were destroyed during the war, the authorities will depend on village elders who can verify the identities local residents.

"The other form of identification has also been the marriage certificate. That is why we also have a spousal form where a man with more than one wife can register his wives," she added.

The spokesperson said it was "the first time we are carrying out mass registration for citizens to get national IDs."

She noted that a pilot project had originally been scheduled to begin in 2010 in the capital Kampala."But it did not kick off because there were not enough funds to complete the exercise," Ankunda said.

On Sunday, Ugandan President Yoweri Museveni underlined the importance of having national identity cards.

"Knowing who is a citizen of Uganda will be easy,” Museveni told a press conference. “A personal data of registered Ugandans will be stored in a central memory.”
Museveni said the new national IDs would ensure that citizens' health information was stored, which would help save lives since blood types would be identified.

The president added that the new identity documents would also help curb fraud and impersonation.

Museveni also issued a stern warning to immigrants "not to make false statements to government officials claiming to have stayed in Uganda for ten years or more when they have in fact stayed for less."

Article 10 of the Ugandan Constitution identifies a Ugandan citizen as having been born to a parent who belongs to any indigenous community existing and residing within the borders of Uganda as of February 1, 1926.

Article 12 of the Ugandan Constitution stipulates that anyone who stays in Uganda for more than ten years can apply for citizenship.

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37. e-passports to be implemented next year

The Jakarta Post, Jakarta | Jakarta | Wed, April 16 2014, 7:34 AM

Jakarta News

- City finds 18,000 budget items listed twice
- Bima represents hope for ‘historical burden’
- Jakpro to keep Palyja profit-oriented firm

The Directorate General of Immigration has announced that it will implement the use of electronic passports next year.

The immigration intelligence director of the Directorate General of Immigration, Gatot Subroto, said one of the purposes of electronic passports was to minimize the use of fake passports.

"The Directorate General of Immigration has caught 100 fake passports users in Batam,” he said, adding that the device to detect fake passports was very expensive and could cost up to Rp 1 billion.

Gatot said that every airport in Indonesia had to stay alert because many fake passport users traveled through small airports.

Gatot added that the electronic passports would refer to an electronic identity card [e-KTP] database.

“To expedite the making of electronic passports, citizens have to support the use of the e-KTP,” he said, adding that residents in some areas did not have e-KTPs.
Will public schools in the Philippines eventually adopt something like this?

Many public schools in Saudi Arabia are adopting a biometric fingerprinting system to ensure pupils’ attendance, by keeping track of their absences and tardiness, Arab News reported.

The report said the system has found favor with school principals, who also installed cameras to monitor activity on school premises.

Such cameras can keep tabs on yards, hallways, courts, cafeterias and classrooms, the report added.

However, Arab News also noted a fingerprinting system and camera setup can exceed SR20,000 (about P239,202). — Joel Locsin /LBG, GMA News

Her Majesty's Passport Office Selects Unisys to Implement New Facial Recognition System Based on Advanced Biometrics Technologies

ews Group : International 2 Date : 2014/04/27
BLUE BELL, Pa., April 24, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Unisys Corporation (NYSE: UIS) today announced that it has been selected by Her Majesty's Passport Office (HMPO) to implement its new Facial Recognition System (FRS).

The FRS will increase efficiency within the application process by automating manual operations to analyze facial biometric data and quickly identify issues associated with passport applications. Under the terms of the five-year agreement, Unisys will provide systems integration services to implement its open standards LEIDA platform, which will manage identity verification for United Kingdom (UK) passport applicants based on their facial biometric data.

"We are excited to be chosen for this important project," said Nick Fraser, managing director, Unisys UK. "Unisys has applied facial and other biometrics technologies to build leading-edge passport, citizen registry and land border control systems for the United States, Australia, Mexico and other countries around the world. We look forward to applying our expertise to help the UK manage the throughput of travelers."

**About Unisys**

Unisys is a worldwide information technology company. We provide a portfolio of IT services, software, and technology that solves critical problems for clients. We specialize in helping clients secure their operations, increase the efficiency and utilization of their data centers, enhance support to their end users and constituents, and modernize their enterprise applications. To provide these services and solutions, we bring together offerings and capabilities in outsourcing services, systems integration and consulting services, infrastructure services, maintenance services, and high-end server technology. With approximately 23,000 employees, Unisys serves commercial organizations and government agencies throughout the world. For more information, visit www.unisys.com.

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40. **Global Biometrics Technology Market (Face, Hand Geometry, Voice, Signature, Iris, AFIS, Non-AFIS and Others) is Expected to Exceed USD 23 Billion by 2019: Transparency Market Research**

News Group : International 2   Date: 2014/04/27

ALBANY, New York, April 24, 2014 /PRNewswire/ --


Increasing security concerns due to the rising terror attacks and crimes have created a need for high level security. In addition, the rising government initiatives such as e-passport, national identification programs etc. and various border control projects such as European Dactyloscopy (EURODAC), Visa Information Systems (VIS) and new generation Schengen Information System (SIS II) have helped to boost the biometrics technology market. However, privacy concerns and high cost of biometrics system may hinder the growth of this market.
Furthermore, increasing usage of multimodal biometrics to enhance the security level is expected to create huge opportunities for this market in the upcoming years.

Browse the full report at with complete TOC http://www.transparencymarketresearch.com/biometrics-technology-market.html

By application type, the non-AFIS biometrics systems accounted for largest revenue share of 41.40% of the overall biometrics technology market in 2012. With the advancements in technology, silicon sensor prices used for fingerprint recognition have fallen considerably. Such enduring advancements have made the sensors more efficient and have resulted in lowering the production costs and expanding their application in broader range of devices. As a result, non-AFIS systems have become cost effective as compared to the earlier ones. In addition, due to their user friendliness, they are largely deployed in smart phones and laptops. Iris recognition segment is expected to grow at the highest CAGR of 28.6% by 2019. This is due to high accuracy level and stability possessed by iris.

In case of end use segment, transport/visa/logistics and government segments together accounted for more than 50% of the overall biometrics technology market in 2012. This was due to the increasing need for examining the traveler's credentials. As a result, this end use segment is expected to dominate the other end use segments by 2019. With the increasing usage of internet banking for transactions, biometrics technology is largely being deployed in the banking and finance sector. Hence, this end use segment is expected to grow at the highest CAGR during forecast period.

North America accounted for 32.1% of the overall revenue share in 2012. This region is anticipated to uphold its dominating share throughout the forecast period. Asia Pacific is expected to grow at the fastest CAGR of 22.0% from 2013 to 2019. With numerous evolving economies in this region including India, China, Australia and Japan among others, there is a strong necessity for building infrastructure in terms of border security and national identification. Hence, the Asia Pacific biometrics technology market is expected to witness a faster growth as compared to Europe, the Middle East and North America.

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Global biometrics technology market consists of large numbers of domestic and multinational distinguished players. In 2012, the global biometrics industry was dominated by Morpho SA (Safran) with 19.0% of the
market share. Some of the other leading players include 3M Cogent, NEC Corporation, DigitalPersona and Accu-Time Systems among others.

The global biometrics technology market is segmented as below:

By Application Type

Face
Hand geometry
Voice
Signature
Iris
AFIS
Non-AFIS
Others(DNA, typing rhythms)

Browse the full report at with complete TOC http://www.transparencymarketresearch.com/biometrics-technology-market.html

By End Users

Government
Defense Services
Banking and Finance
Consumer Electronics
Healthcare
Home Safety & Security
Commercial Safety & Security
Transport/Visa/Logistics
Others (Retail, hospitality, gaming and automobile)

By Region

North America
Europe
Asia Pacific
RoW

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Our data repository is continuously updated and revised by a team of research experts, so that it always reflects the latest trends and information. With a broad research and analysis capability, Transparency Market Research employs rigorous primary and secondary research techniques in developing distinctive data sets and research material for business reports.

41. Biometrics Market in South East Asia and ANZ 2014-2018

News Group: International 2 Date: 2014/04/28


The analysts forecast the Biometrics market in South East Asia and ANZ to grow at a CAGR of 15.82 percent over the period 2013-2018. One of the key factors contributing to this market growth is the high adoption of biometrics in the Government sector. The Biometrics market in South East Asia and ANZ has also been witnessing increased mergers and acquisitions. However, the strong competition from inexpensive non-biometric technologies could pose a challenge to the growth of this market.

The report, the Biometrics Market in South East Asia and ANZ 2014-2018, has been prepared based on an in-depth market analysis with inputs from industry experts. The report covers the South East Asia and ANZ region; it also covers the Biometrics market landscape and its growth prospects in the coming years. The report also includes a discussion of the key vendors operating in this market.

One of the most prominent trends witnessed in the market is the increased mergers and acquisitions. The Biometrics market in Southeast Asia and ANZ is witnessing increasing consolidation, which is expected to continue in the future. Both existing vendors and new entrants are taking the acquisitive route to either enter the market or broaden their portfolio of offerings.

For instance, French defense company Safran completed the acquisition of biometric solution provider L-1 Identity Solutions in the second quarter of 2011 for US$1 billion. The acquisition helped Safran become a leading player in the Global Biometrics market. 3M completed the acquisition of Cogent Inc. in December 2010 for US$943 million. Cogent manufactures biometric recognition systems that allow governments and businesses to identify individuals by their fingers, palms, faces, and irises.

According to the report, the growth of the Biometrics market in Southeast Asia and ANZ is driven by several factors, the most important of which is the high adoption of biometrics in the Government sector. There has
been a substantial increase in the number of cyber-attacks on government departments and installations in Southeast Asia and ANZ over the past few years. Insider thefts are also increasing in government departments. As a result, the adoption of biometric solutions in the Government sector is increasing. This is in turn supporting the growth of the Biometrics market in Southeast Asia and ANZ.

**Key Topics Covered:**

01. Executive Summary
02. List of Abbreviations
03. Scope of the Report
04. Market Research Methodology
05. Introduction
06. Market Description
07. Market Landscape
08. Market Segmentation by Technology
09. Buying Criteria
10. Market Growth Drivers
11. Drivers and their Impact
12. Market Challenges
13. Impact of Drivers and Challenges
14. Market Trends
15. Trends and their Impact
16. Vendor Landscape
17. Key Vendor Analysis
18. Other Reports in this Series

**Companies Mentioned:**

- 3M Cogent Inc.
- AOptix Technologies Inc.
- Aware Inc.
- Biometix Pty Ltd
In the United States, when a child is born, he/she is assigned a number. This is the social security number (SSN). That number follows the child till death. That number is unique and captures the child’s life history. No so in Africa.

Introduction
In 2001 Nigeria has tried to introduce national ID project based on photo ID cards, without any identity system and failed (Later in 2010 they moved to Biometric National ID Card for better result & Succeeded).

In Kenya, the results are the same indicating widespread difficulties to establish a concrete system of establishing true identities and creating documentation that proves someone is who they say they are.

Even when birth certificates are introduced, they are not big deals. Today, many babies continue to be born without being proper documentation that officially registers their identity with the federal government causing “gaps” that could potentially have negative effects on the future ability to secure government benefits or provide proper identification documentation for employment, voting, or other areas.

Problems Because of not having Biometric National ID Card: The primary purpose of a Biometric National ID card is to ensure credible identification of a citizen. However, it is important that every citizen understand the scope of use and importance of the National ID card system extends far beyond basic identification.

Without a valid Biometric National ID card system it might become a huge dilemma for the government to plan and distribute social service programs. Possible problems that might rise due to not having Biometric National ID card includes:

- Lack of Timely registration and monitoring of citizenship birth, marriages, deaths, aliens, and refugees and eliminating duplicate entries.
- Service delivery mechanism might not function accurately to deliver social services such as education, health, rations, cross border immigration, and passport control due to improper distribution.
- Identification & calculation errors of Employment-pension contributions, benefits, and insurance.
- No authentic way for Law enforcement to ensure tracking of illegal activities and criminals (e.g. financial transactions, money laundering, etc.)
- Fair electoral processes might not be possible due to inability to identify citizens.
- Tax administration, management, and collection of every citizen might not be possible.
- National population statistics (censuses, surveys, segregation, and monitoring trends for planning purposes) data might not be accurate enough to take viable decisions.
The Value of a Biometric National ID card System
Considering the technological advancements of modern identification platforms, leveraging the use of a biometric national ID card system where all the people will be registered and a national database built from it to help increase the utility of the initiative might be a far better idea.
By using biometrics to establish a national identification database, governments can eliminate fraud along with multiple registrations and ensure 100% error free identifications.
A biometric National ID system is going to be more effective in many ways, as people can just do fingerprints, finger veins or palm veins to identify themselves. This will not only save time but also establish a more secure and systematic authentication process.
By integrating National ID database with various government agencies, other sectors will also get benefitted in numerous ways. Let’s take a look at some of the sectors which might get benefited if a biometric national ID card system is implemented:

Banking Sector
Forget checks and signatures. Under a biometric National ID card system, citizens will sign with their fingerprints and the national biometric database can be uploaded to all the major banks and governments so that positive identification has the ability to be applied to other financial service transactions and provide the means for the traditionally underserved to benefit from banking.
Loans can be disbursed with more efficiency since banks can more easily validate applicants based on their biometric credentials.

Law Enforcement
Law enforcement agencies can also directly benefit from establishing a biometric National ID card system. Law enforcement officers can instantly identify criminals inside of prisons or in the field with a single scan. The legal system will be more efficient and productive by ensuring justice is served for each and every individual. Jail or correctional facilities will be able to make sure the right person is going in or out of the prison so there is also a positive impact on public safety.

Healthcare
In healthcare, a biometric enabled national ID card can be useful in many ways including:
- Preventing medical identity theft and fraud at the point of service ensuring a high level of patient safety
- Eliminating the possibilities of generating duplicate medical records for a single individual
- Quickly identifying patients in cases of disorientation, trauma, or unconsciousness

Border & Immigration Control
Biometric enabled National ID cards can stop illegal immigration problems as well. It is not practical to expect that by putting thousands of border guards a country can stop illegal immigration. Instead a biometric national id card can play an important role by ensuring no one without a valid national ID card gets a job, residence, or any other social services. Without access to employment, social services, or housing incentives for illegal immigrants is significantly diminished.

Conclusion
It is already too late to start any national ID project based on photos and cards. It is time Africa begins to explore the possibility of using biometrics to create a National ID card to help solve some of these problems. A biometric National ID system can be used to help more effectively identify citizens and stop the waste of photos & card ID systems. Countries like South Africa, Nigeria, and Ghana have already adopted biometric technology in full or partial capacity to improve their National Identity Management System. Now it’s time for other African nations to explore the benefits of biometric National ID card solutions instead of tradition photo or card based National ID.

The writer is a Senior Digital Marketing Specialist at M2SYS Technology and an occasional blogger. He likes to write on biometric identity management related topics and their after effects. Tweet @M2SHAON

43. Banking on Biometrics!24/04/14

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/04/30
by Terry Hartmann, Unisys - for original Blog click here

Picture this: You are at an ATM, where you are required to enter your four-digit PIN number and scan your palm to withdraw cash. You are at a bank, where an iris scan determines proof of identity before processing your $20,000 wire transfer. You are prompted for a voice scan to complete the billing process while shopping for your favorite designer clothes online.

All these examples lead us to one conclusion – biometric modalities ("something you are" e.g., voice recognition, fingerprints/palmprints, iris, facial recognition) offer unique and more secure ways to authenticate user identity and shield ourselves against cybercrime. Needless to say, passwords will be superseded as biometrics goes mainstream.

Employing Factor 3: Biometrics in Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA)

A recent study on Identity Fraud by Javelin Strategy & Research shows:

- In 2013, 13.1 million consumers in the US suffered identity fraud – the second highest level on record
- A new identity fraud victim was hit every two seconds in America in 2013
- One in three data breach victims in 2013 later experienced fraud, up from one in four in 2012

Since protection against identity theft remains the biggest challenge, the use of MFA has become critical. Security experts for long have pressed the need for authenticating transactions using three factors – Something you know (password, PIN); something you have (credential or token); and something you are (facial recognition, voice). Mobile devices enable a potential fourth factor “something you do” (like never use a laptop) along with contextual “where you are” (such as GPS location, date/time, IP addresses).

So, where exactly does biometrics fit in the MFA jigsaw? And does it offer special benefits to consumers and organizations who are in the business of financial services? While biometric verification is commonplace in immigration control and forensic investigations, banks and other financial organizations are increasingly employing biometrics to:

- Improve security: The technology provides an additional layer of security and unequivocally links an individual to a transaction or event
- Reduce fraud: By being hard-to-forged, biometrics offer extreme protection against identity theft with a high level of authentication
- Eliminate password administration cost: Replaces hard-to-remember passwords which may be shared or observed
- Improve privacy and regulatory compliance: By demonstrating layered security rather than single factor security, biometrics offer greater reliability and improved compliance to regulations

An Ideal Framework

As financial transactions get more personalized and safer with biometrics, banks can start looking at a scalable identity and biometrics framework that integrates fingerprint, face, iris and signature for identification, verification, and watch lists. The system works by combining the biometric, biographic and account data and matching it to arrive at one unique identity. For instance, the system establishes a level of trust for a user and
transaction requested from a smartphone based on contextual information such as GPS, type of transaction, date/time, and historical trend. A risk score is then calculated for the transaction and the user by interfacing with an existing risk management system. If the confidence level is adequate for the risk level then the request is approved, else the system asks for biometrics such as face or voice or both.

With biometrics set to become a norm in authenticating transactions, it’s time banks adopt a holistic approach to security and move beyond traditional measures like PINs and passwords.

44. Uganda: My Country, My Identity

News Group: Recent Management

Date: 2014/05/03

15 April 2014 21:09
Written by Editorial
2 Comments

Following the launch of national identity registration on Monday, every Ugandan aged 16 years and above is now expected to obtain a national ID card within two years from today.

This project has been long overdue, having had many false starts over the last five or so years with a lot of money wasted in the process. Uganda needs the national ID to fulfill its commitments to the East African Community in which most members already have the card.

But even without the EAC requirement, the advantages of a biometric national identity card that feeds into a national data base couldn’t be overemphasized in this digital era. A national ID will help Uganda fight crime and terrorism as criminals and terrorists would be easier to track and identify.

It will also help service providers obtain information on health and other information concerning the victims of accidents or medical emergencies. It will further help in making elections more transparent as eligible voters can be easily established while under-age voting or voting multiple times would be minimised. In any case the national ID makes it easier to prove that such malpractices transpired during elections in case court petitions arise.

The national ID would also help the economy by aiding financial institutions to avoid unscrupulous borrowers, which might in the long run usher in lower interest rates. However, all these and many other benefits depend on the government not only having but also showing good faith in its management of the registration exercise.

For instance, some opposition supporters are not convinced that the process will be transparent. Their fears should be allayed. Unless the exercise is conducted professionally, its credibility will be jeopardised and the expected benefits diminished.
In that regard, the heavy involvement of the army, whose leadership many in the opposition consider partisan towards the ruling NRM, doesn’t help matters. Nevertheless, Ugandans ought to give this exercise a benefit of the doubt rather than seek to throw out the baby with the dirty water.

Let every Ugandan obtain a national ID. It’s for our own good. My Country, My Identity.

45. ID smart cards roll out in G’town

Thu, 10 Apr, 2014

Tweet

Malibongwe Dayimani

The long wait for the new, hi-tech ID smart cards is finally over for Grahamstown residents. The roll-out, now in full swing at the Bathust street offices, began in the third week of March.

The Department of Home Affairs' branch manager, Xolile Sibejele, said the department is currently prioritising applicants who are 60 years and above, as well as first time ID applicants (16-year-olds).

"The new ID cards are free for the above-mentioned citizens, but if you don't belong to these age groups, or you already have an ID, then a fee of R 140 will be charged," said Sibejele.

He said applicants are being invited to the Home Affairs’ offices in stages, according to their dates of birth, in order to avoid congestion.

The first group of people allowed to apply are those whose birthdays fall during the the first 6 months of the year (January to June).

The smart ID cards were first launched nationally in July last year, to coincide with former President Nelson Mandela's birthday.

Grahamstown Home Affairs had to wait for eight months as it wasn't among the 27 regional offices scheduled to launch the new cards first.

Among the first to get the new ID cards were President Jacob Zuma, Deputy President Kgalema Motlanthe, former president Thabo Mbeki, Archbishop Emeritus Desmond Tutu and Winnie Madikizela-Mandela.

Minister Naledi Pandor's July 4, 2013, Parliamentary statement said it would take six to eight years before all South Africans had smart ID cards.

She urged members of the public to be patient and promised to expand the number of offices able to process applications for the ID smart card.

The Department of Home Affairs is calling upon senior citizens and young South Africans - especially first-time applicants - to apply for their cards.
LANHAM, Md. (WNEW) — Unless you’re a D.C. resident who actually likes visiting the Department of Motor Vehicles, we’ve got some bad news.

Starting May 1, the District will begin issuing “Real IDs.”
According to the D.C. DMV, “REAL ID is a coordinated effort by US jurisdictions and the Federal Government to improve the reliability and accuracy of driver licenses and identification cards which should inhibit terrorists’ ability to evade detection by using fraudulent identification.”

The law basically establishes minimum standards for the production and issuance of driver licenses and identification cards. The new D.C. licenses will look exactly the same except for a star in the upper right hand corner.

When residents go to update their IDs, the DMV will have to revalidate proof of identity, proof of social security number and proof of residence.

FULL LIST OF NECESSARY DOCUMENTS FOR OBTAINING A REAL ID

Eventually, the new IDs will be needed to access semi-restricted areas (i.e., areas available to the general public but subject to ID-based access control) for most federal facilities and for boarding federally regulated commercial aircraft.

A driver’s license or ID card from a noncompliant jurisdiction (several states have rejected the bill) may only be used in conjunction with a second form of ID to board airplanes.

If you will soon need to renew your license or ID or get a new one, then you will be required to pay the normal fees when visiting the DMV to get a Real ID.

If you do not need to complete a DMV-related transaction, the DMV will notify you to visit during certain times of the week to get a REAL ID. Current licenses or ID cards are valid until the DMV notifies you to make an in-person visit.

For more information on Real IDs, click here.

RELATED: Report: TSA Official at Phoenix Airport Rejects DC License Because It’s ‘Not a State’

47. Versatile Security and IDK Sistemas Announce Partnership

Stockholm, Sweden, April 19, 2014 --(PR.com)-- Versatile Security Sweden AB announces a partnership with IDK Sistemas, a Solution Provider and Value-Added Reseller based in Kekava, Latvia. Through the partnership, the market leading smart card management system vSEC:CMS from Versatile Security is offered to IDK Sistemas' customers in the region.

"A chain is only as strong as its weakest link. We are truly proud that in future cooperation with Versatile Security we will provide our customers with high quality security solutions in the field of smart card management. We consider Versatile Security smart card management products as most convenient and valuable for users," said Raitis Škutans, CEO, IDK Sistemas.
"Latvia and Sweden have a shared history and have done a lot of profitable business together; I am excited about that we are now entering the Baltic market together with IDK Sistemas. I'm convinced that we'll see success stories coming out of this partnership already this year," said Joakim Thorén, CEO, Versatile Security.

About IDK Sistemas
IDK Sistemas is an IT company that offers smart card based solutions for data security in Latvia. The range of offered products include two-factor authentication solutions and smart card management systems. IDK Sistemas is partner of Gemalto, world leading company in data security, and SafeCom, one of the world's leading developers of software for the printing solution industry. Customers include State Radio and Television Centre (LVRTC), ABLV bank, International airport Riga, Latvian Railway (LDz), Riga Stradins University (RSU), Riga Business School (RBS), Jelgava district municipality among others.
For more information, visit the IDK Sistemas web site: http://www.idksistemas.lv

About Versatile Security
Versatile Security is a leading IT solutions provider in the identity and access management space with focus on easy deployment of smart cards with innovative smart card management systems. Our customers are organizations that demand high security and ease of use. Our state of the art solutions enable our customers to securely authenticate, issue and manage user credentials, such as smart cards, more cost efficiently than other solutions on the market.

Our mission is to provide solutions that are affordable and easy to integrate, thus allowing organizations of all sizes to implement high levels of security. We also offer first class support, maintenance, and training. Our customers include: HSBC, Tieto, Raiffeisenbank, Hornbach, Daimler, Alstom, European Commission, Svensk Exportkredit, Saudi Aramco and Cleveland Clinic Abu Dhabi.

Our products and services can be bought and delivered worldwide by use of an extensive reseller network

**48. NIMC to Launch National e-ID Card**

28 Apr 2014
Views: 2,038
Font Size: a / A

NIMC logo

By Chinedu Eze

The National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) has said that the long awaited New National Identity Card would soon be launched.

The Director, Corporate Communications, Mr. Anthony Okwudiafor, who confirmed this said the Card would be formally launched by President Goodluck Jonathan.
According to him, the launching would be an important development and would usher in the formal and comprehensive identification of Nigerians and legal residents with the e-ID with embedded National Identification Number (NIN).

However, Okwudiafor explained that part of the reasons why the launch of the New National e-Identity card was delayed was to allow Nigerians distinguish, understand and appreciate the difference between the National Identification Number and the National ID Cards.

“Part of the reasons why we delayed the roll out of the cards is because we deliberately meant to separate and distinguish between the National Identification Number (NIN) which is a person’s identity in the strict sense of the Universal Identification Infrastructure and the National ID-Cards which will carry the National Identification Number”, the Director also explained.

Okwudiafor said while the Commission worked on addressing the cynicisms which followed the past national identity card projects, research findings showed that there was need to distinguish between the NIN and the New ID Card in the minds of Nigerians.

He remarked that the Commission therefore delayed the Card launch in order to allow Nigerians know that the unique identifier is not the card which can always be replaced when it is lost, but the NIN, which would always remain the same, even when the card is lost and replaced.

“With the planned introduction of the long awaited card, the era of proliferation of identity card and biometrics data would come to an end,” Okwudiafor said.

He added that the Commission has also introduced a new TV commercial shortly after sponsoring a weekly TV Drama which is aired every Sunday at 6:30 pm to sensitise Nigerians on the importance and need of the National Identity Management System (NIMS).

Recently the NIMC announced a successful issuance and testing of the card which would serve both as a payment card and travel document aside from being an electronic identity card.

As an electronic identity card it would enable an individual perform other functions under the harmonised National Identity Database which was recently ordered to be populated by the President in October, 2013.

Tags: Nigeria, Featured, Business, National Identity Management Commission (NIMC)

49. **Biometrics – truly a healthy option!**

25/04/14

News Group : International 2  Date : 2014/05/05

Biometric technology now provides a truly healthy option, as Naturals2Go begins offering healthy food vending machines that can recognize loyal customers using facial recognition.

Customers of Naturals2Go healthy vending machines can approach one of their brightly colored vending machines and tap the interactive screen to initiate facial recognition mode. The small camera recognizes repeat customers and offers fast access to their favourite items. It can even offer loyalty discounts and special prices on suggested products.

To preserve privacy, the recognition mode is not activated until prompted by the user.
Biometric technology will be deployed to check housing fraud – Minister

by Olufemi Adeosun on Apr 25, 2014 | 1 comment
Posted under: News

The Federal Government has expressed its readiness to deploy biometric technology in the allocation of houses under its low cost housing scheme with a view to ensuring that no single individual gets more than one unit.

If this policy is push through, it would be a clear departure from the past whereby a click of moneybags would buy off many of the houses meant for the low income earners and later sold them out at exorbitant prices, thereby defeating the efforts of government at bridging the housing deficit put at 17million.

The Minister of Lands, Housing and Urban Development, Mrs. Akon Eyakenyi disclosed this in Abuja while inspecting the ministry’s prototype housing scheme located in Suleja, Niger State.

The estate which is being built under the Public Private Partnership of the Ministry, contains 102 units of housing made up of 3 bedrooms (33) 2(44) and 1 (32) bedrooms.

While the 3-bedroom is expected to be given out to beneficiaries who must be contributors to the National Housing Fund, (NHF) for N5.8million, 2-bedroom and 1-bedroom also cost N4.7million and 1.8million respectively.

Refuting accusation that those who already owned houses again would get the houses, the minister said the ministry under her watch would endeavour that only those who fits in, in the various categories of housing would be entitled to them.

Eyakenyi said: “What I want to guarantee you and guarantee Nigerians is that under this dispensation, an individual will be entitled to only one house. And the measure we are going to put in place and use is the biometric system which will be introduced to ensure that an individual will be able to claim only one house.

“For instance, the units for the low income will be targeted toward them, same with the houses in other categories. Therefore, your reference to a director coming up to buy off 10 units of houses is out of the way. This is not to say that any director that fits in, in any of the categories would be denied of the opportunity to own a house.

Also speaking during the inspection, the Managing Director, Federal Mortgage Bank of Nigeria (FMBN), Mr. Gimba Ya’u Kumo, said that the houses were intentionally discounted in line with the social housing scheme of government.

Ya’u Kumo who said that the bank is expending N600 million on the new housing project, said there are also 25 housing projects being undertaken by the bank across the country.

BOTSWANA POST INTRODUCES SMART CARD

by THEVOICEBW on May 2, 2014 0 Comment
LEADING THE TRANSFORMATION: Moleta

Monthend long queues at post offices across the country, especially during facilitation of social benefit payments, are expected to be a thing of the past following the introduction of the admirable ‘PosoCard’ by BotswanaPost.

Services that are expected to be improved include payments of Old Age Pensions, World War Veterans and Destitute allowances.

The new system named ‘PosoCard’ means that the existing beneficiaries will be migrated from the old system of using coupons, into the new one.

Botswana Post Chief Executive, Pele Moleta, said at the launch that PosoCard is an electronic smart card that will replace the current voucher system used to pay social beneficiary money.

“We found it necessary to switch from the voucher system to the card payments as the production, reconciliation and distribution of the vouchers is lengthy and therefore costly.”

As opposed to the voucher system which only had one purpose, the card has more uses,” he said

Beneficiaries, according to Moleta, can use their PosoCard to access their social benefit anywhere in the country and at anytime using multiple payment channels, such as Post Offices, cash pay-points, and selected merchant stores.

The card may also be used to purchase goods at a participating payment vendor having a point-of-sale (POS) device, purchase airtime, pay water and electricity accounts and other services.

“The beneficiary need not withdraw all their money at once and can save money for a rainy day. In future, the card can also be used to save money as a savings account.

Should the card get lost, stolen or broken, this will not affect the money in the beneficiary’s account and a replacement can be issued at P22.00.

Beneficiaries need not withdraw all their money immediately.

Money will only be returned to the Department of Social Protection after a period of three months has elapsed without any activity in the beneficiary’s account.”

Unlike with the current voucher system where anyone could steal a beneficiary’s voucher and claim to be a relative to receive the money, only authorised recipients may use the PosoCard.
During registration, all ten fingers are scanned and their prints will be used to identify the beneficiary.

This will also apply in the cases of beneficiaries who have appointed relatives to receive money on their behalf.

“Just over two years ago we started by investing in our ‘Core IT infrastructure’.

Optimizing and improving our technical capability to be able to harness technology in order to deliver first class services to Botswana nationwide.

Side by side with the IT infrastructure optimization was the counter automation.

This project was geared at ensuring that our counter at all our post offices is fully automated such that all the transactions are centralised, meaning that we can have a single view of all activities across our postal network, as a result providing convenience and efficiency in serving our customers.”

Moleta said this enables DSP and BotswanaPost to update beneficiary details on real time, hence gives customers convenience of access to their funds anywhere in Botswana.

52. PTI protest a tactic to influence Nadra thumb impression report

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/05/06

ISLAMABAD - Pakistan Tehreek-e-Insaf’s protest really scheduled for May 11 to protest alleged rigging in last general elections has been orchestrated when NADRA is busy verifying thumb impressions of sixteen constituencies of National Assembly.

53. French Senate proposes new laws to limit use of biometrics

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/05/06

01/05/14

France could become one of the first countries in the world to make sweeping laws against the use of biometric technology - except in certain stringent security-based cases - if proposals by the country’s Senate come to fruition.
The proposals were tabled in the French Senate on February 12, 2014 by Gaëtan Gorce and others - and has since gone through various amendments. The Bill is intended to be an addition to Loi n° 78-17 du 6 janvier 1978 and relates to ensuring biometric data is only used when needed for the strict purposes of security (understood as the safety of persons and property, and the protection of information whose disclosure, misappropriation or destruction would cause serious and irreversible harm).

In addition the supplement says that biometrics should only be used if the risk to security is high and that there is proportionality between the nature of the information or the site secured and the technology used. Even then, use of the technology would have to be given consent to use.

The law does not appear to relate to the personal use of biometrics, but could impact a wide range of other uses of the technology by corporations - from simple access control systems, to its use in schools, financial organizations, and for time and attendance across a myriad of industries and more

54. **50 buildings one physical access system**

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/05/07

*Academy of Art in San Francisco takes campus card city-wide*

Maintaining physical security in 50 buildings over 47-square miles is a daunting challenge. But it was one the Academy of Art University in San Francisco faced in order to protect and serve its 18,000 students.

The school unlocked the doors during normal business hours and locked them at night. A host was on duty at each site, but keeping tracks of hundreds if not thousands of students walking in and out of various buildings each day was an enormous task. The university wanted a system that would reduce crime, secure buildings and above all make the campus a safer place, says Mike Petricca, campus safety director at the Academy of Art University.

With the prior system criminals targeted the buildings for theft, Petricca says. “People pretended to be students and walked right past the host,” he adds.

Seven-years ago the school decided to pilot a student ID access system with 14 buildings, Petricca says. Since then it’s expanded to 40 buildings and a multi-purpose ID that is used for more than just physical access. The school has installed 260 readers to protect every residential hall and computer lab, and plans are underway to rollout to its remaining buildings. Installing new readers is an ongoing process as buildings are acquired and rooms housing valuable equipment are added.
The old campus safety program that was augmented by security guards has been replaced with a new, 24-hour patrol team, a campus communications center with emergency dispatching service and round-the-clock safety hosts stationed at most buildings.

Since the school had left buildings unlocked and used old-fashioned metal keys, there were concerns that students would be upset with the change. This was not the case. “From the very beginning it was well embraced,” says Petricca.

Anatomy of the new security infrastructure

The Academy of Art deployed HID Global technology around campus. The school contracted with Microbiz Security which recommended the HID Global iCLASS SE platform, including the company’s multiCLASS SE readers that can support both entry-level prox cards and high security contactless smart cards. The institution opted to deploy both Indala low-frequency proximity cards as well as HID Global’s iCLASS SE smart card credentials.

Approximately 25,000 cards are in use at any given time, and card numbers are tracked in the manufacturing process to ensure that card numbers are not duplicated.

The multiCLASS SE readers are at the front and back doors of the buildings where students must tap for access. They are required to flash their ID to the host when they walk in, Petricca explains. An intercom system enables students to ask for access if they forgot their ID card.

The readers are IP-enabled to communicate with the central campus backbone, but each building has its own system in case the larger network experiences an outage.

The academy uses PeopleSoft to manage access for the campus ID system. Students are entered into the system and are granted access to the appropriate buildings on the first day of class. When the term ends all student access is revoked.

Physical access was the primary driver behind the ID cards, Petricca says, but other uses soon emerged. The card can also be used to enter Urban Knights sporting events or make purchases using Knight Kash—the university’s declining balance program for on-campus dining, cashless vending and off-campus purchases at partnering merchants.

The university also uses the cards for its part- and full-time employee payroll system.

Future considerations include:

- using the cards for student attendance systems
- enabling students to carry the ID cards on their smart phones
- verifying access to the 40 buses that transport students to university buildings around the city.

But it still all comes back to security. Deploying the new physical access control system has drastically reduced theft and burglary making the classrooms and residence halls safer, Petricca says. Safety, he stresses, was the original intent and remains the most crucial goal.
Datacard Group to be ‘Live in Las Vegas’ at the CARTES America 2014 Conference

Company to Showcase Combined Portfolio of Datacard and Entrust® solutions that Enable Trusted Identities and Secure Transactions

MINNETONKA, Minn.—(April 30, 2014)—Datacard Group today announced that their solutions for governments, financial organizations and other security-conscious organizations will be on display ‘Live in Las Vegas’ at the CARTES America 2014 conference and expo, booth #1215. In its third year, the event will be taking place May 13-15, 2014, at The Mirage Hotel.

Datacard Group will be showcasing its platform of integrated products and solutions, which now include Entrust’s authentication and credentialing software platforms. Visitors will see demonstrations of the company’s systems, software and supplies that help secure identities and safeguard transactions in physical and digital environments for government, financial and other markets. Demonstrations will include:

- **Instant Issuance Portfolio** – this will feature the company’s integrated hardware and software that will showcase the simplified and secure process financial organizations and cardholders need to go through when issuing a card instantly, including applications for issuing magstripe cards or smart cards.

- **Mobile Wallet Library** – demonstrations will include a newly launched mobile wallet application that allows customers to implement many different aspects of mobile commerce. The new wallet library is a white label offering that allows card issuers to customize the wallet and roll it out as an extension of their existing mobile program.

- **Entrust Mobile Solutions** – the Entrust IdentityGuard Mobile Smart Credentials transform mobile devices into multipurpose digital identities for authenticated access to logical networks, cloud applications, physical facilities and building entrances. Entrust’s mobile innovation also helps organizations leverage mobile devices for strong, easy-to-use authentication, which includes two-factor authentication, out-of-band transaction confirmation, mobile smart credentials and advanced authenticator technology (e.g., biometrics, GPS).

- **Secure Identity Solutions** – demonstrations will include Datacard Group’s new desktop personalization and laminating technologies that include next-generation security and durability features for ID card programs, helping organizations protect their people, programs and budget.

- **Central Issuance Solutions** – on display for the first time in North America will be Datacard Group’s fastest inline high-volume card issuance system in its portfolio, which can support virtually any card program globally including payment cards, identification cards and driver’s licenses, etc.

“With the recent news breaking about data breaches and consumer information being compromised, it is more important than ever for organizations to start discussing how various technology innovations,
such as smart cards and authentication platforms, can help mitigate the risks associated with protecting data,” said Russ St. John, senior vice president of global marketing for Datacard Group. “This forum is a great opportunity to discuss migration paths for these new technologies. And, now that Datacard Group’s product portfolio includes Entrust security solutions, we look forward to showcase how our combined technologies help enable trusted identities and secure transactions for governments, financial organizations and commercial businesses.”

For more information about the show, please visit www.cartes-america.com for complete event details.

**About Datacard Group**

Datacard Group offers technologies for securing identities and safeguarding transactions in physical and digital environments. The company’s innovative portfolio now includes Entrust® authentication software platforms, bringing important new capabilities to tens of thousands of government agencies, financial institutions and other enterprises in more than 150 countries. Together, Datacard Group and Entrust issue more than 10 million secure identities every day, manage billions of secure transactions annually and issue a majority of the world’s financial cards. For more information, visit [www.datacard.com](http://www.datacard.com) or [www.entrust.com](http://www.entrust.com).

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**Mobile payment systems fail to take off with consumers By Brian X. Chen**

**News Group : International 2  Date : 2014/05/07**

Jessica Kourkounis/New York Times

* A merchant used Square, a mobile payments system, to swipe a customer’s credit card at a small shop in Philadelphia. CancelFacebookGoogle+LinkedInRedditTwitterSAN FRANCISCO — Millions of Americans use smartphones for tasks like hailing a taxi or checking in for a flight. But for buying something in a store? That mostly remains a tech entrepreneur’s dream.

For years now, the promise of a mobile wallet — in which paying in person can be as simple as hitting a button on a phone — has led to a host of US startups trying to cash in.

Those companies, though, have faced nearly as many hurdles as they have competitors, including the most basic ones: Many people are not aware of the new payment systems, others are confused by the many choices, and some see no benefit in the mobile option over using cash or credit cards.

The hurdles have left all the payment companies scrambling to find the code for a profitable business model. And now, a feeling is growing that mobile payments systems will not replace traditional wallets, at least anytime soon.
“There was the assumption that there was going to be some sort of spark that ignited the marketplace, and there was going to be a mobile payments revolution,” said Denée Carrington, a Forrester analyst who studies the mobile payments market. But people do not mind paying with cash or a credit card, she said.

“So this was never going to be a revolution,” she said. “It’s definitely more of an evolution.”

Despite the slow uptake of the technology by consumers, there is no shortage of ways to pay using a mobile phone. Startups like Square, Loop, LifeLock, and Clinkle offer apps that promise to let smartphone owners pay for products in stores with the tap of a button.

Bigger brands have stepped in, too, offering different types of mobile payments. Samsung Electronics last year agreed to include Visa’s software payWave on many Samsung phones.

And for years, Google has offered Google Wallet, which allows consumers to load their credit card information into a digital wallet so their phones can be tapped on some merchant terminals instead of using a credit card.

Apple hasn’t announced plans to get into mobile payments, but Timothy D. Cook, the company’s chief executive, has said that it is an area of interest.

None of the companies, though, have found the winning combination to transform mobile payments into everyday consumer behavior.

Gartner, the research firm, estimates that worldwide, people spent $235.4 billion through mobile payments in 2013, compared with $163.1 billion in 2012. But that number is much smaller in North America, where consumers spent about $37 billion through mobile transactions in 2013, up from $24 billion the year before.

And analysts say that before the public can be expected to know about and widely adopt mobile payments, some significant problems must be overcome.

As the digital payment world stands now, there are many different parties involved in making the payments work, and they come from different industries and have different interests. The disparate parties include banks, payment networks, retailers, wireless carriers, and the companies that make digital wallets themselves.

Merchants who want to accept mobile payments are unlikely to support all the possible types. So consumers who want to buy things with a phone must first find a business that supports the technology, and then figure out which smartphone technology the store accepts.

Square, a San Francisco startup that is one of the most prominent mobile payment companies, has struggled to get people to use its Square Wallet app for paying with a smartphone. The company has renamed the app several times to gain more attention.

Square’s big partnership with Starbucks, which the startup hoped would help it add users, instead led to losses at Square of at least $20 million last year, according to a person who was involved with the partnership, who spoke on the condition of anonymity because the number was private. The Wall Street Journal earlier reported the loss.

Square declined to comment.

David Byttow, who was the lead engineer working on Square Wallet from mid-2012 to mid-2013, said getting a mainstream digital payment solution started was difficult and represented something of a Catch-22 situation. More people would most likely use a service if it were widely available, he said, but merchants are not interested in installing new payment software and hardware unless a large swath of shoppers are using the service.

But even if the payment process were widely available, companies still would need to persuade consumers that there was an advantage to making payments from a phone.
Aditya Khurjekar, a former Verizon Wireless executive who worked on mobile payments there, said he believed consumers do not find it bothersome to carry or use credit cards and cash.

“There isn’t a problem to solve,” Khurjekar said in an interview. Khurjekar, who now runs the Money Event, a business conference revolving around mobile wallets, said companies offering mobile payments needed to offer incentives that cash and credit cards cannot, like coupons and discounts.

“The mobile payments experience has to become the hook for some other commerce shopping experience,” he said.

57. **Bank to give away NFC phones**

*News Group: International 2  Date: 2014/05/07*

Equity Bank, Kenya’s largest bank, is to provide more than 300,000 free NFC phones to retailers across the country for use as POS devices, ITWeb Africa reports. “Our new MasterCard ATM cards are tap-and-go hence the need to put mobile POS devices with merchants to process payments,” chief executive James Mwangi said. “The NFC-enabled phones and cards will help Equity Bank be well positioned to significantly increase volumes and commission from payment processing.”

58. **Need for Smart identity cards**

*Sayed Mansur Hashim*

*News Group: International 2  Date: 2014/05/07*

THE National Identity Registration Wing (NIDW) of the Election Commission is issuing paper laminated NID cards to the citizens who are 18 years of age or above. The existing cards lack security features and can easily be forged. This was highlighted by the recent haul of more than 51,000 fake NID cards and has become a major headache for policymakers. The incident has merely reinforced the security loopholes in the system and brought into question the usefulness of NID system in its present state. With NID cards becoming the document of choice for availing a vast array of services ranging from new cell phone registrations to availing financial services, the absence of ‘off line’ verification threatens the validity of the system.

As reported in a Daily Star report on April 20 that it requires regular, off-the-shelf technology like computers, laminating machines and printers to produce fake ID cards. Hence, the introduction of “Smart” NID cards is the logical step in the right direction to make forgery near impossible. Currently, the weakness of the system is that
there is no system to authenticate these paper laminated NID cards. Until the cards are equipped with a computer chip, the proposed database of 92 million people will not bring benefits to policymaking, nor enable citizens’ access to a whole range of social benefit programmes and other services that the NID programme hopes to deliver on.

Indeed, Smart cards are being utilised by some Asian countries to great benefit. Thailand has introduced agriculture credit cards to 4 million rice farmers. The Smart card allows the card holder to purchase agriculture inputs using a credit card that can be paid back once harvest is complete. Similarly it has an “energy” card that helps taxi drivers to purchase subsidised compressed natural gas for vehicles.

Pakistan is implementing a programme called NADRA. It has successfully introduced a Smart card targeting 2.1 million government pensioners. Elderly pensioners had been facing great difficulty in withdrawing their monthly pension, primarily due to “long unmanaged queues, accessibility issues, manual record keeping by disbursement agencies, restricted timings and limited outreach of designated disbursement agencies.” The disbursement system designed under NADRA is an automated system that allows for transactions to be made electronically that is both secure and safe through a franchise of 6,000 “e-sahulat” outlets initially. The project will be expanded to bank branches and post offices in the next phase.

In Bangladesh, a handful of agencies like the National Board of Revenue and Bangladesh Bank are integrated with the NIDW with proper verification system. The issuance of digitalised or Smart NID card is the logical step forward to maximise the benefits that can be derived from the NID system. It has the potential to fundamentally change the way people derive benefit from various service sectors. All the Smart card holders will have bank accounts. It will pave the way the government pays dividends for various social safety net programmes. For instance, farmers are generally deprived of government supplied fertiliser due to pilferage at various levels. Were authorities to send money for fertiliser through the NID account, farmers could easily collect the cash using Smart card that would operate through ATM machines at village level.

The transformation of existing laminated NID cards into Smart cards involves inclusion of a chip. Given that poor countries like Bangladesh are hoping to make a database of 92 million citizens with corresponding 92 million Smart cards, duration is of great import. Hence, having a shelf life of at least a decade with a chip that can accommodate more information with passage of time is essential.

The Smart card would store citizen data in two groups. First is the basic information. The other part would include biometric data which would make the NID Smart. Facial recognition is basically a digital photograph of the holder. Given that people's facial features change with time, a provision could be made allowing citizens to update their photograph and other relevant information before they get a new Smart card. Security features include digital prints of four fingers of both hands. The “chip” inside a card would have sufficient space for additional information which will be stored in applications and these will form the basis of authentication from EC which will be tied up to its database.

The amendment of NID Registration Act in the parliament on October 6, 2013 has given impetus to NID system implementation in the country. The Smart NID card can very effectively help the government maintain the privacy of citizens' data – inclusion of data privacy and data security feature an important aspect of amendment of the NID Act. In the final analysis of things, the Smart card has the potential to greatly expand the horizon of governance and improve service delivery system in Bangladesh. For the poor to have genuine access to safety net programmes designed for them, it is imperative that the government introduces the Smart NID cards sooner than later.

The writer is Assistant Editor, The Daily Star

59. Editorial: E-ID card scam

The Jakarta Post | Editorial | Tue, April 29 2014, 9:24 AM

Editorial News

- Editorial: Travel ban to Saudi Arabia
Editorial: New govt in a straitjacket

The week in review: Of life, death and dogs

The fact that the Corruption Eradication Commission (KPK) has found alleged fraud in the national electronic identity (e-ID) card project, despite preventive measures being initiated by Home Minister Gamawan Fauzi, only indicates the difficulties in reining in corrupt practices, which are known to have been deep-rooted for decades.

Gamawan has deemed the KPK findings unbelievable, as he had previously asked the KPK for advice on keeping the Rp 6 trillion (US$518 million) project free of any foul play. The minister also claimed to have exercised prudence right from the planning stages, to ensure there was no room for graft.

The project has, however, sparked questions from the outset. The Business Competition Supervisory Commission (KPPU), an anti-monopoly agency, said it spotted unfair competition and collusion during the tender, while the implementation of ID card renewal in many regions experienced unnecessary hiccups.

KPK investigators said they had discovered Rp 1.1 trillion in state losses in the corruption case. They have named the ministry’s director of citizen administration information, Sugiharto, a suspect and slapped a travel ban on him and four other people. The others implicated in the case include Anang Sugiana Sudihardjo, president director of PT Quadra Solution, part of the consortium led by state money-printing company Perum PNRI, which won the tender to produce the e-ID cards for 105 million citizens.

KPK deputy chairman Bambang Widjojanto said certain parties had benefited from the lucrative project, which, despite Bambang’s refusal to elaborate on the statement, confirms the vulnerability of state projects to rent-seeking practices. The ongoing investigation will discover who the “beneficiaries” of the e-ID card project were, but past experience suggests that political elite may have orchestrated the scam thanks to their access to the state budget.

Former Democratic Party treasurer and lawmaker Muhammad Nazaruddin, who himself was convicted of corruption in the construction of Hambalang sports training facility and apartments for athletes competing in the 2011 Southeast Asian Games in Palembang, has often spoken of the division of the slices of cake within the House of Representatives’ budget commission. Nazaruddin told KPK investigators in August last year about 12 big projects in which political parties and elite played a rent-seeking role, including the e-ID card project.

We therefore presume that the KPK was aware of the alleged corruption in the e-ID card project but, rather than taking Nazaruddin’s account for granted, collected as much evidence as possible to build a strong case. It is certain, however, that the KPK only names suspects once it has secured solid evidence. Groundless investigations would put the KPK at risk of withdrawing probes or of seeing the panel of judges acquit defendants, both of which are unprecedented.

Therefore, instead of denying the allegations, it would be better for Gamawan to support KPK investigators and provide them with all the documents they require. Gamawan’s cooperative gestures would not only facilitate the probe but would also prove his commitment to corruption eradication.

Sequent Software, the world’s leading provider of digital issuance and open wallet platform-as-a-service, announced today that it is introducing cloud-based digital issuance to its portfolio of products.

The company’s PCI- and EMV- compliant Digital Issuance solution, recently approved by Visa, will support cloud-based issuance, tokenization and Host Card Emulation (HCE) functionality. By adding cloud functionality, Sequent becomes the only company to provide a complete digital issuance solution to the cloud or secure element with a platform to extend digitalized cards into applications consumers already know and trust.
Sequent's platform and APIs give banks new options to create compelling user experiences in partnership with application developers. It lets banks extend the reach of their digital card products beyond their own apps, providing authorized app developers and merchant applications use of bank digital cards for physical world payments.

"The Sequent solution gives banks control over their digital issuance strategy and unlock the value of their brands through their own mobile banking app or partner apps," said Robb Duffield, CEO of Sequent. "We give banks flexibility of deployment by leveraging cloud and secure element technology to work with all partners for secure mobile payments using NFC, QR code and other technologies."

This approach simplifies and extends application interaction with digital cards through use of Sequent's patent-pending on-device middleware, enabling issuing of digital cards and tokens from the cloud while managing security and user experience on the device.

The product supports recently released Visa, MasterCard and EMVCo specifications and uses tokenization of card data to ensure interoperability and reduce fraud risk.

60. **Morpho Partners with IntegenX to Offer Rapid DNA Identification Technology**

**Paris, France / Pleasanton, CA, USA – April 29, 2014**

Morpho (Safran), the world leader in biometric solutions, is joining with IntegenX, the market leader in rapid DNA technology, to offer DNA identification solutions providing DNA profiles in approximately 90 minutes. Morpho will partner with IntegenX to market its RapidHIT® System to law enforcement and government agencies in select countries around the world.

Based on a breakthrough technology, the RapidHIT is a fully automated system that generates DNA profiles from reference samples. It can be used in laboratories, police stations or directly at the crime scene. The RapidHIT System is the first rapid DNA technology to use an FBI-approved chemistry, enabling the upload of DNA profiles to the National DNA Index System (NDIS) [1].

For the past three decades, Morpho has been providing criminal identification solutions to law enforcement and government agencies around the world. Under this partnership, Morpho will leverage its world leadership in biometrics (Automated Biometric Identification Systems and booking stations) and its global presence to offer DNA solutions and support services. By adding DNA to its biometric technology portfolio, Morpho will deliver powerful solutions capable of accelerating investigations, particularly during the custody period.

“IntegenX is committed to bringing Rapid DNA testing to the forefront of our communities,” stated Robert Schueren, President, Chief Executive Officer of IntegenX. “We are excited by the capabilities brought forward through our partnership with Morpho”.

“Our customers around the world look to us for the most innovative and efficient criminal investigation solutions,” commented Philippe Petitcolin, Chairman and Chief Executive Officer of Morpho. “We are proud to collaborate with IntegenX to introduce rapid DNA identification to speed up crime solving in the field.”

61. **Politics "Smart" Permanent Voter Card to be Issued for 2015 General Elections- INEC**

Discussion in 'Political News' started by Lequite, Wednesday at 4:18 AM.

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Views: 339
Lequte Senior Member

Speaking in Abuja on Tuesday, Mr. Nuhu Yakubu, Commissioner for Operations of the Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC) said the commission would issue permanent voter card for the 2015 elections to guard against the challenges that trailed previous elections in Nigeria.

"The commission has almost completed the production of permanent voter card," he said. "The permanent voter card is a smart card; it is similar to a credit card which has a chip imbedded in it. The chip captures all one’s biometrics and data like finger print, photograph, address, and photograph as well as telephone number, among others.

"It transmits signal. That is the kind of card that the commission is going to use during 2015 elections,” he said. Yakubu said the commission was determined to take necessary measures that would ensure that 2015 general elections were properly conducted.

62. CARDLOGIX INTRODUCES CARD ENCODING ENGINE

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/05/10

FOR DESKTOP ISSUANCE OF SMART ID CREDENTIALS WITHOUT PROGRAMMING

Irvine, CA – April 16, 2014 – CardLogix, a provider of smart cards and software for identity credentials, announces Card Encoding Engine (CEE) for the creation of secure ID cards and badges. CEE is a comprehensive card personalization software for designing, encoding, and printing credential data, as well as badge issuance. CEE provides the power and versatility of custom ID badging software at a competitive cost with simplified, intuitive features that enable the execution of ID projects without the need for extensive project planning or programming. CEE’s main features include:

63. Support for the widest variety of ID credential types and card technologies, including ISO 7816

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/05/10
encoding for smart cards, biometrics, magnetic stripe, 2D/3D barcodes, QR codes, and ICAO-compliant MRZs. Supported card technologies include contact smart cards and ISO 14443 A & B contactless cards, including MIFARE cards.

- **A set of intuitive workspaces that logically organize the essential tasks for any project**, with graphically driven point-and-click simplicity. Workspaces include Card Editor, Printing and Encoding, Connections, and Printer Management.

- **Built-in support for pre-designed CardLogix cards with high security graphics**, such as pre-designed ReadyStart™ and Holofoil cards. These secure card designs have been incorporated into CEE and are viewable as backgrounds in the Card Editor Workspace for easy visualization of a card's finished appearance. CardLogix 2D Holofoil cards have a wide range of popular motifs include high security, voting, driver license, healthcare, transportation, and many others. ReadyStart cards have pre-designed world-class security features such as microtext, guilloche, and hidden graphics. These universal backgrounds eliminate design time and increase security.

- **Streamlined encoding of a chip card’s logical data structures without API programming** for CardLogix’

Smart Toolz® and M.O.S.T. Toolz™ programs can be performed in the Connections Workspace. Card Encoding Engine also supports automatic data collection and industry-standard interfaces, without any programming involved.

- **As part of the idblox™ Identity Credential Ecosystem**, there is also support for the latest generation of Matica and Evolis card printers, biometrics by Corvus and Precise Biometrics, and logical access by Access Smart.

**Press Release** Page 2 of 3

64. **CEE: Sophisticated Performance, Competitive Price and Cost Savings**

News Group: International 2 Date: 2014/05/11
Card Encoding Engine addresses the need for in-line creation of identity credentials that can be harnessed by most end users, integrators, and resellers—without the need for costly programming. This is possible thanks to the interoperability of the 103 idblox data elements that enable the simple exchange of key identity data between CardLogix Toolz, CEE, and other idblox products. There is no need to program APIs for each project. The result is an elegant execution of a disruptive technology, as well as a sophisticated, feature-rich solution that competes with software programs that cost much more.

More about CEE

CEE Single Station, Multi-User Edition runs on Windows 7 and Windows 8. It comes with two years of free updates and a two year product warranty. This edition has an MSRP of $4,999, and can be purchased at cardlogix.com and through authorized CardLogix resellers beginning May 1, 2014.

Current resellers include:

United States

• Secure-Tech Peripherals (California)
• TX Systems (California)
• Legend ID (Washington)
• Higgins Corporation (Maine)
• Bridgeway Solutions (North Carolina)
• Midwest Card and ID Solutions (Missouri)

Africa

• Pure Access ID (Nigeria)
• Wadani Logistics (Somalia)
• Clockwise Solutions (Somalia & Tanzania)
• Dianel Technologies (Senegal, Niger, and Côte d’Ivoire)

CardLogix is currently reviewing resellers for additional markets. Upcoming editions of CEE include a Network Multi-User version and a Federated (PKI) version. For more information on how Card Encoding Engine can save you both time and money, please review the CEE Total Cost of Ownership Calculator at http://www.cardlogix.com/tools/cee-calc/.

Press Release
More about CardLogix Corporation

CardLogix manufactures smart cards and develops software for securing identity, data, and value. Founded in 1994, CardLogix is an ISO 9001:2008 quality manufacturer of smart card technology platforms for secureID, secure access, healthcare, stored value, gaming, and other applications. For more information, please visitcardlogix.com.

More about idblox

The idblox Identity Credential Ecosystem is an organization of industry-leading companies formed to offer products and solutions for the streamlined creation of identity credentials. CardLogix, along with Corvus Integration and Access Smart, founded idblox in 2013. The idblox ecosystem is rapidly growing to include companies and products in many ID credential categories, such as design, enrollment, credential management, vetting, issuance, and use. For more information, please visit idblox.com.

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Press images for Card Encoding Engine can be found on our website at

Kwick launches fingerprint verification system for SIM sales in Pakistan

By Adam Vrankulj Tweet

April 28, 2014 -

Kwick High-Tech & Solutions has announced the launch of a new biometric device for telecom operators in Pakistan to verify the identity of its customers when making SIM card sales.

According to the company, the new unnamed verification machine consists of an integrated Android device running Kwick’s own application and a fingerprint sensor. Software development and solution integration have
been done by Kwick’s internal team. As of yet it is unclear which particular fingerprint sensor will be used as a part of this new device.

Reported previously in BiometricUpdate.com, the Sindh High Court in Karachi previously told all cellular companies to ensure franchise holders are equipped with the proper tools for verification that fingerprint devices are to be connected with Nadra. Starting in July 2013, it was directed that no SIM card sales or reactivations be issued without biometric verification.

Also reported previously, there has been significant resistance from telecom operators in the country who feel as though the cost of the verification machines is too much to bear.

Kwick originally proposed the new biometric system early in 2013, at the time, saying the system would communicate with a data server hosted at cellular companies to validate national identity card holders.

http://www.gbcghana.com/1.1732457

67. NIA Supports Issuance Of Centralised National Identification Card

The National Identification Authority has supported calls for all biometric identification to be placed under one umbrella.

The Authority said such a move will not only save the nation a lot of money but bring sanity in the issuance of ID cards.

Currently, the NIA is producing the National ID and agencies like the EC, Passport Office and NHIS are also producing similar cards.

But Head of Legal Affairs at the NIA, Joseph Iroko, says the Authority is poised to take up the challenge.

http://www.securitydocumentworld.com/article-details/i/11548/

68. Belgium rolls out new ePassports

05/05/14

Zetes has started personalising Belgium’s new ePassports, having won a tender from the Federal Department of Foreign Affairs (SPF) in 2013.
Under the terms of the five-year agreement, which was inked in August 2013, Zetes is personalising and distributing the ePassports. Gemalto is providing its Sealys range of ePassport booklets, embedded with the latest generation ICAO software.

The project was inaugurated at Zetes’ high security production and personalisation site during a visit from Belgium’s deputy prime minister and minister of Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and European Affairs, Didier Reynders.

Zetes is ISO 27001 certified. It says: “Handling of information about the country’s citizens requires the highest levels of protection and this standard is the only one that is internationally recognised for defining the security prerequisites for implementing an Information Security Management System.”

In addition to personalising the new documents, Zetes is also responsible for distributing them to government authorities.

The company says: “By incorporating this final link in the chain, Zetes will be making the entire process more watertight and further reducing the risk of theft or fraud. Particular emphasis has been placed on photo quality in the new passport, because this is the aspect 80% of counterfeiters focus their attentions on. As a result, the photo will be reproduced in multiple places throughout the document using different kinds of technologies, making counterfeiting impossible / unviable. Furthermore, the group will establish a disaster recovery site in Belgium which can take over production in less than 24 hours should a problem arise at the main production site.”

Alain Wirtz, CEO of Zetes, says: "Producing identity documents for our fellow citizens is always a great honour for Zetes and we do our utmost to ensure the strictest quality and security standards are maintained. Everyone expects their personal data to be managed and handled with the greatest protection possible, and rightly so. That’s why we’re constantly investing in new technologies, our infrastructure and the latest, advanced certifications.”

More than 500,000 biometric passports are expected to be personalised each year.


69. CardLogix announces Card Encoding Engine software for secure ID cards and badges creation

Published on 6 May, 2014

CardLogix, a provider of smart cards and software for identity credentials, announces Card Encoding Engine (CEE) for the creation of secure ID cards and badges. CEE is a comprehensive card personalisation software for designing, encoding, and printing credential data, as well as badge issuance. CEE provides the power and versatility of custom ID badging software at a competitive cost with simplified, intuitive features that enable the execution of ID projects without the need for extensive project planning or programming.

CEE’s main features include:

- Support for the widest variety of ID credential types and card technologies, including ISO 7816 encoding for smart cards, biometrics, magnetic stripe, 2D/3D barcodes, QR codes, and ICAO-compliant MRZs. Supported card technologies include contact smart cards and ISO 14443 A & B contactless cards, including MIFARE cards.
- A set of intuitive workspaces that logically organise the essential tasks for any project, with graphically driven point-and-click simplicity. Workspaces include Card Editor, Printing and Encoding, Connections, and Printer Management.
- Built-in support for pre-designed CardLogix cards with high security graphics, such as pre-designed ReadyStart™ and Holofoil cards. These secure card designs have been incorporated into CEE and are
viewable as backgrounds in the Card Editor Workspace for easy visualisation of a card's finished appearance. CardLogix 2D Holofoil cards have a wide range of popular motifs include high security, voting, driver license, healthcare, transportation, and many others. ReadyStart cards have pre-designed world class security features such as microtext, guilloche, and hidden graphics. These universal backgrounds eliminate design time and increase security.

- Streamlined encoding of a chip card’s logical data structures without API programming for CardLogix' Smart Toolz® and M.O.S.T. Toolz™ programs can be performed in the Connections Workspace. Card Encoding Engine also supports automatic data collection and industry-standard interfaces, without any programming involved.
- As part of the idblox™ Identity Credential Ecosystem, there is also support for the latest generation of Matica and Evolis card printers, biometrics by Corvus and Precise Biometrics, and logical access by Access Smart.

**CEE: sophisticated performance, competitive price and cost savings**

Card Encoding Engine addresses the need for in-line creation of identity credentials that can be harnessed by most end users, integrators, and resellers — without the need for costly programming. This is possible thanks to the interoperability of the 103 idblox data elements that enable the simple exchange of key identity data between CardLogix Toolz, CEE, and other idblox products. There is no need to program APIs for each project. The result is an elegant execution of a disruptive technology, as well as a sophisticated, feature-rich solution that competes with software programs that cost much more.


70. 50% of listed Afghan refugees given PoR cards by NADRA

* Over 668,000 get PoR cards through 34 distribution centres, mobile vans

- **Staff Report**
- May 07, 2014
- Be First To Comment

ISLAMABAD: The National Database and Registration Authority (NADRA), with the support of the UN refugee agency, UNHCR, has successfully delivered new Proof of Registration (PoR) cards with a validity date of December 31, 2015, to 50 percent of the total 1.6 million registered Afghan refugees in Pakistan.

Launched in February this year, following the decision by the government of Pakistan in July 2013 to extend the validity of the PoR cards, the first phase of the PoR card renewal project is scheduled to conclude on June 30, said a press release issued on Tuesday. To date, more than 668,000 Afghan refugees have received their new PoR cards through a total of 34 distribution centres and Mobile Registration Vans operating across Pakistan.

In the second phase of the project, from July 2 until the end of 2014, NADRA will register some 150,000 children born to registered parents in the past five years. Moreover, some 182,000 children who have reached the age of five years since the last exercise and who are already registered with their parents, will now receive their individual PoR cards.

Neill Wright, Representative of UNHCR in Pakistan, urged all registered Afghans who have not yet renewed their PoR cards to do so without further delay. Mr Wright lauded NADRA for implementing a smooth and efficient renewal project. The Representative said “I am pleased to see the progress of the PoR card renewal project and am optimistic that NADRA and UNHCR will be able to conclude the project on time.” He however, noted that the attachment of rights to the possession of PoR cards, such as to be able to obtain a driver license, open a bank account and purchase mobile SIM cards was an important next step to be considered by the government.
It is in the best interests of Pakistan that refugees have legal access to essential services in order to sustain themselves through legal means while staying temporarily on Pakistani soil.” Mr Wright added. During a three-day official visit of the UN Refugee High Commissioner for Refugees, Mr António Guterres, last week, the Federal Minister of States and Frontier Regions (SAFRON), Lt. Gen. (Retd) Abdul Qadir Baloch assured UNHCR that he would look into the possibility of granting rights associated with holding a PoR card.


71. Emirates Identity Authority showcases e-services, apps

(Wam) / 7 May 2014

International experts in smart card systems and technology will participate in the event, which showcases the best practices in the smart electronic ID card industry.

The Emirates Identity Authority (Eida) has announced its participation as the official government partner in the Cards and Payments Middle East Conference and Exhibition 2014, which will be held May 13th-14th at the Dubai World Trade Centre.

International experts in smart card systems and technology will participate in the event, during which more than 150 working papers will throw light on the latest experiences and the best practices in the smart electronic ID card industry.

Dr Ali Mohamed Al Khouri, Director General of Eida, will deliver the opening speech at the conference.

Eida will participate with a special pavilion in the exhibition held on the sidelines of the conference. It will showcase a set of its latest e-services and their smart applications rendered to the customers. The exhibition will also see the participation of local, regional and international specialists in the areas of banking, e-cards, retail and communications from the US, Europe, China, South Korea and other countries.

The organisers expect the conference and exhibition to attract more than 10,000 visitors over two days and Eida’s patronage of the event comes as part of its commitment to contribute to supporting and building a knowledge society in the UAE. It also reflects one of the principal themes of its strategic plan, namely, to strengthen the culture of digital identity and to showcase its importance and future prospects through participation in global forums and events.

Emirates ID said that its participation in the event was to introduce the identity card as one of the UAE’s most dynamic projects aimed at governmental and economic transformation and at strengthening the country’s global competitiveness and security by way of furnishing an integrated and advanced system for individual identity management.

The Authority stressed that the event was a significant opportunity for organisations in both the public and private sectors to learn about the latest systems, solutions, programmes and technologies for e-payment in order to keep pace with the UAE’s efforts towards e-transition in smart government services as well as with its determination to build a knowledge economy and electronic transactions via digital networks.

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http://www.trust.org/item/20140507193917-l27l9/
Any views expressed in this article are those of the author and not of Thomson Reuters Foundation.

An electronic smartcard supplied by WFP is changing the lives of women farmers in rural Nepal. As well as helping them put food on the table during lean periods, the cards are also enabling women like Deurupa to get to grips with basic banking and numeracy.

by Frances Kennedy in Namule, Dailekh DAILEKH - Deurupa Ranamagar, a farmer from the Dailekh district, knows only too well the sacrifices that come with feeding her family. She has not seen her husband for six years, since he migrated to Malaysia in order to find work and provide for them. He sends back what he can, while Deurupa tends their tiny wheat plot, collects firewood and raises goats, an ox and a pig.

In the past, Deurupa, 36, struggled to provide year round for her son, daughter, granddaughter and elderly grandmother. Food supplies usually ran out well ahead of the harvest that would replenish their stocks.

Improve harvesting

So three years ago, Deurupa joined the WFP 'Food-for-Assets' programme. The programme paid Deurupa with food, in exchange for her help in rebuilding local terraces and an irrigation canal - which in turn, will improve harvesting for the whole community.

However a few months ago, WFP started giving smartcards to women instead. The smartcard, which is a type of banking card, allows women to make choices about the food they buy and also make it instantly accessible. Deurupa explains:

"This card immediately saved me time and money" she says. "WFP put credit on the cards electronically. So we could get the money immediately by going to the local bank in the village 15 minutes away. Before we had to take a six hour bus ride just to collect our earnings."

Despite this, Deurupa (pictured above) recalls how she was hesitant at first, not ever having seen a plastic card like that before. But looking back, she says it has changed her life, adding: "The money I save is used for my children's education and clothing."
As a result, she has been able to send her son to a good high school - a difficult decision since it is a nine-hour drive away.

"I miss him terribly but I wanted him to have a better chance in life," she says. With her smart card she can transfer money directly to the host family and that reassures her.

Control finances

Other women in the village receive funds from their relatives abroad directly onto the smart card - avoiding often pricey transfer fees or the risks of sending money home with a courier.

And there are other advantages. Smart cards allow the women to better control their finances, as they can choose how much of their earnings to withdraw at a time, and safely store the rest — no small benefit in remote areas where banks simply do not have branches.

Through the three-year programme, the women have gained an understanding of basic banking and saving mechanisms, boosting numeracy skills "and our confidence!" says Deurupa.

The success of the smart card means that this programme is now being rolled out in other districts - including Ladagada and Pokhari - covering around 1,700 households.

http://business-technology.co.uk/2014/05/biometric-payments-system-triaalled-by-swedish-university/

73. Biometric payments system trialled by Swedish university

Carrying wads of cash and cards around in your wallet may soon not be necessary when you can quite easily pay for things by using your hand.

Fredrik Leifland, an engineering student at Lund University in Sweden, has launched a biometric vein-scanning payment technique for stores and coffee shops in the country. The idea came to him when he was impatiently standing in line at the supermarket and wondered if he could pay for things biometrically rather than using credit cards.

After talking to players involved in vein-scanning terminals, banks and stores, a system that worked was developed. There are now currently 15 stores and restaurants, mainly around the Lund University campus, that use the terminals, with 1,600 active users.

Other countries have also begun using biometrics as a payment method. Banks in Japan use vein technology, which allows customers to take money out from their accounts and helps reduce the risk of fraud.

“No one is robbing your bank account because only you can access it. You have to provide your own personal details,” says Richard Gilroy, head of biometric solutions at Steria.

“You do not forget your card – you have everything with you. The commercial use of biometrics is quick and easy verification. Therefore reducing the cost of security to banks or increasing the threshold of insurance they have got.”

Biometrics being used for payments is still at its beginning stages – although Gilroy says that common practice in the industry is to use two forms of identifications, so consumers would not have to rely solely on a
fingerprint. “You would rely on a fingerprint and iris. If you have two forms of identification you are reducing the possibility of spoofing it massively,” he explains.

“The big game changer, I think, is the fact your biometrics are now embedded in the latest iPhone. That provides you with instant security that it is you. There are occasions now where people can order something online through their iPhone, then take their iPhone to a shop.

“As the use of biometric technology and the availability through the likes of iPhone increase, so will people’s willingness to accept it.”

74. OT announces the 5th Million electronic passport issued for the Republic of Uzbekistan

Colombes, France, May 7 2014

Oberthur Technologies, a world leader in digital security solutions for the mobility space, today announced the issuance of the 5th million passport to Uzbek citizens.

On this occasion, OT reaffirms its commitment to continue close cooperation with the Uzbek authorities. OT is used and committed to supporting all its customers along the entire life of the system it delivers.

As a system integrator and thanks to its strong system expertise worldwide, OT has implemented and supported a turnkey identity system solution covering the complete passport chain from citizen enrolment, data management, ePassport personalization, issuance, document verification, border control to authentication. OT deployed more than 400 enrolment stations in over 250 locations in Uzbekistan, about 200 border control stations (airport, train stations as well as terrestrial borders) and built a complete factory to host the personalization and datacenter.

OT developed a very tailored and specific system, designed a new electronic passport and successfully implemented, deployed and supported the infrastructure nationwide. To enhance the security level of the Uzbek passport, Oberthur Technologies provided a strong Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), based on system-One™ PKI for eMRTD¹ which offers a secure and modular infrastructure to manage dedicated digital certificates, compliant with ICAO² and EAC³ standards. In addition, OT closely assisted the Uzbek government in the upgrade of their infrastructures in order to assemble and manufacture secure passports.

“OT is very proud to provide to the Republic of Uzbekistan the implementation of a turnkey end-to-end identity solution for their new ePassport. OT was able to mobilize a strong dedicated project team, and thanks to its ID expertise as a system integrator, we delivered and deployed across the nation a full electronic passport system, in only few months, in close cooperation with the Uzbek government teams.

Our solutions secure citizens and employees’ identities wherever they are, wherever they travel, and our obsession is to make citizens’ life easier, more secure and ensure the privacy of their data”, said Olivier PRESTEL, Managing Director of the ID Business Unit at OT.

MRTD¹: Machine Readable Travel Documents
ICAO²: International Civil Aviation Organisation
EAC³: Extended Access Control


75. National ID: Nigeria To Use Biometrics in National Census
Biometric technology is being invoked as a way to remove the taint of undue politicisation from Nigeria’s next national census. As reported initially by Nigerian news outlet This Day Live, the chairman of the National Population Commission, Eze Duru-Iheoma, has stated that the nation will be adopting the biometric registration system in the next census.

“The only problem that bedevils our census exercise is the over-politicisation of the process,” Duru-Iheoma told This Day Live. “People see census in terms of revenue allocation, but that is erroneous because the main purpose of census is to enable us plan as a people to know how many Nigerians are of a certain age group or gainfully employed. It is among those things that enable us plan well and not how much more a state government is expected to get from federation account.”

There has been no set date for the census, but the goal of the National Population Commission is to have the registration system ready for this purpose by 2015.

This application of a biometric national ID solution is an example of how having a strong identity verification can help promote fair democracy. In the situation of a biometric database, the body measurements enrolled are used as a strong verification method that can help keep data accurate, unbiased and easy to analyze.

Nigeria is a country that is embracing biometric technology at an encouraging rate. In the area of biometrics for finance, the Central Bank of Nigeria has even implemented a cash tax in order to encourage biometric and mobile payments. The country has been aggressively pursuing strong authentication solutions for a wide variety of applications not only to reduce bias, fraud and corruption, but with the goal of becoming one of the top world economies by 2020.


76. Global Multi-Factor Authentication (Two, Three, Four & Five-Factor) Market - Forecast to 2020

DUBLIN, May 2, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Research and Markets (http://www.researchandmarkets.com/research/6v2ht4/multifactor) has announced the addition of the "Multi-Factor Authentication Market by Model/Type, Application, & Geography - Global Trend & Forecast to 2014 - 2020" report to their offering.

http://photos.prnewswire.com/prnh/20130307/600769

Multi-factor authentication (MFA) is a security system where more than one form of authentication is used such as something you know (password), something you have (smart card), and something you are (biometric technology). The combination of these three security systems provides a high degree of security and convenience, which ensures confidentiality of personal information.
This is superior compared to traditional passwords/PINs as they can be easily guessed, forgotten or copied. Multi-factor authentication helps in prevention of theft as the information is stored in the form of a digital record in the database; which makes it highly impossible to reconstruct, decrypt or manipulate. MFA also includes biometric technology that uses biological characteristics or features, which are inseparable from a person; therefore, reducing the threat of loss or theft.

Multi-factor authentication (MFA) comes with different models such as two-factor authentication, three-factor authentication, four-factor authentication, and five-factor authentication. The two-factor authentication includes smart card with pin, smart card with biometric technology, biometric technology with pin, two biometric authentications, and one time password with pin.

The three authentications include smart card with pin and biometric technology, smart card with two biometric technologies, pin with two biometric technologies, and three biometric authentications. On the other hand, four- and five-factor authentication includes the use of smart card and pin with more than one biometric technology such as face recognition, fingerprint recognition, voice recognition, and so on.

Market can be categorized into different applications such as government, defense, travel and immigration, banking and finance, consumer electronics, commercial security and healthcare. The most common application areas are in the field of banking & finance, government, and defense.

This report describes the market trends, drivers, and challenges of market and forecasts the MFA market from 2014 to 2020, based on applications, model and geography. It covers geographies like North America, Europe, APAC, and ROW (Rest of the World). The major companies involved in market are Gemalto N.V. (the Netherlands), RSA (U.S.), VASCO (U.S.), Entrust (U.S.), Technology Nexus AB (Sweden), VeriSign Authentication (U.S.), Sagem Morpho (France), NEC Corporation (Japan), and Cross Match Technologies (U.S.).

Key Topics Covered:

1 Introduction
2 Executive Summary
3 Cover Story
4 Market Overview
5 Multi-Factor Authentication Market, By Model
6 Multi-Factor Authentication Market, By Applications
7 Multi-Factor Authentication Market, By Geography
8 Competitive Landscape
9 Company Profiles

Companies Mentioned:

- 3M
- Cross Match Technologies, Inc.
- Fujitsu Ltd.
- Gemalto Nv
- Lumidigm Inc.
- Nec Corporation
- Rcg Holdings Limited
- Rsa Security Llc.
- Safran Sa
LAOAG CITY, May 19 (PIA) – The Commission on Elections said at least 9.6 million registered voters nationwide will not be allowed to vote in the 2016 elections if they fail to update their voters’ records using the biometrics. Comelec chairman Sixto Brillantes said registration through the biometrics system is compulsory in the 2016 polls. “Voters who don’t have biometrics are automatically disqualified to vote. Therefore, I’m requesting all old registered voters to verify the validation of their registration at the local Comelec offices within the 17-month period of continuing registration,” he said.

“Never mind the new qualified registrants as they will automatically undergo the biometrics process once they register,” he added. Brillantes, who was in Laoag during the voters’ registration launch on May 6, appealed to voters to register now noting that there won’t be an extension after the 17-month voter’s registration. The Comelec expects 3 million new voters to sign up during the registration period. All Comelec offices nationwide are open during Saturdays and Sundays. Data from the poll body showed that 18 percent or 9.6 million voters of the 53 million registered voters in the country don’t have biometrics. The Comelec earlier launch a walking expedition from Laoag passing through key cities in Regions I to III until Sorsogon to promote the biometrics registration from May 6 to October 21 next year. The continuing system of registration and validation of voters is realized in preparation for the 2016 synchronized national and local elections pursuant to Republic Act 10367 and Comelec Resolution 9853. Lawyer John Paul Martin, Laoag City Comelec officer, said the city has 24,000 registered voters, who don’t have biometrics. Director James Jimenez, Comelec spokesperson and director of the Education and Information Division (EID), is behind the project to remind the importance of voter’s registration and validation. With a theme: “walkah walkah;” Step Juan Tungo sa Mulat na Botante; the walking expedition nationwide kicked off in Laoag. “We focused our “walkah-walkah campaign” in Regions 1 and 3 for Luzon because these regions had almost 500,000 registered voters who don’t have biometrics,” Jimenez said. Meanwhile, the Comelec eyes to distribute more Precincts Counting Optical Scan (PCOS) machines to reduce the ratio from 1000 to 600 voters per PCOS machine. (MCA/FGL, PIA - Ilocos Norte).
Dubai, UAE - The winners of the 2014 Smart Cards & Payments Awardswere announced yesterday at a ceremony, which took place last evening at the Armani Hotel, Dubai. The awards are part of Cards and Payments Middle East, the region's premium event for payment cards and ID, which took place for the 15th year running in 2014, from May 13 - 14 at the Dubai International Convention and Exhibition Centre.

The Smart Card & Payments Awards, which were officially supported by Infinia Services and Solutions, saw several of the region's largest banks and card providers recognised for their contribution to the industry.

Prashant Khattar, Managing Director of Infinia Services and Solutions said:"Cards and Payments Middle East provides an excellent platform to showcase our experiences with the industry and ensure that we continue to build cutting edge products and platforms keeping the dynamic needs of the customer in mind. Infinia Services and Solutions provides the banking industry with the opportunity to deliver value to their customers through innovative services such as our newly developed platform which allows payment of Utility Bills by using miles or points accumulated by an end user while using the products of our banking partners."

79. Voters urged to check registration records BY JUANCHO GALLARDE

The Commission on Elections in Dumaguete City is urging voters to check their registration records and make sure that their biometrics data are completed before the validation deadline on October 31, 2015.

Carmencita Cañares of the Comelec Dumaguete said those who do not have complete biometrics data will not be allowed to vote in the synchronized elections on May 9, 2016, even if he or she has voted in the last two elections."It is imperative for those with incomplete biometrics to visit the Comelec for validation," she added.

She said hundreds of voters do not have a computer-generated picture in their biometrics. Voters who have complete biometrics data are advised to wait for the arrival of their identification cards, Cañares said.

She said the Comelec is finalizing the certified list of voters with incomplete biometrics, and those who failed to vote in the last two elections. The list will be posted soon in the 30 barangays of Dumaguete City, she added.

Under Comelec Resolution No. 9863, the Election Registration Board is directed to deactivate the records of those who failed to vote in the last two successive elections, or during the May 2013 national and local elections and the October 2013 barangay polls; those who have lost their Filipino citizenship, and voters who failed to validate their records on or before Oct. 31, 2015.

The deactivation also includes those who have been sentenced to imprisonment of not less than one year; adjudged to have committed rebellion, sedition, violation of the Firearms laws, or any crime against national security, unless restored to their full civil and political rights; and those declared by competent authority to be insane or incompetent.*JG
80. **NXP to demo NFC national ID app**

News Group : International 2  Date : 2014/05/25

An Android NFC app that lets German citizens use their national ID card to prove their identity in a variety of situations is to be presented by the German Federal Ministry of the Interior at next week’s CeBIT show.

The solution has been developed by **NXP** and eID specialist **Ageto** and will be featured on NXP’s stand.

“Using NXP’s SmartMX technology, which is embedded in the cards, and the Ageto eID client, citizens can now use their cards wirelessly with NFC-capable mobile devices to prove their own identity and gain quick access to services that government authorities offer,” NXP says.

“The new NFC-based solution from NXP and Ageto offers various advantages both for citizens and for the authorities”, NXP’s Ulrich Huewels explains. “One of the biggest benefits is with speed and efficiency.

“For example, all the steps the authorities need to take in order to confirm a person’s identity can now be conducted on a smartphone in just a few moments, and at any time. This confirmation is quick, simple and secure, and more importantly, can happen in real-time — something that is not possible today.”

81. **Retailers Hit by Criminals**

News Group : International 2  Date : 2014/05/25

US retailer Target announced in January that data such as addresses and phone numbers of more than 70M of its customers had been stolen in the Thanksgiving malware attack.

When the company was first warned in mid December by the Security Services of the attack the company calculated they had lost the card details of 40M customers going back to the Thanksgiving shopping spree when the attack first started.

Investigators had been monitoring overseas suspicious credit card activity and had picked up a common thread with the cards previously used at Target. However it would appear that JP Morgan Chase also detected this fraudulent activity and alerted the credit card payment operators at about the same time.

Apparently the hackers managed to get malware into the Target POS terminals that reported the card details back to a hacked server in the data centre. This malware is referred to as a memory scraper or memory parsing software for which retailers had been warned earlier in 2013 by Visa and Mastercard.

In this case the malware which has been given the name Kaptoxa after a word found in the malware code which is written in Russian. Apparently the word is Russian meaning potato which I understand is underground slang for a credit card.
What the malware is doing is to pick up the card details in plain text before they are enciphered for handling on the local network. The POS then accumulated this data and sent it back to the hacked network server every hour.

Apparently according to iSight Partners a security company employed by the Secret Services to analyse the attacks said the software is well written and covered its tracks (deleting its working files) so that it was not picked up by any malware protection software or analysis of transaction logs.

According to Aviv Raff, the CTO at Seculert which is an Israeli security company that has been analysing the malware found onTarget's systems the criminals waited six days to avoid setting alarms after moving the data from the infected server to a web server that was itself infected with malware, and from there to a server in Russia that served as a proxy to hide the hacker's whereabouts,

Although there have been cases of malware being placed into terminals at the point of manufacture it is more common for the attackers to gain access to the merchant's network and to use the standard tools for connecting with the POS terminals and updating their software, in this case with malware.

We still hear of concerns about the security of financial payment cards but really the terminal has always been the issue. Cards today are economically not viable to attack but the POS terminal is actually more vulnerable today than it was 10 years ago. The problem is inherent to computing technology and relates to any device that a third party can persuade to host their software. The code may be malicious or just erroneous but the implications can be severe.

It is readily apparent that malware may attack any computing device be it a corporate server or a mobile phone and anything in between. Even when the attacker can't insert malware it may be possible to make the computing device misbehave and consequently do damage or reveal sensitive information. However it is readily apparent that if an attacker can get malware into the processing device then they have unrestricted access to the data managed by that device. A POS terminal is the front end processor for credit/debit card data and PINS where used.

It doesn't take any revelations in technology to realise that a smart EMV card cannot be copied as a result of these malware attacks because that would require the attacker to reverse engineer the chip to reveal the secret key used as part of the EMV protocol. As we have said previously these chips are no longer practical to counterfeit.

The problem is that other parts of the payment world can accept credit card numbers given as a phone or internet payment where the secret key in the smart card chip is not used. Many years ago we dedicated our security efforts into making the payment card secure so that you wouldn't rely on the security of the terminal. It seems like only yesterday that we had multiple slots for SAMs (Secure Access Modules) in POS terminals to form the security end point. In fact in some big security schemes SAMs still exist. I expect they will catch up one day.

However the problem is clearly caused because there isn't one standard for how the payment card works and here the payment operators have a problem. How can you make payments taken over the phone or internet secure? Of course it goes without saying that you must ensure a delightful user experience. CAP (Card Authentication Program - calculator type widget) devices can be used for internet banking but paying an on-line merchant is another problem.

Do you actually know anybody that hasn't had at least one fraudulent payment on their credit card? It's only going to get worse because this is the new criminal playground and mobile phones are the new target of hackers.
ICT experts have criticised the ongoing biometric registration in Nigeria and similar exercises being planned by federal government agencies.

According to the Nigeria's Communication Week, the experts said it is a waste of resources, as government should have, instead, cooperated with the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) to build a central national biometric database that can serve the needs of all.

Engineer Lanre Ajayi and Professor David Adewumi, presidents of the Association of Telecommunications Companies of Nigeria (ATCON) and the Nigerian Computer Society respectively described the proliferation of biometric database systems in the country as wasteful and unfortunate.

Engineer Ajayi noted that, in the past three years, eight biometric registration exercises have been contemplated with some already at the level of execution while others are still on the drawing board. Agencies involved in this include the Nigerian Communications Commission (NCC), NIMC and the Nigeria Immigration Service (NIS).

Others are the Federal Road Safety Corps (FRSC), Independent National Electoral Commission (INEC), National Population Commission (NPC), and the "Banks Verification Number" (BVN) being implemented by Nigerian banks with government funding. There is also the "Nigerian Police Biometrics Central Motor Registry" (PoliceBCMR), which was recently suspended by the National Assembly.

The Police BCRMR is similar to that of the FRSC that requires vehicle owners to pay N3, 500 each in order to be captured on the system.

In the telecom sector, NCC in 2011 budgeted N6.1 billion and awarded contracts to seven consultants to conduct biometric registration on telephone users' subscriber identification module (SIM) cards in the six geopolitical zones of the country in addition to Lagos.

The companies were: SW Global (south-east), PNN (north-central), Chams (Lagos), JKK (south-west), DATAGROUPIT (north-east), EAGLE/CBC (north-west), and E-Kenneth/SageMetrics (south-south).
According to the Leadership, mobile phone operators who were also mandated by NCC to start registering all phone users on their networks were taken aback when the regulator awarded the contract to the seven firms to duplicate the same thing.

83. **Militant Pinoys in Saudi seek probe of ‘defective’ e-passports**

May 13, 2014 1:25pm

Militant Filipinos in Saudi Arabia are calling for an investigation into alleged defects in some 10,000 e-passports, a Saudi news site reported Tuesday.

*Arab News reported* recipients of the defective passports were dismayed as this could affect their travel plans and force them to go to the Department of Foreign Affairs.

“It would be prudent on the part of the DFA to conduct an investigation over these substandard passports so that the incident will not be repeated. Filipinos deserve quality service,” *Arab News* quoted Migrante Middle East coordinator John Leonard Monterona as saying.

Earlier, the DFA claimed there could be some 10,000 damaged passports out of the 10 million issued from August 2009 to March 2014. In the Philippines, *it has urged holders of e-passports that have detached covers to have them them replaced at any DFA offices*.

But in Saudi Arabia, Monterona said e-passport renewal costs around SR240 (P2,760).

He suggested that the government procurement system be reviewed and international quality standards be adopted.

“If the materials and machines used in passport production pass through stringent and rigorous procurement system, why were defective e-passports issued? It boils down to an issue of quality service,” he said.

The DFA said out of the 10 million passport issued from August 2009 to March 2014, less than 10,000 damaged passports were brought to the department's attention. — *Joel Locsin/KBK, GMA News.*

84. **US gives police automated fingerprint system**

May 6, 2014

THE acquisition of the Automated Fingerprint Identification System (AFIS) by the Guyana Police Force is a major boost to its investigative capacity and yesterday United States Ambassador to Guyana, Brent Hardt officially handed over the computer system which the police have been using for some time now. The handing over of the equipment is part of the wider initiative of the Caribbean Basin Security Initiative (CBSI), which is one pillar of a U.S. security strategy focused on citizen safety throughout the hemisphere.
Senior police officers at the commissioning of the automated fingerprint system yesterday

Speaking at the handing over ceremony at the Criminal Investigations Department at Eve Leary yesterday, Ambassador Hardt told the gathering of senior police officers, including Police Commissioner, Seelall Persaud and Crime Chief Leslie James, it is proven that in the fight against criminals, working together in partnership has always yielded better results.

The US ambassador said that the computer system will help the police in their crime fighting to provide immediate results and he recalled that over the years a lot has been done to input the records into a new database system.

85. Many UAE Banks Mulling Use Of Emirates ID As ATM Cards- Official

Mary Sophia
May 14, 2014
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The Emirates Identity Authority (EIA) has been seeing rising interest from the financial sector following the launch of pilot project which enables using Emirates Identity Cards (EID) as ATM cards, a senior official said.

In a bid to familiarise the financial sector about the capabilities of the Emirates ID card, the authority launched a pilot project with Al Hilal Bank, which would enable bank’s customers to use their ID as an ATM card.

“Since we announced that we are piloting the project about withdrawing money from the EID card, so many banks approached us and they all want to use the ID card,” Ali Al Khouri, director general of the EIA, said at the sidelines of Cards & Payments, Middle East, 2014.

Almost 10 banks have approached the authority to explore possibilities in using the ID card for financial transactions, the official said.
“So I believe we don’t have challenges- the platform is very much flexible and scalable to be used in the financial sector.” Al Khoori added that banks are also looking to upgrade their infrastructure to accommodate the use of ID card for financial transactions.

But despite the ease and security offered by the EID cards, the official did not rule out the levy of extra charges when using them for financial transactions. “I am sure there will be some fees to cover the existing operational fees however, with the use of ID card, banks won’t be needing to issue extra cards,” he said. “So in this perspective they will be lowering that cost, they are getting more assurance that the transactions that are happening are verified by the government. Surely this is going to have an impact on the financial sector as a whole and cut costs at the individual level.”

The use of EID cards in the financial sector will also stem the incidence of identity theft in the region, Al Khoori said. “The reason we have entered into this domain is not to just make the application of ID card more widespread but identity theft is becoming a global concern for private and public sectors while the costs are rising,” he said. “So the focus of the Emirates ID is to ensure proper identity management and to ensure that we don’t have identity theft.” In addition to providing a secure authentication channel for banks, Emirates ID will also help encourage financial inclusion.

Al Khoori said that a pilot project is ongoing to see how EID cards could be used in the UAE’s Wage Protection System, which requires companies to transfer the salaries of all blue-collar workers via selected financial institutions.

86. Europe’s first biometric ATM shared network launched in Poland
14/05/14 News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/05/31

ITCARD, a provider of banking services in Poland, has announces the launch of the first biometric ATM shared network in Europe, called Planet Cash. By the end of this year the company says it will have implemented a network of around 2000 biometric ATMs using finger vein technology. This biometric solution is provided by Hitachi Europe Ltd. a subsidiary of Hitachi.

Planet Cash is the second biggest ATM shared network in Poland, and is owned by ITCARD. Currently Planet Cash has more than 500 ATMs already installed. This year, Planet Cash will install an additional 1500 ATMs (from Wincor Nixdorf and Diebold) which will give the company an 11% share of the Polish ATM market.

Planet Cash ATMs will be situated in convenient locations across the country, including retailer chains such as Biedronka, Carrefour and Intermarché, as well as in the central areas of the main Polish cities. The operator also already has ATMs located in the branches of a number of banks including Bank BG?.

\...
A minimum of 1730 Planet Cash ATMs will be equipped with Finger Vein readers during the year 2014 which will allow customers to withdraw cash and perform other operations (balance check, immediate money transfer etc.) by their finger, without use of the card and PIN.

After the launch, shared network, biometric services can be provided to all banks in Poland. Currently, a number of top commercial banks are interested in joining the biometric scheme, the company claims.

87. **Banco Santander México selects Nuance voice biometrics for automated phone system**

Nuance Communications (NUAN) today announced that Banco Santander México has deployed Nuance's Vocal Password voice biometrics solution to replace PINs, passwords, and security questions in their automated phone system.

Nuance's voice biometrics solution is being used to securely and automatically confirm the identity of Santander customers - using just the sound of their voice. This is the first such customer-facing voice biometrics application in México.

Santander, one of the top five banks in México, has launched Nuance's VocalPassword solution so that customers who call in to the bank's phone system can simply speak to be authenticated, making the banking-by-phone process quick, secure, and convenient. Until very recently, Banco Santander México's customers needed to remember passwords and PINs and often were inconvenienced to recall answers to security challenge questions in order to gain access to their accounts. Now, customers simply speak the phrase “At Banco Santander, my voice is my password” to be authenticated by their unique voiceprint when they call into Santander's interactive voice response (IVR) phone system. Since the introduction of Nuance VocalPassword at Banco Santander México, more than 1.7M customers have enrolled to benefit from the improved banking experience, and authentication success rates have doubled. Efforts to enroll a larger base of Santander's customers continue.

Data collected following Santander's deployment of voice biometrics shows that a majority of customers are pleased with the new voice biometrics authentication process. Most customers report finding voice biometrics both easier and more secure than PIN-based authentication, and would recommending the use of voice biometrics over PINs.
"As the first bank in México to deploy a voice biometrics solution in this way, we are able to offer our customers the exceptional experience that they deserve. The ability for customers to use their voice to gain access to their accounts is an easy and natural process, allowing the first point of contact with our bank to be enjoyable and hassle-free," said José Ignacio Zorrilla, Executive Director for Multichannel, Banco Santander México.

Recent surveys have shown that 85% of people are dissatisfied with current authentication methods, which typically require remembering multiple PINs, passwords, and security questions. Racing to address this consumer outcry for a more natural authentication process, organizations around the globe, such as Banco Santander México, are turning to Nuance voice biometrics to create an effortless and engaging experience from the customer's first point of contact. In fact, data from Opus Research shows that, from 2011 to 2012, spending on voice biometric solutions for authentication grew by 74.2% and is on target to grow at a rate of 35% (CAGR) over the next five years.

"With voice biometrics, banks have a real opportunity to change their customer experience for the better, while at the same time improving security," said Robert Weideman, executive vice president and general manager for the Enterprise Division of Nuance. "Our voice biometrics technology offers a dependable solution for companies like Santander to improve the overall experience for the consumer by allowing them to use their voice as a passphrase with the added benefit of proven security."

During this week's Opus Research Voice Biometrics Conference in San Francisco, attendees will learn more about Nuance's voice biometrics solutions and will hear first-hand from customers who are using voice biometrics to improve their customer service, including Banco Santander México and US Bank. Nuance voice biometrics technology leads the industry, with over 40 million voiceprints deployed by its customers, representing over 80% of the commercial market. (Opus Research: Research Report: Voice Biometrics Vendor Survey and "IntelliView" 2013, July 2013). Large organizations the world over have leveraged Nuance voice biometrics technology to speed account access for their customers, automate fraud detection for their contact centers and even automate password reset processes for employees.
MENLO PARK, Calif., May 14, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- SRI International has entered into an exclusive reseller agreement with emaratech, the leading information technology solutions provider and management consulting company for commercial and government entities throughout the United Arab Emirates (UAE) and Jordan. The reseller agreement is non-exclusive in Oman. As a result of this strategic relationship, SRI's next-generation Iris on the Move® (IOM) biometric product line is now available for airport security, border patrol and a broad range of related security applications in the regions.

"Evolving and increasingly complex security challenges require cutting edge technologies that can be installed and deployed in diverse indoor and outdoor environments," said Thani Alzaffin, director general and board member, emaratech. "SRI's proven biometric products operate at the leading edge, and for that reason our strategic partners will benefit from this new teaming relationship."

SRI's award-winning IOM biometric systems combine the unprecedented accuracy of iris recognition with quick, convenient solutions for secure access control and identity authentication. Unlike other biometric readers that require users to stop or to position their eyes close to a camera, IOM products allow people to simply glance and go.

"emaratech has rapidly and effectively deployed biometric systems for demanding, high-traffic security environments in the UAE," said Mark Clifton, vice president, Products and Services Division at SRI International. "Aligning SRI's cutting-edge iris recognition products with emaratech's experience installing and supporting biometric solutions will allow organizations to dramatically enhance their security posture."

SRI's end-to-end IOM biometric product line rapidly performs highly accurate identity authentication effortlessly at a distance and on the move in all lighting conditions. IOM products are optimally suited for airports, border patrol and similar security applications, and include systems for indoor and outdoor operation.

About emaratech
emaratech (emarat technology solutions), owned by the Investment Corporation of Dubai, is a technology and management consulting company that provides high-end market strategies, outsourced technology and advanced business information technology solutions for both private and public sectors. Services include system integration, applications development, business analysis and consulting, infrastructure hosting, process re-engineering, business process, consultancy, quality management, call centers, quality assurance and managed services.

emaratech delivers key organizational and business intelligence services to enable governments and institutional organizations to operate efficiently and effectively, also to minimize bureaucracy, streamline costs and increase revenues through effective business solutions. emaratech is renowned for its business domain knowledge in the areas of border access & control (electronic gates at UAE, Oman and Jordan International Airports) payment technologies (noqodi), government electronic services, security services, ERP implementation and real estate technology solutions.

About SRI International
SRI International is a nonprofit research and innovation center headquartered in Silicon Valley. Government and business clients worldwide come to SRI for pioneering solutions in biomedical sciences and health, chemistry and materials, computing, education, economic development, energy, security and defense, robotics, sensing, and more. We provide research, laboratory and advisory services, technology development and licenses, deployable systems, products, and venture opportunities. Our innovations have created new industries and marketplace value, and lasting benefits to society. Visit SRI's website and Timeline of Innovation to learn more.
In a step towards maximizing the benefits of the United Arab Emirates’ biometric-based identity card – and in line with the UAE’s vision of achieving greater financial inclusion in the country – the card has been demonstrated as a mainstream payment tool.

Network International, a payment solutions provider in the Middle East, successfully demonstrated the payment application to dignitaries at the Emirates Identity Authority claiming it was among the few demonstrations worldwide, where a government-issued identity card has been used to enable financial transactions.

Such use of the card would allow withdrawals at ATMs and payments to be made at domestic point of sale (POS) terminals. Emirates Identity Authority and Network International also confirmed that that the security of transactions would be ensured through cardholder authentication that includes the user’s biometric details.

During the demonstration, a specimen Emirates ID card was successfully used to make a ‘purchase transaction’ at a POS terminal, exhibiting the dual use of the card. In addition, the capability to link the national ID to the UAE’s Wages Protection System (WPS) was also showcased. This development comes close on the heels of a memorandum of understanding signed between the Emirates Identity Authority and Network International.

H.E. Dr Ali Mohamed Al-Khour, director general of the Emirates Identity Authority (a Keynote presenter at next month’s SDW 2014 show in London), said the success of this innovation paves the way for the UAE’s transition into a secure digital economy. “This innovation means that it will soon be possible for users to use their ID cards for withdrawing money from ATMs and complete other financial transactions. We are working with a number of organizations to operationalize the identity card’s use in electronic payments, including the UAE Central Bank and the ministries of Finance and Labor. These partners will play a leading role in disseminating this initiative and preparing the ground for the actual implementation.”

NXP Semiconductors announced that Germany and Switzerland are shipping supplemental access control electronic passports based on its SmartMX2 family of secure microcontrollers.

The two European countries are among the first to have rolled-out supplemental access control e Passports ahead of the European Union mandate requiring all new e Passports to be SAC compliant by the end of 2014.
Built on NXP’s Integral Security architecture, SmartMX2 products have achieved Common Criteria Evaluation Assurance Level 6+ certification.

Supplemental access control is an evolution of basic access control to future-proof security in travel documents. It is similar in function to basic access control and ensures that the contactless chip cannot be read without physical access to the travel document and that the data exchange between the chip and the reading device is encrypted.

The new standard is based on Password Authenticated Connection Establishment. During the authentication phase, it implements asymmetric cryptography whereas basic access control uses symmetric cryptography. In addition, during the authentication phase, data encryption is based on a shared key between the reader and the chip. This contrasts to basic access control, which generates a key based on the data in Machine Readable Zone. The latest spec aims to enhance data confidentiality and make eavesdropping impossible.

Passports typically have a lifespan of many years and as such the security needed to authenticate and safeguard identities must have longevity. The International Civil Aviation Organization introduced Supplemental access control in the third generation of e Passports to provide additional layers of security on top of those already deployed in the first two e Passport generations.


91. Eida redeploy data on your Emirates ID card

News Group: International 2 Date: 2014/06/07

The change aimed at widening the scope of the card and at adding new data in future

Published Sunday, May 25, 2014

Picture: SUPPLIED

The Emirates Identity Authority has announced the redeployment of data on the back of the Emirates ID cards in preparation for adding new data in future. This is part of the authority’s efforts at widening the scope of the use of the ID cards and activating it as the principal reference for the identification and authentication of individual identities.

The authority explained that this amendment would not require any involvement from customers, nor will they have to replace their cards. “The amendments on the card involved only minor changes in the fields that record date of birth, card number, validity, signature and the special note on card loss and the serial number for the electronic chip,” a statement from the authority said.

“The new change leaves some blank space on the backside of the card, allowing for the addition of new data later. The authority is currently in consultation with its strategic partners to determine what those additional data would be. They might include a special logo for special needs people, driver’s licence number and son. At the same time, no change has been made on the front side of the card. The particulars and the graphical qualities on both sides of the card will remain the same,” the authority said.
The Emirates ID said that as per the new change, the card number has been shifted to the extreme right side on the second line for data, while the signature box has been moved into extreme left side on the same line. “The note on card loss has been printed in English and Arabic. The box has been made into a rectangle and its size bigger,” it added.

The authority has stressed that the cards it issues are highly secure in terms of data protection and their technical features guarantee the highest degree of accuracy and security through special qualities. “It is a smart card. It has electronic signature keys for identity verification. It also contains biometric data such as fingerprint, in addition to the identity number which remains with the holder throughout life, enabling him to benefit from a number of government and non-government services that require identity verification. The electronic chip and the card reader allow the concerned entities to verify all relevant personal data,” it explained.

http://securitywatch.pcmag.com/security/323736-is-the-u-s-finally-getting-smart

92. Is the U.S. Finally Getting Smart?
News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/06/07

Data breaches have always been an issue for companies, but it's finally become one that can't be ignored. After consecutive breaches on big-name companies like Target and Neiman Marcus, Congress is forcing businesses to ditch magnetic strip cards for new smart card technology. An infographic released by Computer Science Degree Hub helps illustrate why the shift to EMV cards is a smart choice for the U.S. market.

What’s the Deal with EMV Cards?
The first EMV smart card was introduced in France in 1992, and finally started making appearances in the U.S. last year. It's estimated that between 50 million and 70 million smart cards will be used by the end of this year. Congress's deadline for the rollout of smart card technology in the U.S. is set for October 2015, and the deadline for gas stations is October 2017 because of cost reasons.

Europay, Mastercard, and VISA, or EMV, smart cards ensure stronger security of credit cards by using chip and PIN or chip and signature technology along with numerous layers of security. The cards feature a magnetic strip that provides customer identifiable information, like account numbers, and require users to enter a PIN number to access this information.

Data off of magnetic strip cards can be easily read, written, deleted, or changed with inexpensive equipment. This obviously leads to high credit card fraud for markets that rely on magnetic strips. On the other hand, hackers are less likely to attempt to collect information on a chip and create a counterfeit credit card because of the complication and the hassle.

The Perks of Smart Cards
According to the report, EMV cards are proven to have helped diminish credit card fraud and security breaches. However, EMV cards isn't a cure-all solution; consumers are still vulnerable card fraud attacks. There was a 50 percent drop in fraud losses and a 78 percent drop in counterfeiting after a market's first time using EMV. On the other hand, magnetic strips increase the likelihood of fraud; 50 percent of the world's total credit card fraud occurred in the U.S. despite the country's 25 percent overall card use.

If EMVs make so much sense, why didn't they catch on in the U.S. market sooner? First off, there's fairly strong legal protection for citizens who have their cards stolen, so many people don't see the problem of the continued
use of magnetic strips. It's also pretty hard to get a large market like the U.S. to adopt EMVs after it's been using magnetic strips for so long.

The switch is also unsurprisingly expensive; the change to EMV cards will cost about $35 billion. In order to implement EMV technology, three major sectors must work together: retailers, big banks, and card associations like Visa and MasterCard. Even though most Americans are just being introduced to smart cards now, they're used successfully in plenty of other markets. It's high time that the U.S. starts to use EMV technology.

http://www.baltic-course.com/eng/baltic_states/?doc=91963

International Internet Magazine. Baltic States news & analytics Tuesday, 03.06.2014, 07:45

93. Norway recognizes Latvian citizens' eID cards as valid travel documents
News Group : International 2      Date : 2014/06/08

Norway has recognized Latvian citizens' eID cards as valid travel documents, as the Foreign Affairs Ministry informed LETA.

Therefore, Latvian citizens can enter the Kingdom of Norway with personal identity cards (eID cards) issued in Latvia.

According to information provided in a note of May 22 from the Norwegian Embassy, Norway has adopted amendments to its legislation and has approved the personal ID card issued to the citizens of Latvia as a valid travel document.

The Foreign Ministry welcomes the decision by the Norwegian side.

Previously the Norwegian Embassy informed

Biometric Verification to Become Mandatory for Purchasing SIM

Posted by: Sonia Rana May 24, 2014 0


94. Nadra unveils landmark policy for registration of orphans
News Group : International 2      Date : 2014/06/08
ISLAMABAD: In a landmark move, the National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) unveiled on Thursday a new policy to deal with the registration of parentless or abandoned children.

Under the new policy, the head of an orphanage where such a child lives is eligible to become that child’s legal guardian by providing an affidavit. This replaces the old practice of going to the relevant court to seek guardianship certificates for each such child.

Before this, a child could only be legally adopted if a guardian court issued a decree to the person claiming guardianship under the Guardian and Wards Act of 1890. Without a court decree, no-one could claim to be the legal guardian of a parentless or orphaned child. In the past, orphans could not be registered with Nadra because they had no legally appointed guardian, which kept them from obtaining national identity cards, the primary proof of citizenship.

The policy was disclosed before a three-judge bench of the Supreme Court, headed by Chief Justice Tassaduq Hussain Jillani, who ordered the chief secretaries of the four provinces to ensure that all relevant provincial departments were aware of the new policy and extended their complete assistance to the authority to ensure its implementation.

The matter was first brought to the notice of former chief justice Iftikhar Muhammad Chaudhry by philanthropist and social worker Abdus Sattar Edhi in 2011. In a letter to the then-CJ, Mr Edhi complained that Nadra was not issuing ‘Form B’ to children whose parentage was unknown or those who had been abandoned by their parents and were now living in Edhi shelters.

Heads of orphanages eligible to become legal guardians

When Mr Edhi’s daughter, who runs the shelters, tried to adopt and register such children, her requests would be denied by Nadra in the absence of a formal certificate of guardianship.

The court had earlier framed key questions regarding the adoption of abandoned children that required interpretation from both religious scholars and legal minds. It had also appointed former high court judge Tariq Mehmood and Karachi-based legal expert Makhdoom Ali Khan amici curiae (friends of the court) in the matter.

Afnan Kundi, who represented Nadra during Thursday’s proceedings, told the court that the authority had so far registered 610 destitute children who were living in orphanages. A total of 3,087 children remained unregistered.

But with the implementation of the new policy, most of the hurdles to the registration of abandoned children had been tackled, he said.

Under section 9(1) of the Nadra Ordinance 2000, the authority is bound to register every citizen of Pakistan, inside or outside the country, who has attained the age of 18 years. The birth of a child must also be registered by a parent or a guardian not later than one month after the birth.

Under the new policy, it is mandatory that the orphanage in question is registered with Nadra, a complete record of all children previously residing there is available and all documents of the relevant authority of the orphanage are in order.
In case a child’s parentage was unknown, whatever name was recorded by the orphanage in its records would be registered with Nadra. The orphanage would be responsible for providing these details and could assign any name to the child’s parents, as long it wasn’t a generic or placeholder name, such as Edhi, Abdullah, Adam or Eve.

For each new registration, it would be mandatory for the orphanage to report each new birth to Nadra and preempting any future claims of parenthood, DNA tests should be conducted by the orphanage if possible.

The chairman had also decided to issue identity cards to such orphans free-of-cost, the Nadra counsel told the court.

The court held that with the promulgation of the policy, Mr Edhi’s grievance appeared to have been addressed.

Published in Dawn, May 30th, 2014

http://bossierpress.com/?p=7888

95. The real deal on REAL ID

News Group : International 2     Date : 2014/06/09

May 26, 2014

0 306

OMV commissioner explains move to new identification document

There is concern that legislation scheduled to be heard in the Senate today would cause driver’s licenses to morph into a national ID that will allow for data sharing.

Known as REAL ID, critics have said it will have financial and privacy while proponents argue it is a way to tighten identification standards to meet federal guidelines.

House Bill 907 would require the issuance of REAL ID-compliant driver’s licenses and special identification cards. The bill has passed the floor of the House and Senate transportation committee. It is expected to go before the Senate floor on Monday.

“I’ve been listening to the debate, it’s been something that deals with people’s privacy and this is not going to be done quickly and it could change on the Senate floor. But right now, the way it’s been structured and amended, I feel comfortable with it as it is now,” said Senator Barrow Peacock, R-Bossier City.

REAL ID was created in 2005, in the wake of the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks, as a mechanism that would stiffen identification standards.

The state legislature took exception to the law that passed Congress, which mandated that all REAL ID documents contain a RFID computer chip, retinal scan image, and machine-readable fingerprint. Those mandates have since been removed from the federal legislation.
“The (state) legislature, rightly so, said, ‘We’re not gonna do it,’ and the federal legislature changed it and now it’s gotten to a point where we can give people an option,” said Peacock.

A 2008 bill prohibited compliance with REAL ID and blocks the Office of Motor Vehicles (OMV) from making drivers licenses REAL ID compliant. HB 907 would undo this block.

“The Department of Homeland Security is not saying you must have a REAL ID document to board an aircraft. When you go through a TSA checkpoint, you are asked for photo identification such as a driver’s license or state issued ID card, and every day, people board aircraft using a photo library card,” said Commissioner of Motor Vehicles Stephen Campbell. “You can do that if the Department of Homeland Security people choose to accept that and can verify that identification proves you are who you say you are.”

Campbell said the state’s current identification documents would satisfy many of the federal requirements, but do not have the required safety elements, mainly that identification be REAL ID compliant — which is proved with an image of a gold star on the document.

He said any fears that the data used on REAL ID documents would be used for data mining or shared among government entities is false.

“Any information on REAL ID documents provided to the OMV are protected according to federal standards and that info remains in the state’s OMV database that will only be shared with law enforcement in case of an investigation,” said Campbell.

Furthermore, he noted that REAL ID-certified identification is not mandatory.

“We’re allowing Louisianans to opt out of receiving a REAL ID drivers license, with the legislation requiring that any applicant must be told they do not have to accept a REAL ID document,” Campbell pointed out.

He also explained there would be no cost to update the OMV system to be REAL ID compliant. Peacock explained HB 907 has a fiscal note that says there will be no anticipated cost.

“This change to REAL ID can be handled in the OMV’s regular state revision of the drivers license,” said Campbell.

Lastly, HB 907 features a provision that says if the federal government changes REAL ID regulations, the state legislature would have to adopt those changes through the full legislative process.

A May 2014 CATO Institute report cited by REAL ID critics says the Department of Homeland Security reported only 13 states were REAL ID compliant as of January 2013.

Furthermore, that report noted that a 2007 DHS economic analysis of REAL ID put the cost at $17 billion, with $11 billion of these costs being fronted by the states.

Campbell pointed out this report is based on the initial, now outdated, legislation that has since been altered by Congress.

“This is not a national ID, there is no federal agency looking over our shoulders. This is a Louisiana document that meets federal requirements,” said Campbell.

Representative Henry Burns, R-Haughton, was one of the dissenting votes of HB 907 in the House.
“We’ve been very hyper active this session to guard data and information with our children, it’s interesting we got on one accord for that and we don’t want to do the same for the adults,” Burns said.

He acknowledged that the push for REAL ID is that it will be mandatory to obtain a passport and for air security, but Burns points out the system has been delayed many times with several states failing to comply.

“It’s never actually been implemented as a policy and keeps getting delayed. Many other states have opted out of the REAL ID,” he said.

HB 907 can be viewed online HERE


96. Use of facial recognition for law enforcement controversial in Taiwan

By Adam Vrankulj Tweet

May 29, 2014 -

The National Police Agency has denied accusations that it has violated the law and human rights with its biometric facial recognition system.

According to a report in the China Post, a lawmaker from the Democratic Progressive Party recently held a press conference, arguing that the NPA’s newly-launched human face recognition system of its M-Police Operation System violated laws when accessing citizen ID pictures from the country’s household registration system.

According to the report, this Operation System aims to enhance the NPA’s capabilities in using mobile devices and advanced technologies.

In response to the DPP lawmaker’s accusations, the NPA released a press statement saying that through a system of clearances and administrative procedures, the agency needs consent and clearance before accessing the database of the household registration system.

Facial recognition has irked many and ignited the privacy debate, particularly as the technology becomes more prevalent in society and revelations of large-scale spying have made headlines in the past year.

Reported previously in BiometricUpdate.com, while the ACLU has endorsed the use of a voluntary code of conduct for companies to utilize in order to maintain privacy in the face of emerging facial recognition, the group says it would rather legislation be passed to enforce privacy measures.
According to research from the end of 2013, the global facial recognition market has been projected to grow at a CAGR of 24.5 between 2012 and 2016.

You may also be interested in -

Facial recgn


In our opinion: Moving to a more secure, digital chip-based credit card could help alleviate

Changing the predominant card system in the United States from one that relies on magnetic strips to ones protected by digital chips is the right move, although merchants are balking at the costs of doing so.

Summary

Changing the predominant card system in the United States from one that relies on magnetic strips to ones protected by digital chips is the right move, although merchants are balking at the costs of doing so.

Credit-card companies and merchants seem to agree that changing the predominant card system in the United States from one that relies on magnetic strips to ones protected by digital chips is the right move, although merchants are balking at the costs of doing so.

Large data breaches at Target and other retailers, and most recently at eBay, have shown a spotlight on the vulnerability of credit cards. Target soon will have its own chip-based company credit card available. Major credit card companies likely will offer the same by the end of 2015.

Digital chips use one-time codes for each transaction that travel only from the card to the cash register. Magnetic strips transfer entire credit card numbers and are much more vulnerable.

It’s important, however, to understand the limits of technology. A chip system, similar to ones already in use in much of the world, would indeed cut down on some types of fraud. However, the new system won’t erase fraud, and it might not have prevented the troubles at eBay. That’s because chips are useless for online transactions, where consumers type credit card numbers on online forms.

For that matter, cards with chips might not have prevented the problems at Target. Thieves who find their way into databanks of customer information could cause trouble regardless of the system used at the cash register. The CEO of SecureState, a security firm specializing in such things, told the San Jose Mercury News that Target’s data was vulnerable independent of the types of cards used.

Even with the recent high-profile thefts, experts say fraud remains a small enough problem that many merchants are content to absorb the risks, which amount to a combined $1.1 billion per year that might be prevented with chip cards, according to a recent Washington Post report.

But the cost of fraud in terms of public relations may be taking its toll and pushing changes. With so much of the retail world relying on credit, confidence is a prime factor, and cards with chips will provide a measure of that confidence and would, in fact, make point-of-sale fraud less likely.
Credit card companies will begin late next year to make merchants liable for money consumers lose through credit card thefts. That should provide further incentive for those merchants to purchase the expensive new equipment needed to process cards that contain chips.

For consumers, however, little should change. They should continue to handle credit card transactions, whether in stores or online, with care. Passwords should be changed frequently. And, despite those precautions, people should be aware that theft still might happen.

Cards with chips still contain private data that can be collected by retailers. Once out of a user’s hands, that data’s security is the responsibility of the merchant. Unfortunately, no one has yet invented a way to make modern shopping completely secure.


98. Immigration Minister sees biometrics future for border protection

Expanding capability during current period of calm. Immigration Minister Scott Morrison plans to capitalise on a period of public calm around the collection of biometric data by building systems to grow existing border protection capabilities.

Polling released earlier this week revealed 75 percent of Australians are comfortable handing over their biometric data to facilitate international travel, especially in the wake of the MH370 disaster.

Speaking this morning at the Biometrics Institute Asia Pacific conference, Morrison said the time was right to ensure that both "government policy and industry focus reflects this willingness of the general public" to embrace innovative border management technologies.

"We need to move with the population. We need to bring the population along with us, and we need to be mindful of the issues that need to be addressed when undertaking those reforms and changes," he said.

One such issue is the protection of privacy, which the Minister acknowledged "absolutely and obviously" needs to be addressed.

But the Immigration Department's record is not clean when it comes to protecting sensitive data, having inadvertently leaked the personal details of as many as 10,000 asylum seekers earlier this year.
Asked if his department, and its regional data sharing partners, are ready to reliably deal with an increased volume of biometric data, Morrison said they "have no choice but to be ready for it".

"Biometrics are a key ingredient in protecting borders, and you need to continue to improve systems, capability and training of people to not only deal with the use of that information, but to...protect against privacy breaches and things of that nature," he told iTnews.

The son of a former NSW Police fingerprint analyst, Morrison sees a dual purpose for increased biometrics capability - to protect national security while at the same time making border processing quicker and easier for legitimate travellers.

The data will then be passed on to Australian agencies for assessment prior to arrival, and this data will be evaluated against security criteria and existing intelligence holdings, so that any risk to Australia's security is identified before arrival," he said.

"The future traveller will then pass through streamlined, automated passport control systems that examine retained biometric data that is contained in the traveller's passport against the traveller upon physical presentation on the border."

Only identities that generate an alert will need intervention from border protection officials, Morrison said.

In the most recent federal budget, the government promised to allocate $2 million in capital funding for biometrics systems software and equipment to expand its current Offshore Biometrics Program - which incorporates biometrics collection into the overseas visa application process - in order to achieve $18.6 million in savings over four years through the program's expansion.

The initiative will be extended beyond the 20 countries it currently operates in, which includes a number of African, Middle Eastern and Asian countries, and will also introduce "user-pays arrangements" for the services with third-party service delivery partners.


http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2012/
http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2012/

99. Biometric vein recognition under attack

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/06/15
Vein recognition is a biometric that has traditionally been seen as difficult to hack or spoof, as the biometric patterns created by the vein structure in a person’s finger are hidden from view.

However, Swiss researchers have now found a way to spoof a vein recognition device, albeit not a commercial sensor by one of the main manufacturers of such technology – predominantly Hitachi and Fujitsu.

The attack was performed by the biometrics group at the Idiap Research Institute in Switzerland, while the finger vein device is an open sensor provided by the University of Twente.

Please see below a video of how the team beat the sensor using some image processing techniques, a thick piece of paper, a paper clip, pair of scissors and a marker pen.


Panama City Police to purchase Cross Match fingerprint biometric device

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The Panama City Police Department is set to purchase fingerprint biometrics technology from Cross Match Technologies.

**June 2, 2014** -

The Panama City Police Department is set to purchase fingerprint biometrics technology from Cross Match Technologies.

According to a report in WJHG, the police department will use more than $10,000 of federal forfeiture funds to purchase the machine. This particular device sends data to the state. Currently, the Panama City Police Department record and analyze fingerprints using ink.

Law enforcement communities have historically been some of the earliest adopters of biometric identification technologies. Its use in law enforcement has a major impact on the industry and market-size in the United States.

Rawlson King, lead analyst for the Biometrics Research Group recently took an in-depth look at market size, purchasing patterns and biometric technologies for the law enforcement market in the U.S. Read this special report here.

Reported previously in BiometricUpdate.com, Cross Match recently announced the acquisition of DigitalPersona and the appointment of Rich Agostinelli as CEO of the new combined company.

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Date : 2014/06/15

ساعت : 13:14:57
Singapore e-Gov Services Still Lack Integration

Singapore has been highly committed to ensuring government services are accessible online to both citizens and businesses and it takes particular pride in the country's high e-government rankings among its global peers. Its e-services, however, still lack integration and adoption among the silver generation.

ICT regulator, Infocomm Development Authority (IDA), is responsible for spearheading and charting the direction of the country's e-government services. And it hasn't done a bad job. Let's look at some stats IDA will no doubt be proud of.

The United Nations E-Government Survey 2012, for instance, ranked Singapore 10th in its e-government development index. In terms of e-participation, the country ranked 4th, according to the survey. Among Southeast Asian nations, Singapore claimed pole position in terms of e-government development, ahead of its northern neighbor and second-placed Malaysia.

United Nations e-government survey 2012

Conducted once every two years, the U.N. study examines e-government frameworks and underscores the importance of such services in aiding governments grappling with challenges related to social equity and the digital divide. "The caveat is that governments must find effective channels of communication that fit national circumstances, while also taking steps to increase usage of online and mobile services in order to realize their full benefit to citizens," the U.N. stated.

Its 2012 report revealed that while South Korea and the Netherlands led both indexes, Singapore--along with Kazakhstan--were close behind. It noted: "Singapore's citizen's portal provide an extensive range of online payment services that lists by agency as well as bill type. Payments range from taxes, fees, fines, and licenses that can be made through multi-channels such as credit card, direct debit as well as internet banking and even by phone."

In fact, Singapore was among only a handful of nations including Australia, France, and the United Kingdom that ranked high in multi-channel service delivery because they offered e-government services through various platforms, such as mobile apps, public kiosks, and Wi-Fi. The report noted how Singapore citizens could receive SMS alerts, for instance, when their passports or road tax were due for renewal.

"It might also be helpful to consider further enhancements to the quality and usability of government Web portals. One possible improvement is to create a consistent user interface across various e-government service portals so that they are simple to learn and use."

~ Lyon Poh, KPMG in Singapore

More recently, Accenture in February 2014 released its own digital government study which ranked Singapore first, ahead of Norway and United Arab Emirates which placed second and third, respectively. The survey, however, only included 10 countries including India, Germany, South Korea, and the United States, measuring the nations' citizen service delivery experience, citizen satisfaction, as well as service maturity. It defined digital government to include online portals that offered public services, as well as social media platforms to engage citizens.
According to Ng Wee Wei, Accenture's Singapore managing director for health and public services, Singapore ranked first in digital government performance. She said nearly 3.34 million citizens had opted for the Central Provident Fund's e-services since its launch in September 2010, yielding almost US$1.15 million in savings by reducing the use of paper statements.

Transactions through e-services increased to 46 million in 2010, while transactions at the counter dropped by 46 percent in the same year, Ng said in an e-mail interview.

Singapore's own E-government Customer Perception Survey, conducted annually by IDA and Ministry of Finance, evaluates how receptive the public is toward such services. Last year's study, which polled 1,213 respondents between April and May 2013, indicated that 88 percent had transacted with the government via online services over the past year.

Interestingly, though, while this was an increase from 80 percent the year before, the figure was a drop compared to 93 percent who transacted with the government electronically at least once in 2011.

Among businesses, 80 percent had obtained information from the Singapore government in 2012, of which 99 percent did so electronically via various channels such as online, kiosks, and e-mail. In comparison, 68 percent of businesses in 2011 obtained data from the government, of which 98 percent did so electronically.

No direct comparative data was available for 2013.

Adoption still low among the old, services integration still lacking

According to Lyon Poh, partner for advisory at KPMG in Singapore, the government did well in making its services available online as well as developing mobile apps on the Apple iOS and Android platforms, including eCitizen and Mobile@HDB. These provide both citizens and businesses with easy access to e-government services via a single, integrated portal, he said.

KPMG in Singapore works with various government agencies to "redefine their business operational processes so that citizens and businesses can access e-services and interact with relevant personnel". Consulting services the company provides include developing online business registration and emergency services, Poh said.

He noted that some key challenges remain in the adoption of e-government services here. For one, the majority of Singapore's older generation may not be sufficiently IT-savvy to make use of e-government services. He called for more to be done to train these folks if Singapore is aiming for its online services to become the default way for accessing essential government services.

"It might also be helpful to consider further enhancements to the quality and usability of government Web portals," Poh added. "One possible improvement is to create a consistent user interface across various e-government service portals so that they are simple to learn and use."

Anne Teng, a Singapore-based marketing executive for a multinational IT company, also suggested the need for a centralized portal.

She explained that e-government sites here should be better integrated so users can access a range of services via one site. "Currently, we need to log into the individual website each time to access each different service," Teng noted.

She added that some websites should be improved in terms of user interface and performance. The Accounting and Corporate Regulatory Authority (ACRA) portal, for instance, is very clumsy, she said. The executive accesses the site frequently to search for information on business entities in Singapore.

Teng goes online to file her taxes and occasionally visits the CPF (Central Provident Fund) website to check that her employer's monthly contributions are correct.

CPF is Singapore's mandatory social security savings scheme for all working adults in the country, where a portion of the individual's monthly pay goes into his (or her) CPF account. The employer also contributes a
portion each month, though at a smaller percentage of the monthly pay than the employee. There were over 3.51 million CPF members last year, 1.85 million of whom were active members. In 2013 alone, Singapore workers contributed over S$28.53 billion in CPF funds.

The CPF website allows account members to carry out a range of transactions including checking their account balances and arranging for a portion of their monthly contribution to go toward their mortgage repayments.

Boon Koh, manager at an e-commerce and private equity consultancy, has used e-government services in Singapore, as well as Thailand, Indonesia, and the Philippines, where he accesses the websites to file taxes and business-related services.

He found those offered by the Singapore government easiest and most convenient to use, singling out the country's single signon system--SingPass--as a "great" feature. The Malaysia-born Singapore Permanent Resident (PR) often visits the Immigration and Checkpoint Authority (ICA) website to renew his PR status or update his passport details. He also heads online to file his taxes via the Inland Revenue Authority site and check his CPF (Central Provident Fund) account.

Koh said: "For a regular user like me, the e-services here work great and I love using them. Compared to e-government services in Thailand, Indonesia, and the Philippines, Singapore's are much better." He noted that his company's personal assistant found it so difficult to manage government-related administrative work in those countries that it hired a management services company just to help handle the processes.

Accenture's Ng suggested Singapore took advantage of its geographical size to ensure tighter collaboration and a more connected government to improve service delivery, citizen engagement, and productivity. She pointed to adopting a more enterprise-focused ICT strategy that involves streamlining e-government services to avoid overlaps as well as improve efficiencies and economies of scale.

"Beyond increasing performance management while managing costs, it is also about being citizen-centric. Citizens' needs are not based on silos as defined by government structures. More often than not, they typically require cross-agency collaboration and response," she said.

KPMG's Poh also noted that amid the threat of cybersecurity attacks such as phishing, fraud, and personal data theft, the Singapore government needs to monitor this area closely, especially since such threats are only likely to increase as technology evolves.

No one is spared from such attacks, whether citizen of chief executive. In November 2013, Prime Minister Lee Hsien Loong's official website was breached and defaced by hacktivist group Anonymous, which also defaced a subpage of the Istana website. Istana is the official residence of Singapore's president-elect Tony Tan.

Questions were sent to IDA about its plans to further improve and drive adoption of e-government services, but the ICT regulator has yet to respond.

http://www.unpan.org/Library/MajorPublications/UNEGovernmentSurvey/PublicEGovernanceSurveyintheNe

News Group : International 2

Date : 2014/06/16

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im Jae-hong : E-government Key to Good Governance
With Korea’s advanced information technology, its know-how in e-government services could provide a key tool for developing countries to help achieve good governance and effective public administration, the head of the U.N. Project Office on Governance said.

“E-government is one of the best paths to good governance that the humans have found so far, playing a key role in achieving a wide array of domestic and global policy objectives,” UNPOG director Lim Jae-hong said in a recent interview with The Korea Herald.

The organization was set up in 2006 as a subsidiary of the U.N. Department of Economic and Social Affairs with the principal aim of assisting member states to improve their governance capacity for 10 years. Its work is financed by an annual $1 million trust fund run by Seoul’s Ministry of Security and Public Administration.

In recent years, the idea of e-governance has emerged across the UNPOG’s three pillars of activities — research and policy development, capacity development, and communication and outreach — with Korea being a good example as a vibrant democracy and IT powerhouse, according to its director.

Its concept, he noted, also embraces the eight key components of good governance laid out by the U.N. Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific: accountable, transparent, responsive, equitable and inclusive, effective and efficient, follows the rule of law, participatory and consensus-oriented.

Lim Jae-hong, director of the U.N. Project Office on Governance, speaks during an interview with The Korea Herald at his office in Seoul. (Ahn Hoon/The Korea Herald)

Lim pinned high hopes on President Park Geun-hye’s vision for “Government 3.0,” which calls for broader public access to state data and participation in the decision-making process, increased transparency and greater interagency cooperation.

The initiative followed the “e-Korea Vision 2006,” a third edition of the four-year national “informatization” plan unveiled in 2002. The package included building ICT capacity and industry, promoting e-commerce, upgrading the legal system and stepping up international cooperation.

“I think Korea’s public administration system has advanced very much along the lines of technological development, making more information available and expanding communications with citizens,” he said.

“The ‘Government 3.0’ drive will help Seoul maintain its leading position in the e-government field as it basically seeks to create new values through open data, information sharing and communications.”

A former ambassador to Thailand and Sri Lanka, Lim took the helm of the UNPOG last October shortly after retiring from the Foreign Ministry. During his 35-year diplomatic career, he assumed various posts related to the
U.N. and the development issue, including chief of planning and coordination, minister-counselor at the mission to the U.N. in New York, and director for human rights and social affairs.

He is gearing up for three major projects this year: the annual U.N. Public Service Awards, an international e-government forum and the launch of the biennial U.N. e-Government Survey in which Korea topped the list over the last four years.

The awards mark the most prestigious international recognition of excellence in public service, officials say. This year’s ceremony will take place on June 23 in IIsan, Gyeonggi Province, as the centerpiece of a four-day public service forum organized by the UNPOG and New York-based DESA.

The two agencies launched the e-government forum in Seoul in 2012 to boost the understanding on the concept around the world. The yearly event will be held in Kazakhstan in October.

With the office’s 10-year term nearing its end, Lim is stepping up efforts to turn it into a permanent organization with greater financial capabilities and a bigger workforce so that it can help more developing countries beyond the Asia-Pacific.

“It will not be a wise decision to give up on the investment that we have made throughout the past decade — governance is an idea that will dominate the 21st century, not a waning industry or a thing of the past,” the director added.

“I’m hoping that the UNPOG will be able to assist those in need such as least developed, post-conflict or landlocked countries, expanding its foray into Africa, the Middle East and Latin America.”

By Shin Hyon-hee | The Korea Herald


News Group : International 2
Date : 2014/06/16
Sاعت : 10:24:05

103. Thumb verification LHC issues notices for Friday

June 04, 2014

Our Staff Reporter


For news details Read on: Thumb verification LHC issues notices for Friday
LODHRAN
The Lahore High Court Multan Bench issued notices to respondents in a petition filed by PTI central leader Jahangir Tareen seeking thumb print verification of votes cast in the NA-154 constituency during May 11, general elections last year. Taking up the petition of PTI General Secretary Jahangir Tareen’s request for thumb print verification, the bench directed the National Database Registration Authority (Nadra) to verify thumb print of the votes cast in the NA-154 constituency. The next hearing will be set up on June 6.


104. New voter registration system to be introduced

Published on the Published 03/06/2014 13:40

The way we all register to vote will change next week.

A new system, called Individual Electoral Registration, will be introduced on Tuesday (June 10).

The new system will mean everyone will be responsible for registering themselves to vote.

Under the current system, the ‘head of every household’ registers everyone who lives at their address.

A spokesman for Crawley Borough Council said: “We will write to everyone who is already on the electoral register in mid-late July.

“The letter will tell you if you are on the new register automatically or whether you need to take action.”

From June 10, you will be able to register online at www.gov.uk/register-to-vote which will require you to provide your name and address, national insurance number and date of birth.

The spokesman added: “This makes the electoral register more secure.”
Pretoria — The issuing of smart ID cards is making good progress, with the Department of Home Affairs reporting that it has passed the 300 000 mark.

Home Affairs Department on Tuesday said it has issued more than 300 000 smart ID cards since they were introduced last year.

The department had set a target to issue 100 000 smart IDs by the end of March this year.

The then Home Affairs Minister Naledi Pandor was the first person to receive the new smart ID card.

The new smart ID cards have a microchip, the specifications for which cannot be disclosed for security reasons, which houses the necessary biometric data unique to every individual. The information on the chip is laser-engraved to prevent tampering.

The introduction of smart IDs is aimed at cutting down on the fraudulent use of fake or stolen IDs, as the new cards are almost impossible to forge.

The new IDs were first issued to all first-time ID and re-issue applicants. The department envisages it will take about seven to eight years to do away with the current green ID book.

NIST: Facial recognition improving

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/06/22
Facial recognition biometric technology is showing improvement in one-to-many searches, according to the latest tests from the National Institute of Standards and Technology. Results from NIST’s 2013 test of facial recognition algorithms show that accuracy has improved for some up to 30% since 2010.

The report by NIST biometric researchers Patrick Grother and Mei Ngan, *Performance of Face identification Algorithms*, includes results from algorithms submitted by 16 organizations. Researchers defined performance by recognition accuracy — how many times the software correctly identified the photo — and the time the algorithms took to match one photo against massive photo data sets.

“We studied the one-to-many identification because it is the largest market for face recognition technology,” Grother said. “These algorithms are used around the world to detect duplicates in databases, fraudulent applications for passports and driving licenses, in token-less access control, surveillance, social media tagging, lookalike discovery and criminal investigations.”

Four research groups enrolled in both the 2013 and the previous 2010 test, enabling NIST researchers to compare performance improvements over time. They found that those groups had improved their performance on the tests by from 10% and almost 30%. One organization decreased its error rate from 8.9% in 2010 to 6.4% in 2013.

In both years the study used a database of 1.6 million faces. In 2010, the images were frontal “mugshot” images from law enforcement agencies that closely comply with the ANSI/NIST ITL 1-2011 Type 10 standard. In 2013, researchers added a small database of images taken for visa applications that meet an ISO standard and 140,000 webcam images taken in poorly controlled environments that do not comply with any standard.

The tested algorithms performed the best on the relatively high-quality ISO standardized images collected for passport, visa and driving license applications. Detecting duplicates in those applications is the biggest segment of the face recognition marketplace. No algorithms worked well with the webcam images. Search failure rates for those images were around three times greater than for the higher quality images.

The study also shows that rates of missing facial matches increase as the database size increases as expected, but that it does so only slowly. When the number of facial images increased by a factor of 10—from 160,000 to 1.6 million—the error rate only increased by about 1.2 times. This slower-than-expected growth in error rates occurs in many natural phenomenon, and “is largely responsible for the operational utility of face identification algorithms,” explains Grother.

Images of older individuals were identified more accurately than those of younger persons, suggesting that we become steadily easier to recognize using facial recognition software, and more distinguishable from our contemporaries, as we age.
Biometric entry to be made mandatory for Oman-Saudi visit

Once the system comes into force in Oman, Haj and Umrah pilgrims will have to fix an appointment with their travel agents, and then visit the local centres to complete the biometric procedure when applying for their visa.

Muscat: Biometric enrolment will soon become mandatory for all visa applicants from Oman to Saudi Arabia, according to travel agents who process visa applications for the country.

Speaking to Times of Oman, Irshad Ali Khan, regional manager (business development), Travel Point LLC, said that the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Saudi Arabia instituted biometric requirements for all visa applicants to Saudi Arabia in an effort to ease the travel process for individuals.

"A private company has been mandated to handle biometric enrolment services in 33 countries. Though the company has already started their service in other countries, the contract has not been awarded for Oman," he added. But the travel agents expect that to happen soon.

According to the travel agents, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Saudi Arabia has informed that the biometric system will be rolled out in a phased manner. "The move will ensure that the waiting period for pilgrims and visitors is reduced," said Kasim Khan, a travel agent in Ruwi High Street.

Once it comes into force in Oman, Haj and Umrah pilgrims will have to fix an appointment with their travel agents, and then visit the local centres to complete the biometric procedure when applying for their visa.

A small fee

"All applicants should carry their original passports on such visits," said Kasim, adding that the rerecording of the procedure will also involve a small fee.

Meanwhile, according to travel agents, the number of pilgrims travelling to Saudi Arabia from Oman for Umrah and Haj dipped in 2013.

The figure dropped by 50 per cent in 2013 for nationals and 20 per cent for foreigners, whose visas were also limited to 14 days, due to the massive restoration and expansion work at the Grand Mosque at Makkah. The expansion, part of a $21b project, is expected to increase the mosque's capacity to two million pilgrims.

The capacity of the Mataf, a suspension bridge around the mosque, will also increase to handle from 48,000 to 130,000 pilgrims per hour.

In 2012, a total number of 10,163 Umrah visas were issued by the Ministry of Haj and Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Saudi Arabia for the residents of Oman of whom 9,542 pilgrims visited Saudi Arabia.

However, in 2013, the figure dropped to 8,300 during the season. Omanis do not require a visa to travel to Saudi Arabia.

In 2012, 14,000 visas were issued for Haj pilgrims but the number dipped to around 11,200 in 2013.

"This year also we are looking at 11,000 people from Oman," Khan added.

MasterCard and Lembaga Tabung Haji today unveiled the innovative Tabung Haji Debit-i MasterCard that will allow Malaysian Muslims to use it not only for their pilgrimage in Makkah and Madinah but also for everyday convenience.

The launch of the Shariah-compliant card was proudly officiated by the Prime Minister, YAB Dato' Sri Mohd Najib Tun Razak.

The Tabung Haji Debit-i MasterCard will enable cardholders to pay for purchases at over 38 million merchant locations around the world including in Saudi Arabia. They will also benefit from the convenience of accessing cash at more than 2.5 million ATMs worldwide. Cardholders' purchases are automatically deducted from their accounts without incurring interest charges, or creating monthly bill payments.

"MasterCard is deeply committed to working with Tabung Haji to deliver a comprehensive range of innovative and tailored Shariah-compliant payment solutions to its depositors. With this collaboration, Tabung Haji depositors will enjoy the convenience of a globally accepted MasterCard Debit card and give them access to their accounts whether at home in Malaysia, travelling to Makkah or Madinah as part of their pilgrimage or other locations,” said Matthew Driver, President, South East Asia, MasterCard.

This collaboration is significant in support of Malaysia as a key hub for Islamic Finance and its aspirations to have an innovative, competitive and thriving financial services industry as a key component of the economy. The launch also accelerates the country's migration to electronic payments.

"We are honoured to be able to enable this important product with the safety, security and convenience of the global MasterCard network and look forward to a fruitful partnership with this respected institution,” Matthew Driver added.

Tabung Haji currently has 8.4 million depositors and a network of 120 branches with more than 6,000 touchpoints nationwide which makes it one of the largest Islamic Financial Institutions in Malaysia. With this launch, Tabung Haji provides its depositors with an innovative, integrated payment tool where they can confidently access and manage their funds via POS, ATMs locally and abroad and for e-Commerce in a highly secure and convenient manner.

The event also saw Tabung Haji launching its Islamic Financial Service Centre (IFIC) and Coffee Table Book in conjunction with its Golden Jubilee Celebration.

IFIC is an Islamic One-stop-center which houses four (4) agencies providing various Islamic services for the convenience of TH depositors and Muslims in general. The Coffee Table Book, published in collaboration with BERNAMA, documents TH's 50 years success story in various aspects, including its Shariah-compliant economic activities for the benefit and interest of Muslims worldwide.
Your Speaker’s Corner of May 30 (“In Defense of Strict Unicorn Leash Laws”), looks like a mash up of progressive soundbites you swept up from the cliche corner of the

Voter fraud a fantasy? Just what country do you think this is? Were you in suspended animation during the ACORN scandal? Your assertion that elderly don’t have birth certificates is trite and insulting. The poor can’t get benefits without identification. Try walking into a welfare office and demand a check without ID.

Anything of value is worth working for. If someone wants to vote, then help them get an ID, don’t hand them cigarettes and food vouchers for their signature. It’s dehumanizing, demoralizing, and akin to prostitution.

An election advocacy group called True the Vote has data that indicates “in 2012 as many as 24 million voter registrations were invalid; more than 2.75 million people were registered to vote in more than one state; various counties in Indiana and Ohio had more registered voters than residents and 160 counties in 19 states had over 100 percent voter registration. For voter fraud being ‘virtually non-existent’, that’s a remarkable handful of incidents that looked like the real McCoy to the local election officials, state investigators, grand juries and prosecutors!”

That’s just scratching the surface.

Our neighbor Mexico demands voter ID and their ID system is so good that Mexico’s voter ID has become the country’s de facto identification document and is readily accepted as positive proof-of-identity by merchants, banks, government officials, and citizens nationwide. Mexico provides this ID at a moderate cost for those of means and at no cost to the poor. The only country that illegals from Mexico have a sporting chance of unlawfully casting a vote in is the USA.

Crying out for “poor and elderly” doesn’t lend veracity to your assertions that voter ID is an impediment to “getting their voices heard”. In fact, it undermines the integrity of our democratic process. Helping others get valid IDs and allowing them to vote in a secure, fraud-free environment, on the other hand, furthers the dignity of the individual, empowers identity, and adds meaning and value to what should be a hallmark of our nation’s attitude toward the right to vote.


Mike Rybah, Laguna Beach

110. Anviz Global set to launch new fingerprint biometric access control device this month
Anviz Global will launch its newest biometric access control device this month, at the same time that the IFSEC UK Exhibition is set to take place, June 17-19 in London, England.

“Consumers have been looking for a reliable and effective stand-alone security device that is economical and stylish. Anviz has responded by creating M5, a compact device that adds the element of increased security,” Felix Fu, Product Manager at Anviz said.

According to the company, the new device – the M5 – features a biometric fingerprint scanner, a vandal-resistant metal housing and an IP65 rating. It also includes an integrated RFID reader, and an alarm to prevent tampering.

Anviz says the M5 provides near-instantaneous recognition, and is built on the back of the company’s BioNano algorithm. As this device scans user fingerprints, it ensures it has the most complete image on file, replacing old records with newer and fuller fingerprint images.

Earlier this year, Anviz launched another separate biometric time-and-attendance device, which includes an alternate power source, in case power supply is limited. According to the company, in Nigeria as an example, chronic power shortages are an issue.

C:\Documents and Settings\n.khorshidi\Desktop\Over 80 000 smart ID cards issued since 2013 SA News.mht

111. Over 80 000 smart ID cards issued since 2013

Pretoria - Over 80 000 smart ID cards have been processed since October last year, Home Affairs Minister Naledi Pandor revealed on Friday.

“We are happy to report that since October last year, to date, we’ve processed over 80 000 smart ID cards. In this regard, we are on course to meeting our target of issuing 100 000 smart ID cards by the end of the financial year, March 31, 2014,” Minister Pandor told reporters.

She said they have also increased the number of their offices earmarked for processing of applications from 28 to 30 across the country, adding that by April, she hoped they would have 70 offices ready nationally for this purpose.

Minister Pandor also invited the elderly, 60-year-olds and above, born in the month of March, to start applying for their smart ID cards.
The minister further expressed concern that those who have applied for the smart ID cards were not coming back to collect their ID cards.

“We are advising all citizens who have applied for the new smart ID cards to visit offices of application to collect them,” she said.

She said currently, there is a total of 16 541 uncollected ID cards at the department offices and of these 2 062 have not provided the department with contact details.

“We wish to inform the public that it takes 10 days only to process a smart ID card application.

“Citizens are urged to respond positively to sms messages from the department urging them to collect their smart ID cards,” she said.

2014 General Elections

Minister Pandor said the current green bar-coded IDs, smart ID cards and temporary Identity Certificates will be accepted by the Independent Electoral Commission (IEC) as legal forms of identity on Election Day scheduled for May 7.

The minister expressed her hope that there would be a massive voter turn-out at the upcoming General Elections, which will also be marking South Africa’s 20 years of freedom and democracy.

“We call on all people to participate in the forthcoming national elections to choose a government of their choice and as part of efforts aimed at the consolidation and strengthening of the gains we’ve made during the 20 years of peace, freedom and democracy,” she said. - SAnews.gov.za

http://www.securitydocumentworld.com/article-details/I/11595/

112. Irish ePassport wins ID document award

HID Global has congratulated DLRS and the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade on winning the Regional ID Document of the Year Award 2014 at the annual High Security Printing Conference in Milan for the newly designed Irish e-passport). The award was presented to the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs.

The Regional ID Document of the Year award aims to promote the best in security printing, system infrastructure and implementation of a government passport, identity or other security card scheme. In presenting the award the conference organisers, Reconnaissance International, recognised the pioneering use of many new high security printing technologies and techniques by the consortium led by DLRS, HID Global and X INFOTECH.

“We are delighted that the newly designed Irish ePassport has gained international recognition,” says Joe Nugent, director of Passport Services, Irish Department of Foreign Affairs. “Not only does our new passport use the latest security technologies to protect citizens’ identities but the use of images depicting Irish culture and landscapes has created a sense of pride among our citizens.”

The new Irish ePassport is both more attractive and secure than its predecessor and combines the latest security technology with selected imagery that represents the culture, history and people of Ireland. Prime for both
security and Irish culture is the image of the Bru na Boinne stone printed using SPARK colour shifting ink technology. Another feature involves images situated on the edge of each pair of pages – when the pages are partially bent for the edges to be side by side, the two images form a complete image. The new passport also features poems from three of Ireland’s best-known poets – Nuala ni Dhomhnaill, William Butler Yeats, and James Orr.

“DLRS is proud to have led the team that created the document that won this prestigious award,” says David O’Connor, sales director, DLRS. “Our goal was to deliver a secure and flexible ePassport solution within the budget and timeline set by the Irish government. I am happy to report we exceeded our goal not only meeting time and budget parameters but creating one of the most secure and visually appealing ePassport designs to date.”

The cost of the new passports is nearly half that of their predecessors, which will result in annual savings of 4 million euros. The award was accepted by Fiona Penollar of the Irish Passport Office as well as Joseph Callaghan and William Byrne of DLRS.

“We would like to congratulate Ireland’s Department of Foreign Affairs and DLRS for winning this international award,” said Rob Haslam, vice president Government ID Solutions, HID Global. “We are proud our polycarbonate data-page technology played a part in helping to achieve the award-winning design.”


June 08, 2014 Email Print Comment RSS

113. Is your smartphone becoming a digital ID?

Using smartphones instead of plastic IDs improves security and access control

Tweet inShare.3

By Jarret Winkelman, Contributor

At secure facilities, is crucial to know and control who is gaining access to a facility. This traditionally has been done with plastic ID cards, but new software innovations lets correctional facilities track people and control access more accurately.

Traditional forms of identification have many benefits. They typically incorporate a person’s name, organization and photo. Some ID cards also may contain embedded access control capabilities.

A smartphone is capable of storing, protecting and presenting identity in ways not possible with a physical ID card. (Image Microstrategy www.usher.com)

Related Feature:

Ga. cops nab thief through GPS unit in teddy bear

Police in Georgia say they used a GPS device hidden inside a Teddy bear to track down the toy and apprehend a suspect

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However, these traditional forms also come with many disadvantages. They can be forged, lost or easily stolen.
There’s a better way, and the many of us already carry the answer.

Applications

A smartphone is capable of storing, protecting and presenting identity in ways not possible with a physical ID card. A mobile identity can contain personal identifiers (e.g., name and photo), as well as organization affiliations, certifications and more.

With a mobile identity, randomly changing data on the mobile ID card syncs back to a server. This allows a badge to be scanned and confirmed. Because these codes change constantly, they can’t be forged.

With traditional IDs, an organization often dedicates significant IT resources to configuring and maintaining the identification program. This includes the process of issuing IDs, taking photos, replacing lost IDs and maintaining door access hardware such as palm scanners or keypads.

With a mobile identity, everything is managed through the user’s mobile device. The ID is impossible to lose. If a device is lost, the user remotely wipes the device and signs in from another phone, as IDs are still there. There is no need to print and distribute new cards.

4 smartphone applications for corrections

Biometrics: A smartphone’s camera and microphone can be used to capture face and voice prints, creating a highly secure mobile identity. Because the biometric challenge is presented from the device, any door, elevator, software program or computer can be turned into a highly secure, biometric capable, access point.

Access Control: Using Bluetooth technology, secure doors can be programmed to open upon sensing an authorized user approaching. Users can also open doors by scanning a code or hitting a button on their phone, depending on the security configuration established by the administrator.

Geo-Fencing: The smartphone’s GPS can be tracked and used to qualify access requests. If a user’s device is not registering as being within a certain distance of the door they are requesting access to, the request can be denied. Geo-fencing technology could also allow a user’s location to be displayed on a map.

Ad-Hoc Badges: Giving administrators the ability to create new badges on demand is a powerful tool. Perhaps a special operations unit should be issued a separate badge with unique access rights or need different badge for each level of security they are able to work within.

Security

Perhaps one of the most powerful features of mobile identity is the ability for agency administrators to add, remove and modify agency badges at any time. For example, a sheriff’s department may normally issue a generic agency badge to all deputies, regardless of whether they work in the patrol or detentions division.

With mobile identity, officers in the detention division may be provided a separate badge, allowing them to access areas of the facility that would not be necessary for a patrol deputy.

If a patrol deputy works an overtime shift in the jail, a temporary detentions badge could easily be sent to his mobile device.

When reporting for duty in a certain area of the facility, the deputy may scan a QR code on the wall to register his start and end time. This would create a record in the system that can generate an activity report later.

Access Controls

Physical access controls can be incorporated into the mobile identity to allow staff to open doors, gates or access elevator floors using Bluetooth or other technologies embedded in the device.

Logical access, or logging into software applications, also can be managed via the same mechanisms. As a staff member approaches a computer, their mobile identity can be detected and the computer can be logged in using
their security profile.

When they walk away from the computer, it automatically can lock itself.

When entering a more secure area, the software can be programmed to challenge the user for additional verification such as a voice or face print.

Unlike a traditional biometrics system, which requires the purchase of expensive hardware for each door, with a mobile identity solution, the mobile ID becomes the biometrics tool. Any door controlled with industry standard access control mechanisms can be transitioned into a biometrics capable access point.

This is really just the tip of the iceberg for mobile identity. The opportunities are endless, from day-to-day access control to incident management, to statistical analysis of labor hours or access habits.

The value of leveraging the power of a smartphone in an identity solution is significant.

Jarret Winkelman is the president of Incident Response Technologies (IRT), a leading provider of incident management, command and control, and ICS solutions for public safety organizations. Jarret has extensive public safety experience including having held chief officer roles in EMS and search and rescue organizations as well serving as a federal hazmat responder. You can reach Jarret by e-mail at jarret@irtsoftware.com

114. Government facial recognition use within legal rights, says NSA

By Stephen Mayhew Tweet

June 9, 2014 -

The NSA is currently developing facial recognition programs using the millions images it has stored through its regular surveillance of digital communications among American citizens, according to a report in The New York Times.

The project, which has been in development for four years, will use facial recognition software that can process images from the millions of emails, text messages and video conferences it already intercepts.

Reported previously in BiometricUpdate.com, the NSA’s use of facial recognition is back in the news, following a report in the New York Times on the agency’s use of the technology.

There are federal privacy and surveillance laws in place regarding facial images. However, the digital communication images being intercepted by the NSA likely involve Americans communicating with someone outside the country, which could be an exception to privacy laws.

The NSA says this facial recognition program is necessary because unlike the FBI and state governments, it doesn’t have access to driver’s license or passport photos. According to the agency’s new director, the NSA is within its legal rights when it comes to using facial-recognition technology on Americans.
“We do not do this in some unilateral basis against U.S. citizens,” Admiral Michael S. Rogers said at a Bloomberg Government cybersecurity conference in Washington last week. “We have very specific restrictions when it comes to U.S. persons.”

“In broad terms, we have to stop what we’re doing if we come to the realization that somebody we’re monitoring or tracking has a U.S. connection that we were unaware of,” Rogers said about using the technology. “We have to assess the situation and if we think there is a legal basis for this and we have to get the legal authority or justification.”

Rogers also added that US agencies, corporations and citizens need to better understand how data is collected and used.

“The idea that you can be totally anonymous in the digital age is increasingly difficult to execute,” he said. “We have framed this debate much too narrow from my perspective. This is much bigger than the National Security Agency.”

You may also be interested in -


115. NEC planning hi-tech voter re-registration

By Correspondent David

20th June 2014

To use Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) technology

NEC Chairman retired Judge, Damian Lubuva

The National Electoral Commission (NEC) is set to re-register all eligible voters in the country through the Biometric Voter Registration (BVR) technology in order to address the challenges of using the Optical Mark Recognition system.

Through the BVR technology biological information or behaviours will be collected and stored in a database for identification.

NEC Chairman retired Judge Damian Lubuva told journalists in Dar es Salaam yesterday that the new technology will help to address the challenges such as double registration, identify voters during elections and transfer voter information from one place to another especially when a person has shifted from where he/she was registered.

Lubuva said the exercise is scheduled to begin between August and September, this year, adding that a total of 298bn/- is expected to be spent on the exercise.

“All voters in the permanent register will be re-registered but the exercise will also include the registration new eligible voters,” he said.
However, the NEC boss said that under the new system, all the registered voters shall be provided with new identity cards rendering the current ones invalid.

He said the Commission is working hard to ensure that the registration is completed in time to allow eligible citizens have IDs which will be used in the referendum for the new Constitution and the 2015 elections.

Lubuva added that the Commission has already conducted verification of registration centres which include villages and streets wards, saying they have increased from 24,919 centres to 40,015 in the country.

“We have decided to increase the centres to streets level to bring the service closer to the people. This will make more people to go for registration and reduce complaints related to the distance from the centres,” he urged.

For his part NEC Director of Elections Julius Mallaba said under the BVR every eligible citizen shall be provided with a hard plastic identification card and the number on it shall be permanent and unique for the respective voter.

Mallaba called on people who have been registered in the Permanent Register to go with their current ID’s to the registration centers to simplify the re-registration process.

Last month the United Nations Development Programme promised to assist Tanzania to upgrade its voter registration system.

The UNDP administrator Helen Clark who was in the country for a three-day tour, said assistance in improving the electoral system was among the issues discussed with the President Jakaya Kikwete.

She said UNDP would ensure that Tanzania used the biometric voter registration system before next year’s General Election.

Opposition parties have been pressing the National Electoral Commission (NEC) to upgrade the permanent voter register because there were millions of qualified Tanzanians who have not been registered.

According to their research more than 5.3 million people cannot vote because the register has not been updated since 2010.

The permanent voters’ register was introduced in 2004 with the use of the Optical Mark Recognition which involved the use of Polaroid camera.

At the time, the biological data included passport size photos and signatures. Thumb prints were added when a digital registration kit was used during its updating in 2009.

For the second time the book was updated in 2009/2010 to register new eligible voters for the 2010 general election.

According to section 15(5) of the National Elections Act of 2010, NEC is required to update the permanent voters’ registration book twice after every general election.

SOURCE: THE GUARDIAN


116. Smart Card Alliance Invites Speaking Proposals for 13th Annual Government Conference
Proposals Accepted Through June 30

June 19, 2014 11:33 | Source: Smart Card Alliance

PRINCETON JUNCTION, N.J., June 19, 2014 (GLOBE NEWSWIRE) -- The Smart Card Alliance Government Conference, known as the leading event for identity and security, will return to Washington, D.C. this October with comprehensive coverage of efforts toward strong authentication technology in government identity programs. To enhance the conference program, the Smart Card Alliance is now accepting speaking proposals consistent with the theme of "Smart Strategies for Secure Identity." The deadline for proposal submissions is Monday, June 30. For guidelines on how to submit, please visit www.GovSmartID.com.

The 13th Annual Smart Card Alliance Government Conference will be held on October 29-30, 2014 at the Walter E. Washington Convention Center in Washington, D.C. The conference will feature more than 75 government and industry leaders speaking on Personal Identity Verification (PIV) credentials, government-focused efforts in the National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace (NSTIC) initiative, trusted ID on mobile devices, developments in state and local ID programs and global trends in secure identification. Details regarding the agenda and registration can be found at www.GovSmartID.com.

The conference program advisory committee is looking for vendor-neutral, educational presentations that focus on government-led policy and infrastructure changes for enhanced security for physical and network (logical) access, trusted identities or healthcare information technology. Examples of topics that the program committee will consider include:

- Technology: Smart card-enabled identity credentials, mobile identity credentials, ICAM access control hardware and software, PKI authentication, identity management, biometrics
- Use Cases: federal and state government PIV and PIV-I, commercial identity verification (CIV), NSTIC, Internet and mobile identity authentication, identity/access programs
- Healthcare: Health ID and security, medical record security, EBT – both uses cases and technology
- International ID: Government-issued citizen ID, consumer ID initiatives, healthcare
- Emerging Trends: Mobile identity authentication, identity management policy, cloud computing, emerging market trends

The conference is open to all individuals and organizations who wish to learn about the role of secure identity and smart card technology in government. Smart Card Alliance member organizations and government employees receive complimentary or discounted pricing for single day or full conference registrations. Extreme early registration discounts are available through September 16. For sponsorship and exhibition information, visit www.GovSmartID.com or contact Bill Rutledge, bill@cnxtd.com.

For continuing updates on the Government Conference and related topics, follow @SmartCardOrgUSA on Twitter and use #GovSmartID to participate in the conversation.

About the Smart Card Alliance

The Smart Card Alliance is a not-for-profit, multi-industry association working to stimulate the understanding, adoption, use and widespread application of smart card technology.
Through specific projects such as education programs, market research, advocacy, industry relations and open forums, the Alliance keeps its members connected to industry leaders and innovative thought. The Alliance is the single industry voice for smart cards, leading industry discussion on the impact and value of smart cards in the U.S. and Latin America. For more information please visit http://www.smartcardalliance.org.


Official data show 56,214 male, 70,465 female and 100,370 children include in 15,757 registered families

ISLAMABAD – The government has so far registered 227,049 Internally Displaced Persons (IDPs) affected due to ongoing operation in North Waziristan with the help of the National Database Registration Authority (NADRA).

According to latest official data available on Saturday, the government registered 15,757 families including 56,214 males, 70,465 females and 100,370 children. Four Rehabilitation Centers have been established at Dera Ismail Khan, Laki Marwat, Bannu and Tank where IDPs would be processed through the verification of NADRA, according to officials.

A Control Room had also been established in the Ministry of States and Frontier Region to provide rehabilitation services for the IDPs that was working round-the-clock and providing every type of information. A cash amount of Rs. 12,000 was being paid to every IDP family for food assistance and NADRA was verifying them one by one at the established centers.

With the increasing number of IDPs from the North Waziristan agency in the ongoing operation, the government had expedited its efforts for providing them every possible support. The majority of the people leaving their homes from the North Waziristan were moving towards Bannu district and its surroundings areas.

The government and its functionaries are fully alive to the situation and providing every type of assistance to the IDPs including all the basic necessities at the IDPs camps including electricity, water and medical facilities.

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DIGITAL ID CARDS ,Egypt to issue digital ID cards, announce broadband plans

Friday 20 June 2014 | 13:25 CET | News Egyptian Minister of Communications and Information Technology (MCIT) Atef Helmy said that following a directive from the cabinet, the ministry and the Information Technology Industry Development Agency (ITIDA) will release around 1 million digital ID cards in the coming weeks in a pilot project, before spreading the idea nationwide.

Helmy said there is a priority to attract more ICT investments and encourage innovation and entrepreneurship among young people. This would provide job opportunities and as well as high quality services for the public. Helmy says the government has created a general framework for a service system relying on IT tools. The MCIT plans to provide technology to enable the Egyptian public to reach government services.

The full details of the government's broadband project are to be announced soon, to give a clear picture for companies willing to submit proposals. The aim is to improve broadband infrastructure efficiency nationwide.

Categories: Internet / Mobile & Wireless
Countries: Egypt

UCF researchers designing new facial recognition technology

Posted: Jun 20, 2014 7:16 AM Updated: Jun 20, 2014 7:17 AM
Who's your daddy? A team from the University of Central Florida has designed a computer program to answer just that question.

Graduate student Afshin Dehghan is leading the research team responsible for developing a facial recognition tool able to quickly match pictures of children with their biological parents. They started the project with more than 10,000 online images of celebrities, politicians and their children.

"The machine was asked to rank the images based on the similarity to the given image, so as you can see we input a George Clooney image and his right biological father was ranked first in our system," reveals Afshin.

While humans might look for something like Catherine Zeta Jones' smile in her offspring, the computer is able to map out and match a digital checkerboard of facial features like the shape of an eye, a chin or distinctive parts of a forehead.

"When we let the computer pick those parts automatically, we were able to get an even better performance," admits Afshin.

In layman's terms, they're teaching a computer to think after feeding it all those images and creating a memory bank with the computer program. It's an age old question still being debated, can computers think? Dehgan and his team believe they are one step closer to answering that question.

"It can learn pretty well. It can do a lot better than chance and hopefully this can be of benefit to many applications, like homeland security and even the police department using this software," says Afshin.


120. Malaysian firm to supply MRPs to Bangladeshi expats in Saudi Arabia

Star Business Report

Kuala Lumpur-based IRIS Corporation Berhad Consortium yesterday got a go-ahead from the cabinet committee on purchase to deliver machine readable passports (MRPs) to Bangladeshi expatriates in Saudi Arabia.

The Cabinet Division at a meeting yesterday also approved some other purchase proposals worth Tk 631 crore, including those for supplying electric poles in rural areas.

The IRIS Corporation will provide MRPs to about 15 lakh Bangladeshi workers in Saudi Arabia at an additional fee of $9, a lower rate than that charged in Malaysia or the United Arab Emirates.

In Malaysia, the service charge per MRP is $18 and in the UAE, it is $13, besides the normal fees.
Additional Secretary of the Cabinet Division Nurul Karim told reporters that separate companies have landed the job at the bidding price in different areas which made the variation in the service charges. The home ministry has informed the cabinet committee that the outsourcing companies will reach the MRPs to the expatriates in time, Karim said. Handwritten passports have to be replaced by MRPs by November 2015, as per the rules of the International Civil Aviation Organisation. The government has taken an initiative to reach MRPs to the expatriate Bangladeshis in different countries through outsourcing companies and as part of the initiative it has appointed companies in the three countries. The cabinet committee approved purchasing 241,710 electric poles for Tk 467.46 crore and setting up 17,850 kilometres of power transmission lines in rural areas. The committee also gave its nod to a proposal for installing a disaster recovery system at the Election Commission for preserving the national ID database. Tiger IT Bangladesh Ltd got the job of Tk 57.52 crore.

Published: 12:00 am Friday, June 20, 2014

http://www.enca.com/tunisia-begins-voter-registration

121. Tunisia begins voter registration

Africa
Monday 23 June 2014 - 7:46pm

Tunisians leave after having registered on electoral lists for the upcoming parliamentary and presidential elections after the registration began in the capital Tunis. The registration campaign titled "I love Tunisia, therefore I register." Picture: AFP / FETHI BELAID

TUNIS - Tunisia began voter registration on Monday for heavily-delayed legislative and presidential elections due to take place later this year. The elections would consolidate the gains of an accord in January to end months of political crisis, which had blocked the democratic transition in the birthplace of the Arab Spring.

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Prime Minister Mehdi Jomaa and Chafik Sarsar, who heads the electoral organising commission, gave the order to begin the registration process at Tunis city hall, the government said.

After months of negotiations, the electoral commission this month proposed that legislative polls take place on October 26 and the first round of the presidential poll on November 23, with the run-off on December 28. The provisional election dates are to be submitted to parliament on Wednesday for approval.

“That should give time for deputies to make amendments,” said National Assembly spokeswoman Karima Souid.

Some political parties have said the timetable is too tight to guarantee transparent elections, but ISIE has stressed that under the country's new constitution, both votes must take place in 2014.

Tunisians can register on the Internet, by SMS or by going to the relevant offices before July 22, when registration closes.

To facilitate the process, which is only required of those who were not registered for the October 2011 elections to the National Assembly, the electoral body has set up a call centre to field questions about how to register. An estimated seven million people are eligible to vote, but only 4.1 million Tunisians registered in 2011, for the first poll after the revolution that toppled president Zine El Abidine Ben Ali and touched off the Arab Spring.

In those elections, the Islamist party Ennahda won the largest share of seats in the assembly, which was due to be replaced by a permanent parliament in October 2012.

But the process was heavily delayed by political crises, which culminated with the assassination last year of two opposition MPs by suspected Islamist militants and finally forced Ennahda to hand power to a technocrat administration headed by Jomaa.
There will be 5.5 billion users of mobile and wearable biometric technology around the world by 2019, according to a new report from Goode Intelligence.

Paris, June 24, 2014

Working closely with the Dutch government, Morpho (Safran) leveraged its experience and expertise to develop highly secure biometric travel documents and identity cards integrating cutting-edge technology. With new, innovative security features and a validity of 10 years, the latest generation identification documents will provide greater protection against document fraud.

http://www.nfcworld.com/2014/06/24/329910/5.5bn-people-use-biometric-security-2019/
additional security, a laser perforated number (TLN - Tilted Laser Number), visible when tilted against the light, will be located on the primary image of each document.

“We have a longstanding relationship with the Dutch government and a clear understanding of their document security challenges. This has enabled us to design highly secure biometric documents that meet the government’s specific needs while complying with strict industry standards,” said Jessica Westerouen van Meeteren, Executive Vice President of Morpho’s Government Identity Solutions Division.

The Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations: “We anticipate on changing fraud methods with the innovative SLI”.

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About Morpho

Morpho, a high-technology company of Safran, is a global leader in security solutions. The company employs more than 8,400 people in 40 countries and reported revenues of 1.5 billion euros in 2013. Morpho’s unique expertise lies in providing cutting edge security solutions for government identity, public security, critical infrastructure, transportation and business markets. Morpho is the world leader in multibiometric identification technologies, biometric identity documents, Automated Biometric Identification Systems (ABIS) and Explosives Detection Systems (EDS). It is one of the leading suppliers of SIM cards, smart cards, trace detection equipment and gaming terminals. With systems operating in more than 100 countries, Morpho’s solutions simplify and secure the lives of people around the world.

For more information: www.morpho.com - www.safran-group.com
Follow @MORPHO_NEWS on Twitter

http://thainews.prd.go.th/centerweb/newsen/NewsDetail?NT01_NewsID=WNOHT5706250010003

123. Trat to open one-stop-service center to issue smart cards to Cambodian migrant workers returning to work in Thailand

TRAT, 25 June 2014 (NNT) - Trat province is opening a one-stop-service center to issue nationality smart cards to Cambodian workers who will return to work in Thailand on June 26, as long as they are requested by their Thai employer.

Trat Governor Benjawan Anplueng said that following the rumour of a migrant labour crackdown in Thailand, which caused a great number of Cambodian workers to flee home, the National Council for Peace and Order (NCPO) has made clarifications in an announcement and ordered one-stop-service centers to be set up in Surin, Srakaew, Chantaburi and Trat in order to solve the labour shortage problem.
Trat province will set up the center on June 26 at the Baan Hat Lek government complex in Klong Yai district. Any employers who want to rehire Cambodian workers that returned home must make a request at the Trat Provincial Employment Office.

The office will later coordinate to bring back the workers as requested. Then, employers must register the Cambodian workers they hire in order to for them to be eligible for a labour smart card. This prevents the involvement of middlemen and human trafficking problems and the whole process takes a day.

http://www.securitydocumentworld.com/article-details/i/11614/

124. SAC conformity tests underway in Madrid

26/06/14

Following on from SAC interoperability tests performed at the SDW 2013 event in London last May, the next round of interoperability testing will take place in Madrid this week.

The international test event will evaluate the implementation of the new security standard Supplemental Access Control (SAC). The focus of this interoperability meeting is to test the secure communication between electronic passports and inspection systems with SAC.

HJP Consulting (HJP) has been invited to lead the conformity tests - and three test laboratories will perform the SAC tests.

For 10 years many countries have been issuing electronic passports containing a chip that stores biographical and biometric information of the passport holder. Today, 500 million electronic passports from more than 100 nations are in circulation, it is estimated.

The number of countries that verify the chip at border control is steadily growing. But in order to assure worldwide interoperability of all electronic passports with all document inspection systems at the border, internationally recognized standards are in place.

The standards for security mechanisms used in MRTDs are developed by ICAO in collaboration with international organizations, such as ISO, and national authorities, such as the Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik (BSI).

These standards define, for example, the logical data structure (LDS) as well as the security mechanisms (e.g. cryptography methods) to protect the data stored on the chip. The security mechanisms protect the chip from unauthorized access and assure a secure communication during the verification of the data (e.g. at border control).

Since 2005, several security mechanisms have been used, such as the communication protocols Basic Access Control (BAC) and Extended Access Control (EAC). At the end of this year, the new security mechanism Supplemental Access Control (SAC) will be introduced.

In Europe, SAC will completely replace BAC. SAC will make electronic passports - of which no successful counterfeit is known today - even more secure. Germany and Switzerland will implement SAC this year.
Since SAC is used to secure the communication between the chip in the eMRTD and the respective reading device at the border, both, eMRTD and reading device must be tested with regards to the proper implementation of SAC.

SAC tests are defined in the following test specification: "ICAO – ISO/IECSC17/WG3 - RF Protocol and Application Test Standard for e-Passport Part 3: Tests for Application Protocol and Logical Data Structure".

The conformity test against test standards at the interoperability test in Madrid will be performed by accredited test houses using software-based test tools.

http://www.brecorder.com/company-news/235/1197130/

125. 'Smart cards to greatly benefit private sector,' DG Operations, Nadra Technologies Limited

June 27, 2014

RE不得已ER REPORT

0 Comments

Since 2008, Saleem Rafik has been serving as the CIO at Nadra Technologies Limited (NTL). He joined Nadra in 2007 as its CIO, where he was responsible for business and technology integration and implementation of commercial ventures and projects. He has previously served as CIO at MCB (2005-07), director at ARP Conseil & Systemes (2000-05) in Geneva, CIO at Deutsche Bank Suisse SA (1999-2001), and Director IT at Merrill Lynch Bank Suisse SA (1993-98). His early career spanned across roles in IBM and Price Waterhouse.

Following are excerpts from BR Research's sit-down with one of NADRA's leading technologists in Islamabad, where he talks about NTL's scope of activities and what next to expect:

BR Research: Please tell us about the mandate and activities of Nadra Technologies Limited.

Saleem Rafik: Nadra Technologies Limited (NTL) was established as a commercial arm of NADRA. Since 2004, NADRA was deemed to be self-sufficient in generating its own revenues; therefore, it did not receive any government funds. It was a blessing in disguise. With no government budget, NTL has been a great source of meeting expenses and growth of the organisation. We had to get creative to carve out different revenue streams thus we decided to market our systems and services to the private sector as well as explore international arena.

BRR: What are the ways through which NTL is facilitating the citizens?

SR: Our focus is citizens' facilitation and we have to be financially viable to do that. In 2005, we realised that public was facing tremendous problem in paying their utility bills. The spread of electricity and gas services were growing, however, there were only the bank branches where bills could be paid. Nadra then developed Kiosk machines for utility bill payments. It was an operationally challenging and technologically complex venture taken up by Nadra to facilitate citizens. All the systems were assembled and integrated within Pakistan, though hardware was brought from abroad. The Kiosks worked in such a way that you swiped your CNIC into the machine to access your consumer number and paid bills in cash. This was all done online, within the kiosks. This service was helpful to citizens who wanted to avoid long bank queues.

Realising the operational complexities of Kiosks in the rural areas, NTL replaced the Kiosk system in 2008 with e-Sahulat--a totally web-based service for bill payments. NTL came up with the idea of prepaid franchise operations, and today, we have over 5,000 Nadra e-Sahulat locations nation-wide. This model was the first in Pakistan (although other organisations are quick in taking credit on being first) and perhaps the first in the world
as a "prepaid" franchise. Easypaisa and other folks learnt from our model and came into the market much later.

We were the first to address what we call "the service divide", ie the gap of services found between Urban and Rural Pakistan. We ruffled the feathers and others followed. NTL, a commercial entity, could have easily become a bank and offered financial services to the citizens but we didn't want to be distracted from our main focus.

NTL also provides citizen verification services (Verisys) at these outlets. Verisys as a product has different flavours designed for different industries. Banks use Verisys for account opening process. Telco's use it while issuing mobile SIMs and there are several other services based on Verisys. We have internally trained our franchisees who are carefully selected and are subject to due diligence. We allow our agents to do business with other branchless banking providers. E-Sahulat has now signed as a super-agent of HBL Express, which will be launched soon and help us serve the public for their domestic remittance business.

BRR: What other services have been developed by NTL?

SR: After the Kiosks, we then started looking into other applications. First, we developed such systems like motor vehicle registration, national driver's license, which could all be integrated into one card. We also made solutions for land records, vehicle tracking system, etc. But, due to different policies in provinces, we could not make much difference on that front nation-wide.

But, we are working with organisations like the National Highways Authority and Motorways Police for driver license. With NHA, we have a project for e-tag (automatic toll collection on Motorways). That has helped them in cost savings and bringing transparency. We have provided access control systems to many organisations. This is a great tool to bring secure entry at any point.

We are also facilitating several organisations for pension payments and zakat disbursements very successfully. This is done in a very transparent manner. Our disbursement process incorporates biometric verification on the spot. This foolproof environment is essential where proof-of-live is a requirement.

As a result of our efforts, Nadra is now the largest system integrator in the country. The government calls us in complex and critical situations like floods, IDPs' facilitation, and earthquakes because Nadra has the capability to deliver systems within days. For instance, we built an ATM-based cash payment system for Swat IDPs within three days. The United Nations has recognised this capability, and our Chairman has received an award for this at the UN Headquarters in New York. In emergency situations, UN is now proposing Nadra's systems, which is a great recognition for an organisation from Pakistan.

BRR: Please tell us about the Smart cards project. How can private sector take use of that?

SR: All CNICs are to be replaced with Smart National ID Cards (SNIC) by 2020. We have issued nearly four million SNICs so far. These cards are really secure. The SNIC cannot be copied. In addition, the in-built security features make it impossible for any copy to be useful. This will enable all organisations to bring transparency in their processes and remove fraudulent use of individual identity. The smart card will be a good tool to support the law enforcement agencies.

The SNIC will raise the status of a citizen by enabling a number of services and functions for an individual. The SNIC has many smarts in it. There is a lot of use in it for the businesses. As they say--the sky is not the limit anymore. The multi-layered, passive security chip has a memory, which can be used to store hundreds of applications. So, there are hundreds of ways to use this smart card. You can use it to book airline tickets, to issue books from libraries, to get accounts with banks, etc.

Right now, we are engaging the companies and educating them about SNICs' benefits. Imagine a bank that comes out and says that everyone holding a smart card is their accountholder and that the SNIC number is their account number. Suddenly, it will have millions of accounts. The day businesses understand this, it will be the day of real change. The card reader environment is not prevalent yet, but it can be reached soon if businesses start to understand the benefit of this card's features.

BRR: How did NTL's domestic capability lead to international projects?

SR: We had extensive experience in integrating different technologies; therefore, it was natural to explore the
market for our skills. Our first international project was in Bangladesh, for driver licenses. Then we won a project in Kenya for a BOT-based Machine-Readable Passports (MRP) project. We had already made these passports for Pakistani citizens and it received international recognition. The Kenyan government has now asked NTL for their citizens' registration services. We have recently taken up projects in and Sudan and Nigeria as well.

These projects are not worth hundreds of million dollars. But even a million-dollar project for us is Rs 100 million for NTL, which is a good amount in helping run the organisation. A given project's revenue depends on the level of competition and business environment. We have been very cost-effective in our delivery. The cost-effectiveness has added to our ability to win and execute projects overseas. As a result of our CNIC delivery to more than 95 million citizens and our projects globally, Nadra has been listed by "ID World" in the Top 50 organisations globally. We have also received an Excellence Award for the year 2011 in the ID Industry.

BRR: You were behind the e-Sahulat project. How do you view the service delivery landscape for the unbanked in Pakistan?

SR: There are many gaps in the market. About 70 percent of the population lives in rural areas and those areas are witnessing huge service gaps. When I was executing this project, I saw people walking 15Kms just to pay their electricity bills. When e-Sahulat was launched, the market picked it up and we didn't have to advertise. We let our franchisees keep the most of fees' share, unlike other providers out there, because we want to develop local economies. This is our small contribution in building the rural economy.

That strategy has helped NTL process 23 percent of entire utility billing volume in the country through 5,000+ e-Sahulat outlets. Our collections are around Rs 9 billion a month, and they are growing. But, it didn't come easy. We had to do all the hard work: bringing utility companies on board, getting their data, massaging the data, and putting it into a usable form.

Branchless banking channel should be cheaper for the common man who is supposed to be the beneficiary. But, right now, it's not cheaper. Transaction fees are really high. I would like the SBP to regulate this. How come, online transactions are so highly priced? When NTL enters this area, it will not function that way. We are coming in with HBL Express and ours will be competitive rates. The pie is big enough. Volumes are huge. So the rates must come down.

BRR: Has NTL any plans to touch the agriculture sector?

SR: Pakistan depends on agriculture for food supplies as well as employment. I personally believe that rural population must have means to survive in rural areas; otherwise migration to urban areas will continue to take place and overwhelm the cities which are already struggling to provide facilities to their population. If you look at small farmers, most of them are just one harvest away from bankruptcy. We need to bring solutions, to help ensure their survival and growth. Small farmers are suffering on all counts, from seed availability to harvest issues. They need help to improve their productivity through education, funds, easy access to urea, low cost productivity improvement tools and market information.

NTL is not working on this right now, but this is a national issue and everyone should be thinking about this issue. I am asking people to toss around ideas to see how we can be a part of the solution. Whatever we'll do, we will have an indigenous vision and thinking behind it.

BRR: How can NTL be beneficial in expanding the outreach of database like BISP?

SR: The only true information source for citizen identification is NADRA. BISP had come to us and we assisted them in validating their criteria for the poorest of the poor. If a person has three or four mobile phones and has a passport, they don't fall in the criteria. Similarly, multiple entries and fake entries have been weeded out through our database. Similarly, one person cannot withdraw cash for multiple beneficiaries, eg in case of IDPs.

BRR: What are your thoughts on one master database to facilitate in governance and law enforcement?

SR: Nadra as a registrar is focused on citizen ID related subjects. A master database-if you mean to have criminal data, credit and financial fraud etc in it--could be helpful. However, this is a separate subject and the responsibility lies with different organisations. It can be helpful in law enforcement, like in the case of the US Homeland Security department, this is precisely being done. We can provide technical assistance if required.
BRR: What has prevented Nadra from falling prey to traditional public sector inefficiency?

SR: Nadra is a young organisation and within just 12 years, it has made a significant impact on the national landscape. Nadra is built on a very strong foundation and an organisation culture that rests on delivering performance. The founders of the organisation were qualified leaders and visionaries; they have laid a strong technical and organisational structure. They understood the long-term vision and have delivered an identification of a citizen.

We are constantly evolving, if we don't, we will be extinct like dinosaurs. We have a proven, sustainable model that could be applied to other organisations to get them out of being a burden to the government. Other organisations should seriously consider evolution in their structure, processes and business model. The landscape rather, the “space” is changing rapidly. Successful models will understand the change and apply it on their model. The “e” of the model is now a reality and understanding the impact of technology on businesses and organisations needs to be used as an effective tool.

Digital identity cards

126. Estonia takes the plunge

A national identity scheme goes global

THE founders of the internet were academics who took users’ identities on trust. When only research co-operation was at stake, this was reasonable. But the lack of secure identification is now hampering the development of e-commerce and the provision of public services online. In day-to-day life, from banking to dating, if you don’t know who you are dealing with, you are vulnerable to fraud or deceit, or will have to submit to cumbersome procedures such as scanning and uploading documents to prove who you are.

Much work has gone into making systems that can recognise and verify digital IDs. A standard called OpenID Connect, organised by an international non-profit foundation, was launched this year. Mobile-phone operators have started a complementary service, Mobile Connect, which allows identities of all kinds to be authenticated from smartphones.

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But providing a digital ID that will be widely used and trusted is far harder. Businesses can check their employees rigorously, and issue credentials for gaining access to buildings, computers and the like. But what
about outside the workplace? Facebook, Google and Twitter are all trying to make their accounts a form of ID. But these are issued without verification, so pseudonyms are rife and impersonation easy.

Private providers are offering their own schemes; miiCard, for example, uses bank accounts as a way of issuing a verified online identity. But these fall short of the reliability of a state-backed identity, issued by a government official, checked against other databases, using biometric data (such as fingerprints and retinal scans) and backed by law—in effect an electronic passport.

There is one place where this cyberdream is already reality. Secure, authenticated identity is the birthright of every Estonian: before a newborn even arrives home, the hospital will have issued a digital birth certificate and his health insurance will have been started automatically. All residents of the small Baltic state aged 15 or over have electronic ID cards, which are used in health care, electronic banking and shopping, to sign contracts and encrypt e-mail, as tram tickets, and much more besides—even to vote.

Estonia’s approach makes life efficient: taxes take less than an hour to file, and refunds are paid within 48 hours. By law, the state may not ask for any piece of information more than once, people have the right to know what data are held on them and all government databases must be compatible, a system known as the X-road. In all, the Estonian state offers 600 e-services to its citizens and 2,400 to businesses.

Estonia’s system uses suitably hefty encryption. Only a minimum of private data are kept on the ID card itself. Lost cards can simply be cancelled. And in over a decade, no security breaches have been reported. Also issued are two PIN codes, one for authentication (proving who the holder is) and one for authorisation (signing documents or making payments). Asked to authenticate a user, the service concerned queries a central database to check that the card and relevant code match. It also asks for only the minimum information needed: to check a customer’s age, for example, it does not ask, “How old is this person?” but merely, “Is this person over 18?”

Other governments have tried to issue electronic identity cards. But costs have been high and public resistance strong. Some have proved careless custodians of their citizens’ data. There are fears of snooping. Britain had spent £257m ($370m) of a planned £4.5 billion on a much-criticised ID card scheme by the time the current coalition government scrapped it after coming to office in 2010.

That has left a gap in the global market—one that Estonia hopes to fill. Starting later this year, it will issue ID cards to non-resident “satellite Estonians”, thereby creating a global, government-standard digital identity. Applicants will pay a small fee, probably around €30-50 ($41-68), and provide the same biometric data and documents as Estonian residents. If all is in order, a card will be issued, or its virtual equivalent on a smartphone (held on a special secure module in the SIM card).

Some good ideas never take off because too few people embrace them. And with just 1.3m residents, Estonia is a tiddler—even with the 10m satellite Estonians the government hopes to add over the next decade. What may provide the necessary scale is a European Union rule soon to come into force that will require member states to accept each others’ digital IDs. That means non-resident holders of Estonian IDs, wherever they are, will be able
not only to send each other encrypted e-mail and to prove their identity to web-service providers who accept
government-issued identities, but also to do business with governments anywhere in the EU.

Estonia is being “very clever”, says Stéphanie de Labriolle of the Secure Identity Alliance, an international
working group. Marie Austenaa of the GSMA, a global association of mobile-phone firms, praises it too. Allan
Foster of ForgeRock, a firm that is working on government ID schemes in Belgium, New Zealand and
elsewhere, thinks that the new satellite Estonians will help change attitudes to secure digital identities in their
own countries, too.

The scheme’s advantages for Estonia are multiple. It will help it shed the detested “ex-Soviet” tag and promote
itself as a paragon of good government and innovation. It will attract investment: once you have an Estonian ID,
setting up a company there takes only a few minutes. And it will create an electronic diaspora all over the world
with a stake in the country’s survival—no small matter at a time when the threat from Russia is keenly felt.
(Estonia is also planning to back up all its national data to secure “digital embassies” in friendly foreign
countries.)

Struck by the X-road’s scalability and security, and the fact that it has already worked well for over a decade,
Finland and other countries are adopting the Estonian system in whole or in part. But for foreign individuals,
perhaps its greatest appeal is that it is optional. Those who like the system’s convenience, security and flexibility
can apply (though Estonia’s chief information officer, Taavi Kotka, who is taking time away from his real-life
job running an IT company, stresses that the ID is a privilege, not a right). Those who feel queasy about a
foreign state having access to their personal data can steer clear.

Mr Kotka says that Estonia aims to do for identity what American Express cards did for international travel in
the 1960s: to simplify life. But the bigger point is that government-verified identity has been divorced from
location. If Estonia’s scheme takes off some other countries may well decide to follow its lead. Some may aim
at volume; others, to target the top end, as with the market in non-resident investors’ passports. Soon, multiple
satellite citizenship may even become the norm.

127. Building Foundations for Social and Economic Development

The National Identification Authority (NIDA) of the Ministry of Home Affairs of Tanzania has invited APSCA
to organise the 1st Government Forum on Electronic Identity in Africa at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, in Dar es Salaam on 2-3 June 2015. The forum will follow the same model as APSCA’s highly successful Government eID Forum in Asia.

Target Audience
NIDA will host the forum and invite government agencies from around the world with a particular focus on
agencies from African states. Government agencies invited will be responsible for managing National

Invitations to Key African Union Officials
NIDA and APSCA will issue government-to-government invitations to states across Africa as well as to the 8 Regional Economic Communities (RECs) which make up the African Union (AU). Regional cooperation is a key focus of the forum. NIDA already works closely with the East African Community (EAC) with HQ in Tanzania - one of the most advanced having already formed its own Customs Union and Common Market for its combined population of 125M.

What’s Covered?
The Forum will have a similar focus to APSCA’s Asian government forum with the addition of Africa-specific issues such as financial inclusion, voter registration, cross-border eID and benefits distribution. NIDA’s objective is that the forum will create a platform for governments of African states to jointly explore how national electronic identity can further economic and social development in Africa. Topics will include:

- Objectives for Electronic Identity Schemes
- Pre-requisites for National Electronic Identity Schemes
- Best Practices for National eID Schemes
- The eID Technology Roadmap in Africa
- Business Models & Case Studies
- Project Sustainability
- Population Management & Voting Processes
- Cross-Border and Regional eID
- What’s Next for eID in Africa?

Who Attends our Government eID Events?
- Annually OVER 100 Senior Government Officers from
- OVER 30 National Agencies in Asia, Africa, the Gulf & Europe
-Senior Experts in national eID technology solutions

Business Opportunities
Be a part of this first-hand opportunity to network with senior decisions-makers in government and engage in technical issues for implementing and developing national eID schemes in Africa.

SPONSORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES AVAILABLE!
Solutions Providers for latest technologies in national eID, biometric systems, registration & enrollment systems, identification, verification & processing services for residents, ICT infrastructure for government services and other related products should contact Veronica in the APSCA office for details.

Further Information
For further information about the Forum or to enquire about sponsorship opportunities, please contact Veronica Ribeiro in the APSCA office at vribeiro@apsca.org or +86-18621610933.

2-3 June 2015
Hyatt Regency Hotel
Dar Es Salaam
Tanzania
Imagine one day people from your country’s rural areas start paying with their mobile phones. Would it be strange? Definitely. That would mean they are more advanced in mobile payments adoption than the majority of people living in cities who still prefer to use plastic.

Such a scenario might imply two things: a) you are dreaming or b) M-Pesa has entered your country.

In Kenya, where the majority of people live in rural areas, two-thirds of the population (17 million) use their phones to pay for goods or transfer money. This is because M-Pesa, the leading mobile payments service in the market, is designed to thrive in harsh conditions in which banks would never survive.

Vodafone, which owns M-Pesa, recently introduced the system for the first time in Europe with a launch in Romania. It is evaluating other countries “with a similar financial infrastructure” in the region and may enter some other central and eastern European markets.

What countries are next on Vodafone’s list? Below, I’ve gathered five points describing conditions that could work in favor of M-Pesa finding success in other European countries:

- The key element is the underbanked population. The higher the better. This is why after robust success in Kenya, the service arrived in countries like Tanzania (only 17 percent of the population has bank accounts), India (35 percent), and Romania (45 percent). The underbanked don’t use financial services for a variety of reasons, ranging from their distrust of banks, citizens who in the shadow economy, their income is too small to cover banking fees or they just don’t want to deal with the paperwork involving an account. MasterCard says in Western Europe there are approximately 93 million underbanked consumers. M-Pesa’s potential for growth there is huge.

- High mobile penetration. I don’t mean smartphone penetration, but any mobile phone. The strength of M-Pesa lies in its simplicity. Kenyans do not need a phone with fancy features to easily transfer money. They only need a cell phone (even a very old model Nokia 3310 will do) and a SIM card issued by Safaricom (Vodafone’s MNO in Kenya). You do not have to download a mobile application. The system is based on Unstructured Supplementary Service Data codes, so it works on every single mobile phone capable of sending SMS.

- Large remote areas. M-Pesa’s primary value to users is that it enables them to send funds easily over long distances. This is why such service is a necessity for people leaving in remote areas where the only method of sending money would be a local bus. M-Pesa is without comparison a safer and faster method. People who work far away from home use it to send money to their families, to pay for services such as taxi (no need for a terminal as the taxi driver receives money on his phone) or to pay bills.
M-Pesa would be useless if users weren't able to easily withdraw and deposit cash. Other crucial elements for success are nationwide agent outlets, which replace ATMs and cash deposit machines. More than 4,000 agents operate in Kenya and are found mostly at roadside shops.

The last point I would like to add is that a lack of competitors would help make M-Pesa successful in certain countries. I am not saying it's necessary. But M-Pesa did not have as much success in African nations that already had other mobile-payment options.

Vodafone operates in Albania, the Czech Republic and Hungary where these conditions apply. A similar financial structure can be found in former Soviet Union countries. Maybe villages in one of those countries will became the cradle of mobile payments.


129. Mahama subscribes to ID cards for Ecowas citizens

President John Dramani Mahama has welcomed a proposal by the Economic Community of West African States (Ecowas) to introduce biometric identity cards to its citizens.

The cards will make it possible for the over 300 million citizens to freely move across borders to do business.

Opening the 45th Ordinary Summit of the sub-regional bloc on Thursday, July 10, President Mahama, who also chairs the Authority of Heads of State and Government, said the cards should be easily verified “anytime and anywhere”.

“As registered Ecowas Community citizens, our people should be able to move freely in West Africa and enjoy all the opportunities opening up in our member states.”

Legal and illegal checkpoints

President Mahama expressed worry about the hindrances that inhibit trading activities among the business community of member states, asking leaders to commit to taking “legal and necessary” steps to remove them.

“The lingering difficulties that many enterprising West African citizens face in doing business across our borders must be addressed,” President Mahama requested.

“Some of our businessmen and women complain that in addition to paying all the relevant duties and levies, they are still confronted with situations and hindrances that often make it prohibitive for them to do business within our sub-region.”

He listed the multiplicity of “legal and illegal checkpoints and barriers”, “lengthy inspection time”, “documentation requirement plus costly delays regardless of whether documentation is complete or not” as some of the factors hindering trade among citizens of member states.

“Many businessmen of West Africa have been frustrated by the request for substantial informal payments at our borders in addition to the regulatory registration requirement and high costs of transit fees demanded by our member states.”
President Mahama expressed hope that the Summit, which ends on Friday, July 11, will address these “bottlenecks”.


130. Govt mulling to introduce new smart cards for pensioners

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/07/16

July 11, 2014

Our Staff Reporter


For news details Read on : Govt mulling to introduce new smart cards for pensioners

ISLAMABAD
The government is making efforts to introduce new smart cards for pensioners so that they can get their pensions through the ATMs.
The proposal was discussed in a meeting chaired by Finance Minister, Senator Ishaq Dar to consider pension reforms in the federal government. The Minister said that he will not allow government functionaries to create problems for the pensioners and the government must simplify the pension procedure and seek single page information from pensioners. The Minister directed that a transparent system should be devised to simplify the form, decrease the time required for approval and withdrawal of pension by the pensioners. He asked the authorities to consider use of IT devices for pension withdrawal; it will also avoid the cases of fraudulent ghost pensioners, which frequently come up.
The Finance Minister said “The new retirees, who have served till 1st July 2014, will get their pensions from direct credit system. Their pensions will be credited directly to their pay accounts to make the system convenient for the freshly retiring person. It will also save the people from undue delay by the government authorities and making the system transparent and hassle free, he added. It was also decided that the Finance Secretary would present a report on proposed pension related reforms in a two weeks time for consideration and report to the Prime Minister.
Ishaq Dar said that the objective of the PML-N Government is to simplify and fast track the process of pension disbursement to the retiring government servants. He said, “We have seen that the pension cases are not submitted by the respective departments in time despite active follow-up by the pensioners.” Aquil Raza
Khoja, General Manager Punjab Pension Fund who was also present in the meeting informed that the objective of the Fund is to generate revenue for the discharge of the pension liabilities of the Government of Punjab. Moreover the purpose of this initiative is to revamp and upgrade the old system of processing of pension cases of the retiring government servants. The new system envisages replacing the existing manual system of disbursement of monthly pension through treasuries or National Bank of Pakistan. The Finance Minister observed that the Punjab Government has adopted a good business model to ease out and facilitate future pension liabilities but does not include complete reformation which the government intends to introduce. He said that we need to have a robust and complete reformation in this regard and same model should also be followed by the federal and provincial governments.


131. COMELEC declares July 20, 2014 as National Registration Day for Voters with Disabilities

Friday 11th of July 2014

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/07/16

MANILA, 11 July (PIA)--The Commission on Elections (COMELEC) declares July 20, 2014 as the National Registration Day for Voters with Disabilities, in all COMELEC local offices.

In its latest Resolution, dated June 25, 2014, the Comelec directed its election officers nationwide to designate accessible registration venues within their respective jurisdictions, in coordination with organizations of persons with disabilities, in accordance with the pertinent provisions of COMELEC’s rules and regulations on the conduct of continuing voter registration.

The COMELEC also encourages all Barangay Captains to provide transportation support for their constituents with disabilities, for the purpose.

This move was undertaken in close coordination with the National Council of Disability Affairs, under Acting Executive Director Carmen Reyes-Zubiaga, as part of the activities under Proclamation No. 361, which declared July 17-23 of every year as the National Disability Prevention and Rehabilitation Week.


132. Global eID revenue to reach $54 billion, says Acuity

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/07/16
According to a new study from Acuity Market Intelligence, the global market for national electronic ID (eID) programs will generate US$54 billion in revenues between 2013 to 2018. The firm also estimates that the number of national eID cards in circulation will double from 1.75 billion to 3.5 billion during this same time period.

“In five years time, half of the world’s population will have a chip-based national eID card, including near-complete regional coverage in Europe,” according to C. Maxine Most, Principal at Acuity. “This eID platform will encourage significant expansion of eGovernment services and provide the foundation for the development of national and global trusted authentication infrastructures.”

In a recent special report, Biometrics Research Group, the publisher of BiometricUpdate.com, defined eID as a government-issued document used for online and offline identification. The report found that many countries, including Brazil, France, Indonesia, Poland, Russia, Malaysia and the Philippines have been issuing electronic identity cards.

Acuity estimates that while the total number of countries with some form of national ID program is projected to increase to 6.5 percent, from 142 to 152 countries between 2013 and 2018, the number of countries issuing national eID cards will increase 70 percent from 56 to 95 during this period. In addition to the 3.5 billion chip-based national eIDs issued by these 95 countries, another 300 million National ID cards will be issued by 31 countries that have integrated biometrics into non chip-based card programs.

Acuity estimates that Asia, with its vast population, will dominate the market representing nearly 70 percent of all national eID cards issued, while Europe will trail a distant second with 11 percent.

Most also notes: “The evolution of national eIDs is also an evolution towards mobility as these physical electronic credentials evolve towards virtual credentials that are easily stored in mobile devices. This separation of credential from form factor will fundamentally shift the way identity is established, referenced, and used everyday across the globe.”

Other analysis and projections from Acuity’s “Global National eID Industry Report: 2014 Edition” includes comprehensive, country-by-country, regional, and global unit and revenue forecasts for all national eID cards programs.
Executives at Visa Europe are pondering an overhaul of card security standards as new technologies and consumer preferences for frictionless shopping create demands for a more flexible approach to protecting transactions.

As the US banking industry prepares for a mass-market migration to EMV chip card standards, Peter Bayley, executive director of Visa Europe is looking at the next wave of innovation.

EMV is great and has served us well," he writes in a blog post. "Everyone loves it - but the days of the plastic card are coming to an end."

Instead, Bayley is looking ahead to a mobile and online future, in which data profiling and predictive modelling aligned with geo-location services provide a more nuanced approach to securing consumer transactions.

As expectations around security change, Visa has some big questions to answer, he says.

With the card schemes hammering out specifications for the use of digital tokens - rather than account numbers - for online and mobile transactions, Bayley asks: "How important is it to protect a token which can only be used where the customer wishes to do so or exists only for a few hours or minutes?"

On the mobile phone, Host Card Emulation offer the opportunity to completely remodel the security framework and provide a much smoother experience for consumers at the check-out by storing card details in the cloud.

Looking ahead, Bayley wonders whether Visa might not consider removing verification for most transactions.

"Silly you might say, but if we have the data and the models to show that our customer buys his coffee at 08:45 every morning at this merchant for this amount, and his phone GPS says he is there now - do I really need to check all the cryptography, and validate the PIN?," he asks. "How much extra security do we really need?"

Bayley's musings were quickly followed in a post by Jonathan Vaux, Visa's director of new payment propositions, which delved deeper into the development of 'card on file' technology in the cloud and biometric authentication on the mobile.

Visa needs to adapt quickly, he says: "We need to develop new standards, processes and capabilities that help enable these technologies which will, potentially, help us achieve our ambitions to be the world's most trusted currency and displace cash and cheques. For example, we will need to recognise other forms of authentication, such as thumbprint, in our process flows and evaluate its impact on the commercial framework."


134. Pakistan: Nadra accused of blocking citizens' CNICs

By Bureau Report

Published Jul 10, 2014 06:20am
PESHAWAR: A senior citizen has accused National Database and Registration Authority (Nadra) of intentionally blocking comprised national identity cards of his family members for the past five years.

Speaking at a news conference at the Peshawar Press Club on Wednesday, Mir Agha of Shero Jhangi, Peshawar, said that Nadra had blocked CNICs of his family members for unknown reasons five years back, and was still adamant not to unblock them.

“As a result of an order of Peshawar High Court, CNICs of three members of my family were unblocked, but the cards of my wife, Zar Bibi, and daughter-in-law, Fauzia, are still not cleared,” he said, adding that the court issued directives for six times to Nadra, but the relevant officials didn’t pay any heed.

The complainant accused Nadra general manager Ahmed Khattak and deputy director Rauf of being the main hurdle to issuance of CNICs to his family, adding that the GM was avoiding even to talk to him on the issue. The cards, he said were blocked on the basis of suspicion despite verification by relevant people.

Mr Agha appealed to the federal government to take notice of the injustice with him. “I am also consulting my counsel to move court for a defamation case against the GM Nadra and other concerned officials,” he maintained.

Meanwhile, residents of Kakshal have also complained that CNICs of many people, particularly those from Mohmand Agency, had been blocked on the basis of suspicion.

Complaining against the blockade of national identity cards, Saleem Khan on Wednesday said that people of Kakshal had been frequently visiting Nadra offices for the purpose, but to no avail.

The people, he said were from Mohmand agency but they had settled in Peshawar and had also their names registered in voters lists. However, he said the residents couldn’t cast votes in the last general elections due to blockade of their CNICs by Nadra.

http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2057/

135. News exclusive: Half the world will be national eID card holders by 2018

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/07/20

New in-depth research has found that the global market for National Electronic ID (eID) programs will generate $54 billion in revenues between 2013 to 2018. During this time, the number of National eID cards in circulation will double from 1.75 billion to 3.5 billion - almost half the world's population.

Acuity Market Intelligence gave Planet Biometrics a sneak preview of its new report - “The Global National eID Industry Report, 2014 Edition” indicating Asia, with its vast population, will dominate the market representing nearly 70% of all National eID cards issued.
The report indicates a sustainable market value in the $7-10 billion annual revenue range over the next five years. The number of annual National eIDs issued peaks at 800 million in 2017 and drops back to 740 million in 2018.

Acuity considers National eID programs in the following categories:

- Category 1: Chip or Optical storage based National ID card with or without biometrics;
- Category 2: A Traditional or non-chip based ID card leveraging biometrics to ensure each cardholder is uniquely identified;
- Category 3: A biometric based centralized registry that issues a unique identity number for the enrolled population.

Report revenues include the revenues from all three categories whereas the actual National eID card unit count only includes chip-based or optical storage cards.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Global NeID by Type</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
<th>2016</th>
<th>2017</th>
<th>2018</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Category 1: NeID (chip card)</td>
<td>56</td>
<td>72</td>
<td>80</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>95</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2: BN (NID with Biometrics)</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>31</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 2 to 1: Current BN, Planned NeID</td>
<td>8</td>
<td>7</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>0</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Category 3: RO - Biometric Registry</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>2</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>1</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Total</strong></td>
<td>94</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>116</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>127</td>
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Acuity told Planet Biometrics: "Today, there are twice as many National eID issuing countries as those issuing traditional National IDs. By 2018, the number of National eID issuing countries will exceed those issuing traditional National IDs by a ratio of more than 5 to 1. This rapid acceleration in the deployment of National eIDs means that by the end of 2018, 84% of all National IDs issued will be eIDs and that there will be nearly 3.5 billion National eIDs in circulation."

Asia dominates the market throughout the forecast period representing nearly 60% of all revenues generated between 2013 and 2018 and nearly 70% of the units. Europe follows with 11% of the units and 19% of the revenues. Africa is the third largest region with 9% of total units and 10% of total revenues over the forecast period.

According to Acuity Principal, Maxine Most: "In five years time, half of the world’s population will have a chip-based National eID card, including near-complete regional coverage in Europe. This eID platform will encourage significant expansion of eGovernment services and provide the foundation for the development of national and global trusted authentication infrastructures."

Most continued: “The evolution of National eIDs is also an evolution towards mobility as these physical electronic credentials evolve towards virtual credentials that are easily stored in mobile devices. This separation of credential from form factor will fundamentally shift the way identity is established, referenced, and used everyday across the globe.”

While the total number of countries with some form of National ID program is projected to increase just 6.5%, from 142 to 152 between 2013 and 2018, the number of countries issuing National eID cards will increase 70% from 56 to 95 during this period.
In addition to the 3.5 billion chip-based National eIDs issued by these 95 countries, another 300 million National ID cards will be issued by 31 countries that have integrated biometrics into non chip-based card programs.

Additional analysis and projections are available including comprehensive, country-by-country, regional, and global unit and revenue forecasts for all National eID cards programs including cards, and card and biometrics readers. For more information visit www.acuity-mi.com/GNeID_Report.php.

**Global - Countries issuing National IDs**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>2013</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Traditional</td>
<td>48</td>
<td>37</td>
<td>31</td>
<td>27</td>
<td>25</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of total</td>
<td>34%</td>
<td>25%</td>
<td>21%</td>
<td>18%</td>
<td>16%</td>
<td>16%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>eID</td>
<td>94</td>
<td>112</td>
<td>115</td>
<td>123</td>
<td>127</td>
<td>127</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Share of total</td>
<td>66%</td>
<td>75%</td>
<td>79%</td>
<td>82%</td>
<td>84%</td>
<td>84%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>142</td>
<td>149</td>
<td>147</td>
<td>150</td>
<td>152</td>
<td>152</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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136. Can biometrics solve the identity management riddle?

Could biometrics solve agency's identity management issues?

Jul. 9, 2014 - 06:00AM  |

News Group : International 2  Date : 2014/07/21

Biometrics use human traits, such as the unique characteristics of an iris, to identify a person rather than easier to forge credentials like usernames and passwords. (Sgt. Michael J. MacLeod)

ADVERTISEMENT
The stuff of science-fiction already is a reality at some agencies, where the use of biometrics — think iris scans, palm prints, voice identification — is either in place or under development. But are biometrics the answer to the identity management problems the government is struggling to solve?

Identity theft plagues the American public, most commonly through stolen fraudulently acquired credit or debit cards. But fraud and theft aren’t just commercial problems: At the Internal Revenue Service alone, more than $5.2 billion in erroneous tax refunds are sent out because of identity theft, according to an IRS official.

The pressure is on the federal government to find identity management solutions as citizens increasingly demand the same easy-to-consume, online services from agencies that they get from their banks or credit card companies. That pressure forces federal officials to strike a balance between opening themselves up to risk by putting sensitive information online and meeting citizen demand for access.

“If somebody steals your identity and then they file your tax return using that identity, that tax return is going to go to them. Identity theft is not the same for the IRS as it is for other agencies,” said Alan Duncan, assistant inspector general for security and IT services at the Treasury Department’s Tax Administration. “Identity management is really key if you’re talking about trying to [connect] every citizen who has an interest in talking to the IRS. If you want to check your payments, get a transcript to support your mortgage … you should be able to do that just like you do with your bank account, when you look at your account and reconcile it and make sure everything is in order. That’s not possible today.”

Some say with biometrics that kind of access could be possible. Paul Hunter, deputy chief of the biometrics division of the Homeland Security Department’s Citizen and Immigration Services, points to DHS’ National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace and Office of Biometric Identity Management, formerly US- VISIT, as prime examples of federal use of biometrics for citizen services.

(RELATED)

Typed passwords are not enough

Navy Yard shooting adds urgency

“If you go back to where we used to be, pre-9/11 … the immigration process, naturalization process, you used to see lines around buildings of people trying to get their benefits. You don’t see that, and one of the reasons for that is we’ve really taken a look at and kind of segmented the establishment of identity, compartmentalized that out and made it a federal responsibility,” Hunter said. “You used to have to go to a kind of mom-and-pop store. Now we have across the country 137 application support centers that are really biometric enrollment stations. We service about 3.4 million people a year and we’re in every state. And basically we establish identity. That’s the answer: It’s biometrics.”

The need for identity management solutions goes beyond just making services easy and convenient for consumers. With billions in losses to identity theft continuing to mount, the IRS is actively looking for ways around the cumbersome processes required to get basic but sensitive information, such as when a tax refund was issued or financial transcripts required for mortgages.

“You can get [that information] now through the website if you provide all kinds of personal things: name, Social Security number, date of birth, filing status, street address from most recent return,” Duncan said. “All this personal information you have to communicate — there has to be a better way. So we’re continuing to look at that.”

Other agencies are pressing forward with biometrics initiatives. The FBI continues to build out its controversial Next Generation Identification program, a biometric database that will “will offer state-of-the-art biometric
identification services and provide a flexible framework of core capabilities that will serve as a platform for multimodal functionality,” according to the FBI website. The program targets terrorism and criminal activities, as well as privacy and data protection. It’s also set to be used for both law enforcement and non-law enforcement purposes, and available to a variety of agencies and companies, according to the Electronic Privacy Information Center.

But the FBI’s NGI program — and the government’s use of biometrics writ large — raises serious concerns, particularly over privacy. Many of the biggest NGI worries center on the FBI’s use of facial recognition technology, but any biometric data can present an issue, especially if compromised — defeating the intended goals of agencies like the IRS.

“Biometric data is personally identifiable information that cannot be changed if it is compromised. Improper collection, storage and use of this information can result in identity theft, inaccurate identifications, and infringement on constitutional rights,” EPIC privacy advocates wrote on the organization’s website spotlighting NGI. “The increased centralization of biometric data through NGI and the increased standardization of biometric data collection increases the risk of security breaches and mission creep.”

Duncan admits public hesitance to hand over individual biometric data is a major hurdle — and citizens aren’t the only ones worried about having personal information put online.

“This all starts to make a question mark, and it’s on two sides: on the population and their acceptance of something like biometrics or some other type of identification, and on the agencies’ willingness” to take on the responsibility of biometric data, Duncan said. “On the security side there’s a reluctance on agencies’ part to [provide] this level of security if we’re going to open up your accounts to the Internet. That really becomes the question: How do we do that in a secure manner?”

It’s not just the IRS that must grapple with these issues. Across the government, many agencies are working to figure out if biometrics holds the key to their own identity management challenges; perhaps the biggest obstacle is finding a uniform approach.

“I do believe that we’re going to have to come together as a whole, maybe the CIO community coming up with a standard and agreed-upon way of moving forward. Maybe that’s biometrics; maybe that’s one-factor, two-factor, three-factor authentication; maybe that’s [personal identification number] codes; maybe it’s [information] that only I would know and that changes around ... maybe it’s things like that in combination together,” said Jim Jackson, deputy assistant inspector general for investigations at U.S. Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration. “Every agency has their own fiefdom where the CIOs know how they want things to run and they think they have a good handle on things ... coming up with a standard mechanism is tough.”
July 9, 2014

SANTA CLARA, Calif. — Centrify Corporation, the leader in unified identity management across data center, cloud and mobile, today announced that it has named former CA Technologies senior vice president Bilhar (“Bill”) Mann as its new senior vice president of products and chief product officer. In this role, Mann will take primary responsibility for the innovation and evolution of all Centrify solutions, running both product strategy and product management, as well as playing a lead role in M&A as the company scales to its next phase.

“The addition of this proven product strategist will accelerate the expansion of Centrify’s product offerings in the data center, SaaS and mobile identity spaces,” said Tom Kemp, Centrify CEO. “Bill brings a wealth of experience building successful companies in the cloud and enterprise security sectors. We will rely on that knowledge as we gear up for the next phase of Centrify’s rapid growth.”

“Centrify has the breadth of vision, scale and product offerings needed to be a leader — and sustain that position — in the identity management space,” said Mann. “I strongly believe identity is the link for the new app economy, and Centrify’s powerful offerings across server, cloud and mobile environments set it apart from the competition. Coupled with their strategic partnership with Samsung, Centrify will be the new disruptor for the enterprise market where mobile is now driving a significant change in the security landscape.”

Fueled by its recent $42 million funding round with Samsung Ventures, Fortinet Inc. and Docomo Capital, the addition of Mann to its executive roster is part of Centrify’s strategy to solidify its leadership in the Identity and Access Management (“IAM”) market as it evolves to Identity-as-a-Service (“IDaaS”). With Centrify, users can access all their cloud-based and/or on-premises applications from their PC, Mac or mobile device using a single identity. At the same time IT administrators achieve greater time and process efficiency when managing a variety of operating systems, mobile devices and applications because they are able to consolidate all identities and privileges. And Centrify’s solutions also make organizations more secure via centralized user provisioning, multi-factor authentication and privileged identity management.

About Bill Mann

Mann is an enterprise software security executive with both large company and startup experience. Prior to Centrify, Mann held various general management and product management leadership positions at CA Technologies (formerly Computer Associates International, Inc.), including SVP of Cloud Strategy, covering the whole software security sector, as well as the Cloud, SaaS and IT Management segments. At CA Technologies he was instrumental in its leadership in security, including in the cloud and SaaS areas, spearheading multiple acquisitions and product introductions. His most recent position was focused on fraud detection for eCommerce transactions and innovations in the mobile payment security space. Prior to CA Technologies, Mann held senior executive positions at Volera, Novell, Juston and Worldtalk. He received a bachelor’s degree with honors in Computer Science from Aston University in England.

About Centrify

Centrify provides unified identity management across data center, cloud and mobile environments that result in single sign-on (SSO) for users and a simplified identity infrastructure for IT. Centrify’s unified identity management software and cloud-based Identity-as-a-Service (IDaaS) solutions leverage an organization’s existing identity infrastructure to enable single sign-on, multi-factor authentication, privileged identity management, auditing for compliance and mobile device management. Centrify customers can typically reduce their total cost of identity management and compliance by more than 50 percent, while improving business agility and overall security. Centrify is used by more than 5,000 customers worldwide, including approximately half of the Fortune 50 and more than 60 Federal agencies.

For more information, please visit http://www.centrify.com/
138.MRP system at 33 missions installed for passport, visa issuance

News Group: International 2 Date: 2014/07/26

Monday, July 14, 2014 - Islamabad—Ministry of Interior has so far installed Machine Readable Passports (MRP) System at country’s 33 Foreign Missions to facilitate overseas Pakistanis regarding issuance of passport and visas.

Besides, the authorities are in process of deploying the MRP system at four other Pakistani Foreign Missions and would be completed by this month.

According to Ministry of Interior here on Sunday, currently, the government is providing MRP facilities to over 80 percent of Pakistani community residing abroad. It has also planned to deploy MRP system at 50 Foreign Missions in current financial year and 22 in next financial year 2015-2016 in a phased manner.

Regarding number of Directorate General Immigration & Passports (IMPASS) employees posted at Pakistan Missions, the Ministry said it is 52 and they are posted on merit.

It said a committee comprising of 3 to 5 officers of Ministry of Interior and IMPASS finalizes selection of officers/officials for posting at Pakistan Missions. Their performance is also evaluated on the basis of fitness-cum-seniority.

Professional qualification and experience are primary factors in selection of employees.

The recommendations of the Committee are submitted to Competent Authority i.e. the Secretary, Ministry of Interior for soliciting approval.—APP

http://findbiometrics.com/finger-vein-sensors-further-bring-biometric-healthcare-to-turkey/

139.Finger Vein Sensors Further Bring Biometric Healthcare to Turkey

News Group: International 2 Date: 2014/07/26

Topics relating to this post: Biometric • Finger • HealthCare • Mobile • Recognition • Security • Vein

In an initiative to better manage health services in Turkey, combating abuse and inefficiencies, the Social Security Institution of Turkey has been adopting biometrics since 2012. This week, Hitachi Europe announced that, in support of this continuing adoption, it is rolling out BIOMIG devices: mobile WiFi scanners featuring the company’s finger vein recognition technology.
The deployment stands to make patient identification at what Hitachi refers to as the “point of care” more efficient and more secure. By including wireless functionality, the scanners bring the versatility of mobile tech to the healthcare space.

“MIG has been implementing one of the biggest biometrics projects in Turkey and Europe and has translated its experience in reliability and ergonomics to the healthcare industry by way of its BIOMIG device,” says Hitachi Europe country manager, Erman Akgün.

By using the BIOMIG scanners at point of service, the Turkish government can better manage reimbursements in accordance with the Universal Health Insurance scheme, under which employees pay compulsory healthcare fund contributions.

Turkey’s focus on biometrics has resulted in the BIOMIG device already having been introduced to several private hospitals, hospital groups and dialysis centers.

“With the inclusion of university hospitals in the biometric authentication system, a market of around TRY 10.000.000 emerged,” explains Yener Güçkıran, MIG International’s head of sales for healthcare. “Our aim is to capture 75% of this market. In this dynamic, ambitious and rapidly growing market BIOMIG stands out with its technology, speed, reliability and convenience.”

In support of the vascular biometric mode, Hitachi points to the fact that vein patterns are sub-dermal and are therefore extremely difficult to clone for spoofing purposes.

Related Reading:

In other finger vein technology news, last week findBIOMETRICS reported on a partnership between Fujisof and mofiria to bring the former’s finger vein solution to a wider audience.

http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2065/

140. Fighting call centre fraud with voice biometrics

11/07/14

Nuance Communications has announced a partnership deal with TRUSTID, a provider of contact centre authentication technology, to help contact centers streamline customer authentication and fight fraud.

Nuance’s voice biometrics detect the unique characteristics of a person’s voice to create a voiceprint, which is used within contact centres to confirm a customer’s identity – simply from their conversation with a contact centre agent.

As a result, says Nuance, a growing number of contact centres are replacing inane and time-consuming security questions – mother’s maiden name, where you went to high school, and so on – with biometrics-based systems.

TRUSTID’s solution uses real-time telephone network forensics technology to determine if a call is trustworthy or not. The solution validates legitimate calls while detecting calls that are spoofed, hacked and otherwise manipulated.

Used separately, the Nuance and TRUSTID systems significantly enhance security and convenience, reducing fraud and shortening the time customers and agents spend on calls. However, contact centres that use Nuance and TRUSTID in combination could see an even greater reduction in average handling time (AHT), a strengthening of security and anti-fraud measures, and significant reductions in operating costs, the companies claim.
“Criminals are able to collect a treasure-trove of personal information from a range of public sources and, as a result, are often better at answering identity interrogation questions than the legitimate customers they are defrauding,” said Patrick Cox, CEO of TRUSTID. “Combining Nuance Voice Biometrics with TRUSTID call validation before the call is answered, dramatically improves security and convenience and, in turn, customer satisfaction.

141. ID card holders in Latvia eligible to vote with a personalized voter card

Latvian Saeima passed amendments to the Saeima Elections Law in the final reading today, stipulating that citizens who do not have a passport but hold an electronic identification (eID) card instead will be eligible to vote in this year’s Saeima elections by presenting a personalized voter card verified by the Central Election Commission of Latvia, informs LETA.

Citizens who do not have a passport but hold an ID card will be able to receive voter cards at the Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs from September 22 to October 3.

Those citizens who have a voter card and, by the Saeima elections, will also have acquired a passport, will have to present the passport together with the voter card.

The Central Election Commission estimates that the cost of one voter card could be EUR 0.16, thus, the total amount of the required funding could reach EUR 4,800.

The Office of Citizenship and Migration Affairs believes that by the election time, there will be more than 30,000 voters in Latvia who only have the ID card and have no passport.

News Group : International 2
Date : 2014/07/27
ساعت : 11:49:20


142. TAKING A HOLISTIC APPROACH FOR GOVERNMENT ID CARD PROGRAMS

News Group : International 2
Date : 2014/07/27

Jul 14, 2014
Government organizations are always challenged to optimize their secure ID card programs to ensure that they continuously combat daily threats — from protecting identities and proprietary information, to ensuring that the card they produce is a high-quality document that will be consistent in appearance and closely match all other documents issued in the same ID program.

One of the key technology decisions organizations have to make is what printing technology they use for the personalization of the cards. And, many believe that the most important factor in selecting the right color printing technology for ID programs comes down to comparing direct-to-card color printing with retransfer color printing.

One of our industry experts breaks down the common misconceptions regarding print technologies as well as highlights other important factors to be considered for your program—such as card designs, card stock and laminates or secure overlays—to ensure you are making the best decision for your investment. To read the full article, download it here.

**143.CrimTrac to tender for new biometrics system**

Jul 15, 2014 1:30 PM (6 days ago)
Filed under Software

**Moving beyond the fingerprint.**

News Group : International 2 Date : 2014/07/28

CrimTrac is gearing up to replace its national fingerprint database, used across the country by law enforcement agencies, with a new and expanded biometrics identification system.

The agency, which hosts national systems and databases for the use of state and federal police, currently runs the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS), supported by law enforcement software specialists Morpho.

This morning Justice Minister Michael Keenan announced that the agency would soon approach the market to replace NAFIS with “cutting edge technology” that will expand the capabilities of the database beyond fingerprints to faces, palm prints, voice recognition, scars, bodily marks and tattoos.

The new system is also expected to speed up the matching process.

CrimTrac hopes to have the replacement system up and running by 2017. It is currently also working on a new national DNA matching system that will allow it to match familial links between samples, where only direct matches are currently picked up.

It is also making ground on a $9.1 million national ballistics network combating interstate gang violence and has received $3.3 million to trial a National Domestic Violence Order (DVO) scheme which would communicate the issuance of orders across state and territory borders.

A formal request for tenders has yet to be issued.

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IEVO Releases “Do it Yourself” Biometric Access Control System

By Rawlson King Tweet

July 14, 2014 -

IEVO recently released a new custom kit which allows its customers to enhance its biometric reader hardware for their unique applications. This allows users to effectively create their very own “do it yourself” biometric access control systems to suit the needs of specific projects.

The custom kit gives IEVO’s customers the ability to create a personalized biometric access control unit that is suited to their specific needs, without altering the look or design of IEVO’s existing series of fingerprint readers.

Besides leveraging the unmatched performance of multi-spectral fingerprint sensors, customers can also highly tailor the readers. For instance, if there is already an IEVO card reader at the site, customers can replace the card reader with options that let the biometric readers use most pre-existing cards.

They can also provide a biometric template on the card, reducing their reliance on a central database. For users wanting to use identification mode (1:N search), IEVO offers a standard capacity of up to 10,000 fingerprint templates, which can be expanded to 50,000 templates.

“We are continually trying to push the boundaries within the security market and provide users with the most up to date advancements,” said Shaun Oakes, managing director at IEVO. “From our customer feedback, we found that users wanted more flexibility and freedom to create a biometric access control system to suit their project and installation needs. Through our custom kit additions, users will be able to create their very own IEVO system that is fully customizable and fully field serviceable while integrators will open new markets to win new business.”

The newly designed custom kit from IEVO lets users incorporate a host of options alongside the standard ultimate and micro fingerprint readers, including card reader integration, increased template capacity and Power over Ethernet (PoE).

By using PoE to power the control board, reader installation becomes faster, easier and more cost-effective. Wireless or Bluetooth communication can be used instead of a LAN. The one control board can handle both an ingress and egress reader, reducing overall hardware and installation costs. And the unit can be fitted with a two line screen, perfect for time and attendance applications in which users want to see the date and time they scan in and out.

These additional functions will not change the look of the standard ultimate and micro fingerprint readers, so users can enhance their access control system without physically altering the product they have always trusted. Further, by using the same form factor, companies have a standardized method to service the readers, in case any individual elements are vandalized, damaged or in need of repair.

145. NPRA launches new services

Manama, Jul. 15. (BNA) – The Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs (NPRA) has launched, in cooperation with the Central Informatics Organisation, a new system that depends on using the new techniques in securing the flexibility, speed and accuracy of service provision and launching new alternatives to old systems, in addition to providing a wide-ranged data base instead of the traditional storing of documents and important data in old paper systems.

This step comes as a part of the directorate's efforts to provide more improved services and facilitate procedures for clients through the use of the most advanced methods.

Mr Thabet Al Sherouki, head of the Electronic Frontier Division in nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs spoke recently to Al Amn Magazine saying: "This system will replace the old system for issuing visas which lasted for 29 years from 1985 till 2014, a matter that required shifting to another new phase to cope with the age of technology and that’s why a committee was formed 4 years ago headed by Shaikh Ahmed bin Isa Al Khalifa, assistant undersecretary of Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs to lead an integrated team work to study the systems and bring out a new plan for new systems in cooperation with the Central Informatics Organization starting by launching the system of BBR”.

Package of services to come

He also said that many developed systems will be launched during 2014, which will reduce work with paper documents to the minimum.

He indicated that new systems will link between Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs and governmental authorities to form an integrated system to bring out required information from its sources electronically and directly while delivering services such as issuance and extension of visas, renewal of passports, submitting family requests via the electronic passport system, in addition to enable the embassies of Bahrain abroad to issue direct visas without going back to the directorate in Bahrain via ministry of foreign affairs.

Renewal of passports electronically

Al Sherouki added that renewal of visas electronically is one of the newest services available, as a citizen will be allowed to renew his passport through the new system by submitting a personal or family request, he can also define the branch which he will receive his service from, this after a prior registry through the electronic key system defined for the service.

He said that there are two parties responsible for accomplishing the service, the employee and the beneficiary of the service. He added: " I can confirm that there is an improvement occurred in the service as a response to the directives of HE Shaikh Rashid bin Khalifa Al Khalifa, undersecretary of MOI for Nationality, Passports and Residence Affairs, which urged for speed and accuracy and by adding the monitoring service through text message, upon the recommendations from the Council of Representatives and as an implementation to the directives of HRH Prime Minister, to put the owner of request in the picture and inform him to receive his
request, followed by another text message after the accomplishment of his service, informing him to attend to receive his passport.

He added; "as for the administrative side, the new system will enable to follow up all services internally to track the course of the service and to know the reason of delay if occurred, a matter which encourages employees to work hard, as long as they are responsible".

W H Q

BNA 1309 GMT 2014/07/15

http://businessdayonline.com/2014/07/insecurity-and-need-for-automated-access-control-in-nigerian-ports/#.U89KiaT261s

146. Insecurity and need for automated access control in Nigerian ports

July 16, 2014 | Filed under: Maritime | Author: Uzoamaka Anagor

The rising security concerns in the country occasioned by terrorist activities point to the need for all sectors of the economy, especially the port industry, to put measures in place to stem the tide of insecurity within their domain.

Nigerian seaports are currently confronted with huge security challenges, one of which has been as a result of the uncontrolled human traffic in and out of the ports. This is one of the major reasons the United States Coast Guard (USCG) recently imposed Condition of Entry (CoE) on Nigerian ships originating from all the port facilities tagged non-compliant to the International Maritime Organisation’s (IMO) International Ships and Ports Facility Security (ISPS) Code. The ISPS Code was developed to stem the activities of terrorism within the seaport environment.

Over the years the Nigeria Ports Authority (NPA) has been working endlessly to install an automated access control for the port industry, which is yet to be completed. It is meant to effectively control exit and entry into the ports.

Henry Ajatumobi, pioneer president, Port Facility Security Officer’s Forum (PFSO), said, “Nigeria is laid back in her attitude to security issues, and this is why the seaports have become porous beyond the internationally acceptable standards.”

Ajatumobi, who spoke to BusinessDay on the sidelines of the 10th anniversary of ISPS Code implementation in Nigeria, said the NPA in the past started with the installation of automated access control gate in the eastern ports, which no longer existed due to poor maintenance of the facility.

He advised that Nigeria should put innovative security measures in place, adding that ISPS Code challenged every maritime nation to continue to evaluate, review and assess their security strength within their immediate environment, something that Nigeria must do to avoid being left behind.

The recent blast near Folawiyo Jetty in Apapa, Lagos, which Boko Haram has claimed responsibility for, and which experts say was intended to destroy Nigeria’s major seaports (Apapa and Tin-Can Island), is a wake-up call pointing to the need to tighten security measures around the port city to avert great damage to the multi-billion dollar investment in the supply chain business. It is expected that an automated access control system would deny access into the ports to unwanted persons who have no business in there.
BusinessDay findings show that an automated gate system to control access in and out of Nigerian seaports would help in positioning the nation to compete favourably in an increasingly competitive market, where importers and port users require logistics solutions that would fast-track cargo delivery and reduce costs of doing business.

Also, access control will help in reducing waiting time of vessels, cargoes and trucks, thereby resulting in faster turnaround time. It will also reduce the rate of corruption at the port gates where it is alleged that NPA officials extort money from truck drivers before granting them access in and out of the ports.

“This also points to the need for Nigeria to up its investment portfolio in the port as an automated gate system would result to improvement in the port infrastructure that would also strengthen the port-side logistics required to support increased cargo volume,” said Tony Anakebe, a maritime analyst.

Anakebe said this would also usher in technologies that would manage gate operations for trucks, ensuring that all containers and trucks are automatically identified before entering or exiting any of the port terminals. It would also involve cameras that capture the truck registration and container identification numbers, he said.

Uzoamaka Anagor

147.M2SYS announces FBI PIV certification for fingerprint/vein reader

M2SYS Technology has announced that its M2-FuseID smart fingerprint (and vein) reader has received FBI Personal Identity Verification (PIV) certification. FBI PIV certification is viewed by the industry as a key characteristic to provide assurance to end users of biometric identification management systems that a product meets or exceeds FBI interoperability standards and quality specifications for civil ID and other commercial applications.

M2-FuseID is claimed to offer optimal security, reliability, and accuracy with sophisticated liveness detection to prevent spoofing and fraud. In addition to capturing a 500 dpi fingerprint image, the device concurrently captures the unique finger vein pattern inside the finger to ensure near 100% enrollment rates and accurate identification through smart scanning technology.

According to the company, the M2-FuseID reader is ideal for biometric data capture, identification, and verification in civil ID, banking/financial services, and other markets that require high levels of security and accuracy

148.Receives New Design and Contactless Technology

July 15, 2014, Volume 61, No. 01
Starting this month, the University will introduce a new look and contactless technology to the PennCard—the official University ID. Newly issued PennCards will now have an embedded chip and antenna, in addition to the magnetic strip, which transmits the Penn ID when held within a few inches of a card reader.

The new cards will have the same functionality (door access, dining dollar$ and meal swipes, time and attendance tracking, PennCash, etc.). In addition, it is anticipated that the underlying technology will allow the cards to have additional uses in the future.

All newly issued and replacement PennCards will feature the updated design and integrate contactless technology.

- See more at: http://www.upenn.edu/almanac/volumes/v61/n01/penncardnewdesign.html#sthash.N6PiOWIk.dpuf


149. ProPay Launches TSYS Guardian CyberShield in Partnership with ThreatMetrix to Provide Advanced Fraud Prevention Solutions

LEHI, Utah, and COLUMBUS, Ga., July 15, 2014 — ProPay®, a TSYS® company, announced today a partnership with ThreatMetrix® to provide advanced fraud prevention solutions to its customers. Through this partnership, ProPay customers can have access to state-of-the-art tools to help protect them against cybercriminals. The solution — a cloud-based, real-time identity verification tool — helps validate returning customers and prospects, while protecting a wide range of transactions, including account creation, login authentication, and payment authorization.

TSYS Guardian CyberShield™, powered by ThreatMetrix, effectively differentiates between legitimate customers and potential fraudsters by leveraging the rich data and analytics in the ThreatMetrix® Global Trust Intelligence Network (The Network). This provides TSYS Guardian CyberShield access to the largest trusted identity network of shared intelligence, and provides insight into positive and negative behavior and threat intelligence — for both online personas and devices — using trust-based authentication. The Network sees more than 500 million monthly transactions, and protects more than 160 million active user accounts, 2,500 customers and 10,000 websites.

The Network empowers businesses to analyze the digital personas of website visitors in real time — including their previous online behaviors and transactions — before authorizing an online transaction. By doing so, TSYS Guardian CyberShield helps businesses reduce friction and arduous screening for legitimate returning online customers, while stopping cybercriminals in their tracks.

"We're pleased to begin offering our customers more sophisticated fraud prevention and detection tools,” said Greg Pesci, president of ProPay. “The TSYS Guardian CyberShield, powered by ThreatMetrix, is just another example of our desire to provide a suite of payment solutions that allows our customers to focus on running their businesses while protecting against fraudsters.”

"While many businesses are challenged with determining whether or not an online transaction, account login or other activity is fraudulent, The Network provides TSYS Guardian CyberShield the capability to identify high-risk transactions in real time without disrupting the online experience of trusted customers,” said Bert Rankin, chief marketing officer of ThreatMetrix. "We're thrilled to partner with TSYS and ProPay to provide the most comprehensive fraud prevention solution on the market to a growing customer base.”
About ProPay
Since 1997, ProPay has provided simple, secure and affordable payment solutions for organizations ranging from the small, home-based entrepreneur to multi-billion-dollar enterprises. ProPay is a leading provider of complete end-to-end payment security solutions designed to significantly reduce the client organization's risk of having sensitive payment data compromised. ProPay is the recipient of the prestigious 2010 ETA ISO of the Year award. ProPay is a wholly owned subsidiary of TSYS (NYSE: TSS) and is a leader in payment data security. For information, visit www.propay.com or call 888.227.9856.

About TSYS
At TSYS® (NYSE: TSS), we believe payments should revolve around people, not the other way around. We call this belief “People-Centered Payments”. By putting people at the center of every decision we make, TSYS supports financial institutions, businesses and governments in more than 80 countries. Through NetSpend®, A TSYS Company, we empower consumers with the convenience, security, and freedom to be self-banked. TSYS offers issuer services and merchant payment acceptance for credit, debit, prepaid, healthcare and business solutions.

TSYS' headquarters are located in Columbus, Ga., U.S.A., with local offices spread across the Americas, EMEA and Asia-Pacific. TSYS is a member of The Civic 50 and was named one of the 2013 World's Most Ethical Companies by Ethisphere magazine. TSYS routinely posts all important information on its website. For more, please visit us at www.tsys.com.

About ThreatMetrix
ThreatMetrix builds trust on the Internet by offering market-leading advanced fraud prevention and frictionless context-based security solutions. These solutions authenticate consumer and workforce access to mission-critical applications using real-time identity and access analytics that leverage the world's largest trusted identity network.

ThreatMetrix secures enterprise applications against account takeover, payment fraud, fraudulent account registrations, malware, and data breaches. Underpinning the solution is the ThreatMetrix® Global Trust Intelligence Network, which analyzes over 500 million monthly transactions and protects more than 160 million active user accounts across 2,500 customers and 10,000 websites.

The ThreatMetrix solution is deployed across a variety of industries, including financial services, enterprise, e-commerce, payments, social networks, government and insurance. For more information, visit www.threatmetrix.com or call 1-408-200-5755.

Join the cybersecurity conversation by visiting the ThreatMetrix blog, Facebook, LinkedIn, and Twitter pages.

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Gemalto, Datacard, and Morpho ranked in the top three positions within ABI Research’s latest “Government & Healthcare ID: Smart Card and Legacy Credentials” Competitive Assessment. The assessment consists of 1H 2013 smart card market shares alongside a vendor matrix where the top smart card and legacy credential ecosystem players were measured against a set of Innovation and Implementation criteria.

Gemalto, ranked in first position, continues to develop innovative solutions to maintain its strong market presence. Most recently it released its identity as a service solution, likely to have an impact on the government ID market as governments increasingly look towards federations to provide secure online identities. Gemalto already has a substantial global reach and penetration with respectively over 25 and 16 e-passport and national ID references to date. Gemalto is now looking to continue its expansion into other fast growing verticals, most notably developing improved solutions for use within the border control market.

Datacard placed in second position. Through its own core business and distribution channels, Datacard has amassed an impressive global reach, penetrating up to 40% of all ongoing government ID projects with its solutions. Its latest acquisition, Entrust, will provide Datacard the ability to bring further complimentary solutions to its product portfolio including federated identity, mobile ID and extended PKI functionality.

Third position was awarded to Morpho. With an already strong market presence, Morpho is now looking to extend its market reach and product functionality through positioning in the various influencing groups and working alliances. Most recently Morpho joined the OSPT Alliance and the Secure Identity Alliance as it looks toward a future market more focused on multi-application enablement and market convergence.

Research analyst, Phil Sealy comments, “An important aspect of this Competitive Assessment was evaluating each vendor’s multi-application, convergence and digitized authentication solutions. Governments are increasingly looking towards the leveraging of credentials already in circulation to enable secure online authentication capabilities for citizen access to various services. This is fast becoming an important aspect within the government ID market as governments will inevitably begin shifting focus in the direction of identity reuse across online platforms and the enablement of more applications, whether that be encompassing transportation, travel, e-purse, social security or welfare applications via ID credentials.”
These findings are part of ABI Research’s Government & Healthcare ID Technologies Market Research.

ABI Research provides in-depth analysis and quantitative forecasting of trends in global connectivity and other emerging technologies. From offices in North America, Europe and Asia, ABI Research’s worldwide team of experts advises thousands of decision makers through 70+ research and advisory services. Est. 1990. For more information visit www.abiresearch.com or call +1.516.624.2500


151. New restrictions on state ID cards take effect

CAPE GIRARDEAU, MO (KFVS) - New federal regulations went into effect on Monday that change how the government treats ID cards for some states.

The REAL ID Act, passed by Congress in 2005, entered its next phase of enforcement. The Act is managed by the Department of Homeland Security as a way to standardize information collected by states before issuing IDs.

Law makers in some states felt the federal mandate violated privacy rights. Thirty-six states and provinces are currently not in compliance with the federal law. Some of those states have extensions granted by the DHS meaning they have more time to take measures to adhere to regulations.

In 2009 Missouri legislators took legal measures to ensure Missouri ID laws do not adhere to the REAL ID Act. A state statute mandates, “the department of revenue shall not amend procedures for applying for a driver's license or identification card in order to comply with the goals or standards of the federal REAL ID Act of 2005.”

"It really is a game of chicken between the states and the federal government," said Stoddard County Prosecuting Attorney Russ Oliver. "The federal government keeps saying you have to get it done by this date. The states say no were not going to do that."

Oliver served as an independent attorney for a case involving conceal and carry rights and the REAL ID Act in 2013.

"There are so many states refusing to comply that it is making it very difficult for the government to enforce it," Oliver said.

For the average driver license holder, not much will change right now. Those holding non-compliant state ID's will not be able to use those cards to enter "restricted areas for all Federal facilities and for nuclear power plants" according to the DHS website.

The next phase of the four phase plan will go into full enforcement on January 19, 2015. Following that date, the DHS says it will evaluate the progress states have made toward compliance. For states still not in compliance, the department plans to no longer accept those IDs for air travel. That means travels could need a second form of ID to get through airport security. That is set to take effect no later than 2016.

Here’s a breakdown of Heartland state’s compliance:

- Missouri: non-compliant, granted extension
Illinois: fully compliant
Tennessee: fully compliant
Kentucky: non-compliant

http://www.biometricupdate.com/201407/russia-mp-proposes-to-enforce-universal-fingerprinting-for-all-international-visitors

152. Russia MP proposes to enforce universal fingerprinting for all international visitors

By Stephen Mayhew Tweet

July 21, 2014 -

A Russian MP is preparing a new bill that will recommend new security measures to make it mandatory for all international visitors to be fingerprinted on arrival in Russia and have the information stored in a single database, according to a report by RT.com.

In his drafted bill amending the Federal Law on the Legal Status of Foreign Citizens in the Russian Federation, Mikhail Serdyuk of the Fair Russia parliamentary caucus suggests that all international visitors of the country should be photographed and fingerprinted.

The draft states, “Fingerprinting would add to the greater security of Russian citizens and [its] guests alike, and also render serious help to the Interior Ministry in identifying people and preventing and solving crime”.

According to Serdyuk, the proposed security measures would put a stop to those people who are banned from entering the country to bypass border controls by using fraudulent documents or other personal information.

“When a person gets fingerprinted at the border, this immediately makes reputation important – he or she will understand that special services are filing data in special dossiers and their reputation can be compromised only once,” Serdyuk said in an interview with newspaper Izvestia.

A similar call for added security measures was first introduced a few years ago by the head of the investigative committee Aleksandr Bastrykin, who could not get his procedure implemented as a result of the costly equipment that needed to be installed at all border crossings.

Additionally, Roman Khudyakov, an MP from the populist nationalist party LDPR presented a bill about a year ago that ordered that all people registering in a city or town should be fingerprinted and have their data stored in a single database. His bill has yet to be considered by the parliament.
Self-regulation is one of the instruments of the European Strategy to create a better Internet for Children. In order to ensure that children, parents and teachers have access to the right tools and information for a safe use of the internet and new technologies, we support industry self-regulation. This enables industry to create a system by which they can deal rapidly with any security challenges that may arise.

Some self-regulatory initiatives have already been taken, with our support, by the industry at European level.

CEO coalition to make the Internet a better place for kids

The CEO coalition, launched in December 2011, is a cooperative voluntary intervention designed to respond to emerging challenges arising from the diverse ways in which young Europeans go online. Companies signatories to the Coalition committed to take positive action to make the internet a safer place for kids.

Companies signatories to the Coalition committed to take positive action throughout 2012 in 5 areas:

1. Simple and robust reporting tools for users
2. Age-appropriate privacy settings
3. Wider use of content classification
4. Wider availability and use of parental controls
5. Effective takedown of child sexual abuse material

The work plan of the Coalition, annexed to the Statement of Purpose, contains deadlines and performance indicators for each of these action points. One year after its launch, the CEO Coalition has made its first recommendations to make the internet a better and safer place for kids.

Signatory companies: Apple, BSkyB, BT, Dailymotion, Deutsche Telekom, Facebook, France Telecom - Orange, Google, Hyves, KPN, Liberty Global, LG Electronics, Mediaset, Microsoft, Netlog, Nintendo, Nokia, Opera Software, Research In Motion, RTL Group, Samsung, Skyrock, Stardoll, Sulake, Telefonica, TeliaSonera, Telecom Italia, Telenor Group, Tuenti, Vivendi and Vodafone.

The Safer Social Networking Principles for the EU

The Safer Social Networking Principles are a self-regulatory agreement signed by the major social networking services providers active in Europe, which have committed to implement measures to ensure the safety of minors on their services.

The adoption of the Principles is the result of the Social Networking Task Force, convened in 2008. 18 of Europe's major social networks as well as researchers and child welfare organizations were invited to discuss ways to improve the safety of children using social networks. The objective was the development of a set of guidelines for use of social networks by youngsters, to be adopted voluntarily by the European industry.
A commitment was reached to set guiding principles for safer social networking, which have been signed by 21 companies.

The full text of the Safer Social Networking Principles can be found here.

**European Framework for Safer Mobile Use by Younger Teenagers and Children**

The European Framework is the result of discussions held in a High Level Group, which sets out a series of measures the signatories commit to implement on their services throughout Europe, including:

- access control for adult content;
- awareness raising campaigns for parents and children
- the classification of commercial content according to national standards of decency and appropriateness
- the fight against illegal content on mobiles.

National codes have been signed also based on the European Framework

http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/l/2097/

**154. New biometric tests determine how well faces can be identified in videos**

The US National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) is to conduct new tests that will assess the capability of face recognition algorithms to correctly identify or ignore people appearing in video sequences.

The tests - Face in Video Evaluation (FIVE) – will assess both comparative and absolute accuracy measures. The goals are to determine which algorithms are most effective and whether any are viable for the following primary operational use-cases:

- high volume screening of people in the crowded spaces (e.g. an airport);
- low volume forensic examination of footage from a crime scene (e.g. a convenience store);
- people in business meetings (e.g. for video-conferencing);
- people appearing in television footage.

According to NIST these applications differ in their tolerance of false positives, whether a human examiner will review outputs, the prior probabilities of mate vs. non-mate presence, and the cost of recognition errors.

This test follows on from the Face Recognition Vendor Tests of 2000, 2002, 2006, 2010, and 2013. These tests gave quantitative statements of accuracy and speed of mostly still-image face recognition algorithms. The last test included a video track (FRVT class V) – results from that work are being provided to participants.

The new FIVE program supersedes the FRVT work but proceeds in an almost identical manner.

Software submitted to NIST will be evaluated on sequestered sets to quantify accuracy and speed. Algorithms must be implemented behind the formal C++ API to be published by NIST. This will be very similar to the API used in the prior FRVT evaluation. The test will be conducted over at least three iterative cooperative test-report-test phases engaging algorithm developers. This process will culminate in the publication of reports.
The program will leverage several archival video corpora that are sequestered at NIST. Each includes subjects who are generally neither cooperative nor actively uncooperative. The datasets have in-common that several subjects are usually present in any given sequence, that only one fixed camera observes them, and that frontal views are the exception rather than the norm. The datasets vary in terms of camera quality, video quality, compression and pedestrian motion. Video imagery will primarily be compared with enrolled still-image datasets (video-to-still) of varying size and quality, and for which one or more views of a subject will be available. In addition, still-to-video and video-to-video tests will be executed.

None of the test data can be provided to participants. Instead prospective participants are being advised to leverage public domain and proprietary datasets as available.

The FIVE activity is expected to give quantitative support to the development of the ISO/IEC 30137 multipart standard that has recently been initiated in the SC37 Biometrics Subcommittee. Particularly, Working Group 5 there is developing a performance testing and reporting standard for video-surveillance systems. Working Group 4 is formulating recommendations for the design and specification of such systems. Finally Working Group 3 is considering biometric data needs layered on top of existing video interchange standards e.g. ISO/IEC 22311:2012.

**Important Dates:**

August 15 – October 30: API publication and public comment periods

November 17 – January 8: Phase 1 algorithm submission period

Spring 2015 – Phase 2 submission period

Summer 2015 – Phase 3 submission period


**155.Biometrics Please! Automated Border Controls & Data Protection Obligations**

Blog Administrator

*Diana Dimitrova*, a legal researcher at ICRI, KU Leuven, focuses on privacy, data protection, and border control in the framework of the *FastPass* project. In this post she argues that the automation of border control in the EU increases the data protection obligations of the respective authorities and necessitates legislative changes.

Most Member States of the EU are members of the Schengen Area. In other words, they must carry out border checks in accordance with the Schengen Borders Code (SBC). The check includes, *inter alia*, the presentation of a travel document and establishment of link between the travel document and the passenger (i.e. identity verification). The nature of this verification, however, changes when the process is automated.
Recently, border control has become increasingly automated. For example, when flying in and out of the Schengen Area, but also in and out of the UK, there are e-Gates for Automated Border Control (ABC). Although ABC is implemented differently across the EU, e-Gates usually allow passengers to scan their passports and to present their face, fingerprints or even iris for identity verification. These are called biometric identifiers.

**Processing sensitive personal data at borders**

ABC results in the automated processing of (biometric) data and thus brings along more responsibilities to the respective authorities as controllers of passenger data.

Biometrics constitute personal data and tend to be treated as sensitive due to the unique information they contain (see *S and Marper vs UK judgment* and *Article 29 Working Party*). Their processing in the border control context raises certain privacy and data protection issues, which have not been sufficiently debated.

The *Schwarz* judgment by the Court of Justice of the European Union (CJEU) ruled that including fingerprints in the chip of the biometric passports of EU citizens pursues the legitimate aim of preventing illegal entry into the EU. In his opinion, Advocate General Mengozzi however argued that fingerprint verification of EU citizens at the external borders of the EU is supposed to be done only non-systematically, i.e. only when doubts exist as to whether the passport belongs to the passenger presenting it.

They might make things faster, but are they adequately protecting our data?

photo by Terence T.S. Tam CC BY-NC-SA 2.0

**Biometrics automate the identity check**

Whereas in manual border control the border guard visually compares the picture with the passenger, in ABC this verification is automated. As explained above, most EU e-passports contain a chip with 2 fingerprints and/or facial image. At e-Gates a live scan of the biometric identifier(s) is taken and compared to the biometric(s) on the passport chip. Alternatively, the passenger can pre-register (in a Registered Traveller Programme (RTP)). In that case, the biometric data can be stored on a central database, as in the PARAFE programme for non-French citizens in France and the discontinued IRIS in the UK, or on a card as in the PRIVIUM system used at Schiphol in the Netherlands.
When data are automatically processed, as by ABC, certain privacy and data protection principles and provisions have to be observed. According to EU and national data protection laws, sensitive data enjoy stricter protection due to the higher risks they pose to individuals, for example inaccurate matching on the basis of which decisions against individuals could be taken.

**Recommendations for handling personal data processed by ABC**

Considering that ABC has implications for border agencies as controllers of personal data that is automatically processed, the processes should be compatible with the applicable data protection framework. Therefore, I propose some recommendations for ABC derived from Art. 8 European Convention of Human Rights (ECHR), Art. 7 and 8 Charter of Fundamental Rights of the EU (CFREU), Directive 95/46/EC on data protection, as well as the case-law of the Strasbourg and Luxembourg Courts.

As with the collection of any personal data, ABC should pursue a legitimate aim. It is argued that ABC is needed to speed up border control and reduce queues. Effective border management could be a legitimate goal for ABC. Still, the means to achieve it have to be (1) based in a law which is sufficiently precise to prevent against arbitrary (mis)use of the data; (2) necessary to achieve the aim, i.e. adequate to achieving the aim, not simply contributing towards it; and (3) proportionate, i.e. the least intrusive means of achieving the goal. This means that if there are other means to achieve effective border management, which entail fewer risks for passengers, these should be preferred. The purpose is to balance the risks for passengers against the benefits of the system.

Once the necessity and proportionality are motivated, the following non-exhaustive list of measures should be taken:

- A law on ABC with sufficient safeguards for passengers should be passed, as currently the SBC regulates border checks as performed by border guards, not by automated gates (See Articles 7 and 15). In addition, it has to be clarified in how far the e-Passport Regulation allows the processing of the biometric identifiers on the chip of the passport on a more regular basis (cfr AG opinion in Schwarz).
- For those using the Registered Travellers Programme, the enrolled biometrics should preferably be stored on a token in the possession of the traveller such as in the PRIVIUM system instead on a central database. If a database is established, verification (1:1 matching) should be preferred over identification (1:n matching) and verification should ensure accurate matching (data accuracy).
- The live biometrics presented for verification at the e-Gate should not be stored on a central database, as this might lead to function creep, if, for instance, the law enforcement authorities gain systematic access to it a real and present interest, answering a pressing social need, should be demonstrated to access such data.
- The security of data processed by ABC should be ensured against attacks such as hacking, eavesdropping, skimming.
Clear information should be provided to all users about the processing of their data, including at least the identity of the controller, the purposes of the processing, categories of data, and how travellers can exercise their rights.

Thus, legislators should ensure a proper legal basis for ABC, while the responsible authorities for border checks should, as data controllers, ensure compliance with privacy and data protection principles and rules.

This post gives the views of the author, and does not represent the position of the LSE Media Policy Project blog, nor of the London School of Economics


156.TSYS Receives 2013 Corporate Social Responsibility Leadership Award

COLUMBUS, Ga., July 21, 2014 — TSYS (NYSE: TSS) announced today that it has received the 2013 Corporate Social Responsibility Leadership Award from the Financial Services Roundtable (FSR).

Recognized by Financial Services Roundtable for commitment to volunteerism, community service and financial literacy

COLUMBUS, Ga., July 21, 2014 — TSYS (NYSE: TSS) announced today that it has received the 2013 Corporate Social Responsibility Leadership Award from the Financial Services Roundtable (FSR).

FSR is the leading advocacy organization for America’s financial services industry. With a 100-year tradition of service and accomplishment, FSR is a dynamic, forward-looking association advocating for the top financial services companies, keeping them informed on the vital policy and regulatory matters that impact their business.

"At TSYS, supporting our community and improving the lives of its citizens is a core part of our People-Centered Payments brand. We encourage our team members — including myself and our top leadership — to take an active role in their communities," said M. Troy Woods, president and chief operating officer, TSYS. "It is an honor to be recognized by the Financial Services Roundtable, and we are pleased that our efforts are making a difference."

The Corporate Social Responsibility Leadership Award shows appreciation and encouragement to employees of FSR member companies for their commitment to volunteerism, community service and financial literacy. All member companies are eligible and there are no nominations. The award is based on quarterly submissions of community service data, financial literacy projects, "Company of the Week" submissions and leadership at the top.

Of the 23 companies to win the award, TSYS is the only payments processing company to receive this honor. TSYS will accept the award at a reception on July 22, 2014, in Washington D.C.

About TSYS

At TSYS® (NYSE: TSS), we believe payments should revolve around people, not the other way around. We call this belief "People-Centered Payments®." By putting people at the center of every decision we make,
TSYS supports financial institutions, businesses and governments in more than 80 countries. Through NetSpend®, a TSYS Company, we empower consumers with the convenience, security, and freedom to be self-banked. TSYS offers issuer services and merchant payment acceptance for credit, debit, prepaid, healthcare and business solutions.

TSYS’ headquarters are located in Columbus, Ga., U.S.A., with local offices spread across the Americas, EMEA and Asia-Pacific. TSYS is a member of The Civic 50 and was named one of the 2013 World’s Most Ethical Companies by Ethisphere magazine. TSYS routinely posts all important information on its website. For more, please visit us at www.tsys.com.

News Group : International 2
Date : 2014/08/13

SANA’A, Aug. 11—The Defense Ministry on Sunday gave orders to ban the use of old identity cards from October 2014 onward, according to Jamal Al-Qeiz, head of the Security Department of the Defense Ministry. It thereby reinforces a cabinet decision made in April that requires all Yemeni citizens to obtain new identity cards by October.

Contrary to conventional identity cards, for which only paper records are stored, new identity cards can be scanned and the information will be stored electronically.

In an attempt to ensure the timely implementation of the cabinet’s orders, Al-Qeiz said that “soldiers and Defense Ministry personnel will not get their salaries unless they obtain electronic IDs.”

While many Yemeni citizens are already in possession of the new identity cards, a large number of soldiers are currently still left with conventional paper documents, said Matash Mohammed Matash, director of the Morale Guidance and Public Relations Department in the Civil Status Authority.

Al-Qeiz emphasized the importance of banning the old identity cards among military personnel, arguing that “this step will reduce the financial and administrative corruption in the military.” He explicitly mentions phantom jobs, explaining that the new identity cards will facilitate the electronic storing of information on soldiers and high-ranking military personnel, making it impossible for them to be paid for several jobs simultaneously.
Matash explained that all old identity cards were originally supposed to be banned by 2008 but that the implementation of the decision was delayed due to “the current situation in the country.” He specified that electronic identity cards are valid for ten years and are issued for every Yemeni who is above 18 years of age.

The cabinet passed resolution No. 118 on April 4, requiring all Civil Status Authority personnel to end the validity of old identity cards and to issue new ones containing each citizen’s identification number by October.

The resolution further stated that transactions within government entities and public and private banks will not be valid unless electronic identity cards are used which include citizens’ identification numbers.


158.Biometrics Market in Latin America 2014-2018

LONDON, Aug. 12, 2014 /PRNewswire/ -- Reportbuyer.com has added a new market research report:

About Biometrics
Biometrics measure and analyze biological data. These systems capture biological traits such as fingerprints, facial patterns, irises, eye retinas, voice patterns, and hand measurements from the subject and compare the data with one or more stored templates. The main purpose of a biometrics system is to identify and verify the identity of a person. In this regard, the system can be either an identification or a verification system. In an identification system, a person’s identity can be determined even without the consent of the person. These systems are more often used in surveillance applications. In a verification system, biometrics verifies the person's identity. These systems are used in access control applications. TechNavio's analysts forecast the Biometrics market in Latin America will grow at a CAGR of 23.7 percent over the period 2013-2018.

Covered in this Report

This report covers the present scenario and the growth prospects of the Biometrics market in Latin America 2014-2018. To calculate the market size, the report considers the revenue generated from the sales of various biometric solutions available in the market.

TechNavio's report, the Biometrics market in Latin America 2014-2018, has been prepared based on an in-depth market analysis with inputs from industry experts. The report covers the Latin America region; it also covers the Biometrics market in Latin America market landscape and its growth prospects in the
coming years. The report also includes a discussion of the key vendors operating in this market.

**Key Countries**

- Argentina
- Brazil
- Mexico

**Key Vendors**

- 3M Cogent Inc.
- Lumidigm Inc.
- NEC Corp.
- Safran SA

**Other Prominent Vendors**

- Aware Inc.
- BIO-Key International Inc.
- Cognitec Systems GmbH
- Cross Match Technologies Inc.
- DigitalPersona Inc.
- Fujitsu Ltd.
- GAMASIS SA DE CV
- Griaule biometrics
- Innovatrics sro
- M2SYS LLC
- Neokoros TI LTDA
- Precise Biometrics Inc.
- Sixbell
- Suprema Inc.
- ZKTeco Inc.

**Key Market Driver**

- Increasing Importance for User Convenience
- For a full, detailed list, view our report

**Key Market Challenge**

- Slow ROI
- For a full, detailed list, view our report

**Key Market Trend**

- Increasing Mergers and Acquisitions
- For a full, detailed list, view our report

**Key Questions Answered in this Report**

- What will the market size be in 2018 and what will the growth rate be?
- What are the key market trends?
- What is driving this market?
- What are the challenges to market growth?
- Who are the key vendors in this market space?
- What are the market opportunities and threats faced by the key vendors?
- What are the strengths and weaknesses of the key vendors?

You can request one free hour of our analyst's time when you purchase this market report. Details are provided within the report.

http://www.zawya.com/story/Epassport_services_safe_fromHackers-ZAWYA20140813035456/

159.Epassport services 'safe from hackers'

Hackers will not be able to break into the Abshir system, said Maj. Gen. Suleiman Al-Yahya, director-general of the Passport Department, as he launched new online services, including an Abshir portal for extending visit visas of expat family members.

He said the department(8,17),(985,987) has issued more than 4.2 million exit and re-entry visas through the Abshir and Muqeem electronic systems since the beginning of this year.

Portals for Saudi passport renewal and iqama issuance were also launched on Monday.

“We have issued 20,000 passports and 300,000 iqamas, renewed 2.7 million iqamas and effected 165,000 transfer of service and 128,000 profession change transactions through our electronic services,” the passport chief said.

The launch of the new smart services coincides with the department's campaign to increase awareness about its electronic services.

According to the Passport Department, the new online campaign aims to inform users of its goal of becoming a paperless service by going online and thus having no residents come in person to get their paperwork done.

The department also urged Saudis and expatriates to make use of its e-services to save time and energy and
reduce congestion at the department's offices across the Kingdom.

People can register with the Abshir system by visiting one of the department's offices or using interactive machines available at banks such as Al-Rajhi, Samba, Riyad, NCB, Al-Jazira and Albilad, as well as at malls and international airports.

The e-government system in the Kingdom has paved the way for a paperless system, where updated information is available online and connected to mobile devices.


160. SeManTik” research project successfully completed: New test methods and simulation models for contactless eIDs set standards in international standardisation

Joint news release by the partners of the research project “SeManTik” (Bundesdruckerei, Infineon Technologies, Fraunhofer IZM)

Technology Media

August 12, 2014

Neubiberg and Berlin, 12 August 2014 – Electronic identity documents (eIDs) in the form of contactless smartcards will in future be more than just proof of identity. They could additionally serve as multi-functional cards that can be used in many other areas of everyday life: for instance, as a public transport ticket, as company ID or as a library card. This is indeed consumer-friendly, but will expose the smartcards to greater pressure than before. In order to adequately address new use scenarios already during the design phase of the smartcards and in order to enable better testing and assessment conditions, Bundesdruckerei GmbH, Infineon Technologies AG and the Fraunhofer Institute for Reliability and Microintegration IZM have joined forces as partners in the two-year SeManTik project (“Secure and long-life eID applications for human/machine interaction”). They developed realistic test methods and simulation models and explored new methods of integrating the chip into the card body.

Research results have convinced the smartcard industry and international standardisation bodies

More than 35,000 cards were packaged, tested, analysed and evaluated in 20 different test combinations. The new test sequences developed in the project made it possible to obtain extraordinarily reliable and precise confirmation of failure rates and patterns which have been observed in international smartcard projects with more than 50 million cards in day-to-day use. "In future, our research results from SeManTik will thus become part of the work of the international standardisation bodies of the smartcard industry and demonstrate Bundesdruckerei’s innovation leadership”, says Joachim Kloeser, chief project manager and coordinator at Bundesdruckerei. Thanks to SeManTik, card manufacturers can simulate the life of the documents better than before and adjust the design as required. "If contactless eIDs are to be used several times a day in future, they must withstand significantly greater stress than before”, says Peter Stampka, initiator and project manager at Infineon Technologies in Regensburg. "The results from SeManTik will help to improve the mechanical strength of contactless eIDs and are therefore also an important step towards achieving parity between the optical and electronic security of ID documents.” The SeManTik project was sponsored by the German Federal Ministry of Education and Research (BMBF) with €1.8m over a term of 2.5 years. The "human/machine interaction" research topic addresses new technologies in an interdisciplinary research and action plan. It focuses on technical innovation which, along with social innovation, responds to the special challenges facing society at times of demographic change. The expertise of the Federal Criminal Police Office for forensic and methodological analyses as well as the know-how of Specialty Films of Bayer MaterialScience AG in the field of substrate materials were also contributed towards the research work.

About Bundesdruckerei
Berlin-based Bundesdruckerei GmbH offers Full ID Management with system solutions and services for secure identification in both the analogue and digital world, and is one of the world’s leading companies operating in this field. Its portfolio ranges from data capture, management and encryption to the production of documents and verification devices right through to electronic border control solutions, software for high-security infrastructures, as well as complete passport and ID card systems. D-TRUST, Bundesdruckerei’s accredited trust service provider, is one of the few companies in Germany to offer sector-spanning solutions for qualified certificates, time stamps, authorisation certificates and eID services for the German ID card. Bundesdruckerei also produces banknotes, postage and revenue stamps as well as electronic publications. The Bundesdruckerei Group with its subsidiaries BIS Bundesdruckerei International Services GmbH, D-TRUST GmbH, Maurer Electronics GmbH and iNCO Sp. z o.o. employs a staff of around 2,100 worldwide. In the 2013 financial year, the Group generated revenue of EUR 398.3 million. Bundesdruckerei holds shares in DERMALOG Identification Systems GmbH, the world’s leading manufacturer of automated fingerprint identification systems with its headquarters in Hamburg, and in cryptovision GmbH which specialises in cryptographic methods. For more information, go to: www.bundesdruckerei.de

About Infineon

Infineon Technologies AG offers semiconductor and systems solutions addressing three central challenges to modern society: Energy efficiency, Mobility as well as Security. In the 2013 fiscal year (ending September 30), the company reported sales of EUR 3.84 billion with approximately 26,700 employees worldwide. Infineon is listed on the Frankfurt Stock Exchange (ticker symbol: IFX) and in the US on the over-the-counter market OTCQX International Premier (ticker symbol: IFNNY). For more information, go to: www.infineon.com

About Fraunhofer IZM

As part of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, Fraunhofer IZM specializes in applied and industrial contract research. Fraunhofer IZM’s focus is on packaging and joining technology and the integration of multifunctional electronics into systems. The institute has a staff of more than 300 and saw a turnover of €29m in 2013. The five Fraunhofer IZM departments promote internationally cutting-edge technology development. In key development topics, the Fraunhofer IZM researchers monitor and develop highly promising research and questions, paving the way for future projects with industry. For more information, go to: www.izm.fraunhofer.de

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Brits want biometric technology instead of passwords

30 July, 2014

By: Zack Martin

category: Biometrics, Financial

The embedded fingerprint scanner on the iPhone 5s has paved the way for greater acceptance of biometric technology, according to the Future Password Index from digital financial services provider Intelligent Environments.

Some 79% of Brits would ditch passwords in favor of biometric security measures like fingerprint scanners.

Fingerprint technology was voted as the most popular biometric method according to the new index and 53% of UK banking customers want banks to integrate fingerprint scanners into their digital banking services. The least popular method was found to be voice recognition, popular with 27% of customers.

The Future Password Index was determined from an online survey of 2,000 UK consumers, which was commissioned by Intelligent Environments following the company’s findings that 51% of UK banking customers expect their bank to introduce more innovative security measures.


Thumbs up for biometrics

30/07/14

New research from digital financial services provider Intelligent Environments has revealed that 79% of Brits are ready to ditch their passwords in favor of biometric security, such as fingerprints scanners.

Huge sales of Apple’s iPhone 5s are believed to have helped make biometric technology more popular with consumers, who have become accustomed to the Touch ID fingerprint scanner.

According to Intelligent Environments, iPhone 5s sales of more than 10 million have helped contribute to a major shift in consumer attitude towards biometrics, as consumers become used to its intuitive Touch ID fingerprint scanner, which is predicted to be incorporated into iPads shortly.

Fingerprint technology was voted the most popular biometric method, according to the new Future Password Index from Intelligent Environments. More than 50% of UK customers say they want their banks to integrate
fingerprints into their digital services. The least popular method was voice recognition – a technology which Barclays recently announced it will be introducing to its phone banking service over the next year – which got the vote of just 27% of customers.

The Future Password Index was compiled from an online survey of 2,000 UK consumers, which was commissioned by Intelligent Environments following the company’s findings that 51% of UK banking customers expect their bank to introduce more innovative security measures.

Clayton Locke, chief technology officer at Intelligent Environments, says: “In the battle of biometrics, it’s not surprising that fingerprint scanners come out on top as more people are getting used to them being built into mobile devices. But what the Future Password Index really reveals is the consumer demand for these technologies. Banks like Barclays are already looking at the future of passwords. Other UK banks need to start looking at how they can satisfy the rapidly escalating customer demand for biometrics by looking at implementing a range of options that best suit their customers’ needs.”

162. Nigeria’s Jonathan inaugurates new 64-page e-passport

Posted by: APA Posted date: July 31, 2014 at 9:46 am UTC 456 views In: politics

Nigerian President Goodluck Jonathan has urged Nigerians to protect the image of the country by shunning uncomplimentary statements and actions. Inaugurating the 64-page e-passport on Wednesday in Abuja, Jonathan said that the pages of the travelling document had to be increased from 32 to 64 pages to cater for frequent travellers who change their passport almost every other month because of limited pages for visa.

He urged officials of the Nigeria Immigration Service to protect the integrity of the passport by ensuring that it cannot be easily faked.

Jonathan also advised officials who man the nation’s airports to ensure that they conduct themselves in a manner that will portray the country well before visitors to the country.

The new passport, which takes effect from August 1, attracts a fee of about $1330.

Copyright: APA

163. Sri Lanka: Issuing National identity cards to the voters in the Uva province will be expedited

Issuing National identity cards to the voters in the Uva province will be expedited.
Department of registration of persons says a programme has been implemented to issue national identity cards to the voters in the Uva province without delay prior to the provincial council election. About 10,000 applications have already been received by the department. NICs for these applicants will be issued before the end of next month.

Meanwhile, the department requests the relevant principals and parents to send the relevant NIC application forms of their students who will sit for the GCE A-Level examination this year. About 150,000 more applications are to be received by the department. The applicants who have not yet received NICs should get the details by dialing the hotline 0112585043.


IDEX wins first touch fingerprint sensor design win from a second tier Asian mobile OEM

Published on 12 August 2014

IDEX announces the first design win for its new mobile touch fingerprint sensor. An Asian second tier mobile OEM has selected IDEX for its smartphone flagship model with a launch date scheduled for the fourth quarter of 2014. In line with industry practice, the OEM wishes to remain undisclosed at this stage.

“IDEX has been focussing on commercialising our best-in-class fingerprint sensor technology and leveraging our strong IP for the mobile mass market. We have recently launched and sampled mobile device customers with our swipe sensor and first generation touch sensors and these sensors have received very high interest. Our products are now being evaluated by several mobile OEMs,” said Dr. Hemant Mardia, CEO of IDEX. “IDEX is seeing strong demand for small area touch sensor solutions to implement into new flagship mobile device programmes. OEMs are focussed on the user experience afforded by small touch sensors. This design win represents the first commercial selection of IDEX sensors for a smartphone program and is a very important milestone in our business progression,” he added.

To support these products into commercial volumes, IDEX has implemented a high-volume manufacturing and supply capability with its partner CrucialTec, who is a leading established fingerprint sensor module integrator for the mobile device industry.

Note: A design win is the decision by an OEM device vendor to incorporate an IDEX sensor component or technology in a product development for a commercial model or models. The IDEX sensor solution is scheduled to be included in the product providing the customer proceeds to launch the device in the market.
The biometrics industry has been promoting its technology as an ideal replacement for "tired-old, easy-to-forget" passwords for decades.

Of course, something as big as password replacement was never going to be that easy to achieve - and to be frank, the technology probably wasn't good enough in those early days. (Actually, while the technology and underpinning software is vastly improved today, and multifactor authentication using personal devices seems to be the order of the day, we still believe that liveness detection must be made better if the industry is to be able to hold its head high.)

But with continual news of stolen username/password data, plus the requirement for users to dream up, and remember, literally dozens of passwords on a frequent basis - there is a distinct groundswell of opinion that something must be done to improve the current unsatisfactory situation.

Just this week it has been revealed that a Russian group has hacked 1.2 billion usernames and passwords belonging to more than 500 million email addresses. Would more widespread use of biometrics have prevented or at least diminished this sort of hack?

Certainly it seems the public is ready for a change. We report this week that some 79% of Brits are ready to ditch their passwords in favour of biometric security, such as fingerprint scanners. Underpinning this shift in attitude are factors such as the huge sales of Apple’s iPhone 5s, which has acclimatised consumers with its Touch ID fingerprint scanner.

Meanwhile, there is a powerful movement happening in the guise of the FIDO Alliance. Its impressive list of members is growing by the week, and the aim is to enable strong authentication technologies such as biometrics to be used as a password replacement online.

Let's be clear, it is unlikely the password will ever disappear completely - and it has some very strong attributes - but times are changing and the biometrics industry will play a major role.


166. U.S. government adding biometric files to terrorism database

The U.S. government, with help from the CIA, is currently looking to obtain biometric data of some 1.1 million known or suspected terrorists, according to secret U.S. government documents obtained by online magazine The Intercept.

The enormous database also contains the names of about 25,000 Americans or legal residents, which account for about 2 percent of the total number of known or suspected terrorists, according to a report in the Washington Post.

The documents reveal that analysts have already updated the database with 730,000 biometric files, which include fingerprints, iris scans and facial photographs.

As of the end of 2013, the database had 860,000 biometric files in connection to 144,000 people.

According to The Intercept, the government collected biometric data from U.S. driver’s licenses last year, which included 2,400 images that were provided and uploaded to the database.
Dubbed the Terrorist Identities Datamart Environment (TIDE), the database was created after the 9/11 terrorist attacks to support the watchlisting system and ultimately serve as a key tool in the U.S.’s counterterrorism defenses.

In addition to fingerprints, iris scans and facial images, the government has included in the database more non-traditional biometric datafields, such as handwriting, signatures, scars, tattoos and DNA strands.

167. Georgian citizens living abroad to be able to obtain biometric passports

Biometric passports will be issued also for the Georgian citizens living abroad, according to the joint statement of the Georgian Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Justice Ministry. "In accordance with the Action Plan on liberalization of the visa regime with the European Union the complete replacement non-biometric passports with biometric is one of the commitments of Georgia. It should be noted that such passports are already issued on the territory of Georgia. Consequently, the transition of diplomatic representations and consular offices of Georgia abroad for the issuance of biometric passports is on the agenda," the statement said.

At present, the final inspection of hardware and software of diplomatic missions and consular offices of Georgia abroad and retraining of staff in this area are being conducted, and therefore admission of applications of for hanging passports at the consulates of Georgia suspended until August 10, 2014 in this regard.

From Aug.10, the acceptance of applications will be resumed and the issuance of only biometric passports will be started at the diplomatic missions and consular offices of Georgia. In accordance with the law, the issuance of non-biometric passports will be possible only if, based on the health status of a citizen of Georgia, it is impossible to obtain biometric data, the statement noted.

Edited by CN

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Date : 2014/08/20

http://www.biztechafrique.com/article/osun-partners-chams-biometric-identification-smart/8598/#.U_brJaT261s

168. Osun partners Chams on biometric identification, smart ID card

GOVERNMENT
| Aug. 13, 2014, 8:09 p.m.

Image: By BiztechAfrica
Determined to use technology to improve planning, allocation of resources and service delivery in its education sector, Osun State government has unveiled what it said is first-of-its-kind smart identity card with biometric features was launched for all public school students in the state.

The launch of the initiative took place at Salvation Army School, Alekuwodo, Oshogbo, Osun State. An initiative of Chams Plc, the smart ID card is linked back to a central database which provides the government of the State of Osun with accurate and reliable data on the identity and number students attending public schools in the state.

Speaking on the occasion, the state governor, Ogbeni Rauf Aregbesola, said: “In the history of human inventions, there are not too many inventions that are as useful as technology in terms of its efficiency and effectiveness at providing solutions to human problems. This is the reason why the government of the State of Osun adopted and is deploying technology as the solution to the legacy of inefficiency bequeathed to the civil service by past inept leaders. The Osun Student Smart ID card which is embedded with biometric features is also an ingenious technology solution that we have adopted to further raise the service delivery levels in the education sector.”

The governor added that with the card, each student is a unique and identifiable individual that cannot be mistaken for another person. “Effortlessly, government can identify all students in public schools, and have access to their information at the push of a button. It improves the effectiveness of life enriching programmes such as the O’Meals, O’Schools and Opon Imo, among other other innovations put in place for the welfare of students. The Smart Card makes tracking possible, implying that we are provided with more accurate information on the exact number of beneficiaries which eliminates fraud and accounting error of any type.

Commenting on the project, Deputy Governor of the state who is also the Commissioner for Education, Mr. Titilayo Laoye-Tomori, said: “This is indeed a significant milestone for the State of Osun because without accurate data, a holistic transformation of the education sector in Osun may remain elusive. Issuance of smart identity cards to all public school students will ensure that we have accurate data for use in updating our education strategy and sustain our pragmatic work-plan to ensure overall policy success. In no small measure, the smart identity card will also ensure accountability to government by students of public school as it makes it possible for schools to track attendance.”

She added that the government of the state will continue to upscale its investment in education across the state because it regards education of children and youths as one of the prime investments that can guarantee the exponential growth and development of the state in the 21st century’s maturing knowledge economy which places very high premium on human capital.

Also speaking on the occasion, Managing Director, Chams Plc, Mr. Demola Aladekomo, said: “The Osun Smart ID card provides biographical and biometric identification of public school children from elementary schools to middle schools and high schools, equipping government reliable demographic data of the student population in the state. This certainly improves planning, distribution and allocation of educational resources in alignment with population size, and the unique needs of students and schools across the 30 local government areas of the state. It will also aid the judicious use of government resources and improve budgeting, while also providing accurate data that will lead to the enunciation of more transformative policies.”
Aladekomo added that Chams is proud to be associated with the giant strides achieved by the government of the State of Osun as its continuously deploys Information and Communications Technology to improve governance and service delivery to the people of the state, irrespective of their location and status. “Without doubt, the Osun State is indeed becoming a model in e-governance that is worthy of emulation by other state governments because of its shrewdness and foresightedness in using technology to reduce the high incidence of fraud and wastage often associated with the public sector programmes. We can only promise the government of the State of Osun that we will continue to work with you to use Information and Communication Technology to make governance more inclusive in alignment with the realities of contemporary times.”

Similarly, in April, Chams Plc and First Bank of Nigeria partnered the government of the state to provide civil servants in Osun State with smart identity cards embedded with MasterCard prepaid capabilities - which is also the first of its kind by any state government in Nigeria. The card with biometric features can be used by the civil servants outside the country and is accepted by over 16 million merchants worldwide.

Full deployment of the scheme points to the government’s commitment to its 2011 education policy which sought an integrative and ICT enabled approach to the education of children and youth in the State. The policy evolved from the Osun Education Summit held also in 2011, and it has been described by local and international stakeholders and education regulatory bodies as a comprehensive and holistic response to the deterioration of public school system in the state.

169.Switzerland: WISeKey launches the campaign "Secure Your Digital Life", providing trusted digital identities based secure e-mail services

services

Geneva, 11 August 2014 – As a response of the increasing awareness about on-line security, after the steal of millions of passwords by organized criminal groups was made public, WISeKey announced a campaign to promote the adoption of stronger identities and technologies to secure e-mail and other communication services. This initiative will allow any Internet user to apply for an electronic identity and a trusted e-mail address, reducing the risk of identity theft and e-mail eavesdropping while interacting on the Net.

WISeKey, a Swiss company leader in electronic identity and cybersecurity, provides free electronic identities and Secure Personal Cloud through its portals https://www.certifyid.com and https://www.wiseid.com. WISeKey CertifyID Accounts allow any user to register and obtain a trusted digital certificate that can be used to secure e-mail and files. Additionally, WISeKey proposes it’s awarded WISeID technology to protect the user’s private information as passwords, confidential documents and pictures etc, with the option to activate a “Secure Personal Cloud” service that ensures the confidential information is secured by WISeKey’s encryption technology and Swiss Privacy Laws. In a second stage of this campaign, WISeKey will provide all users with a trusted e-mail address that will include security features as delivery receipts and notarization services.

The recent awareness about e-mail security made companies like Google and Yahoo announce the future implementation of encryption solutions in their services. Main difference of WISeKey’s campaign is that CertifyID Accounts are third-party and worldwide trusted identities, allowing the usage of any e-mail address and compatible e-mail client for desktop and mobile. Additionally, WISeKey technology is based on industry standards for PKI, as S/MIME, being the base for legally recognized digital signatures.
About WISeKey. WISeKey is one of the fastest growing eSecurity companies in the world, being a leading Swiss information security and identity management software and services company. WISeKey’s mission is to facilitate the global growth of secure electronic transactions by providing businesses, governments and individuals with advanced technology and services that authenticate the identity of communicators, signatures, and objects during Internet transactions.

WISeKey is a Global Growth Company Partner of the World Economic Forum:


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http://www.sys-con.com/node/3151457

170. Why the Switch to EMV Chip Cards by Itself Will Not Solve the Multi Billion Dollar Fraud Loses in the United States -- SmartMetric Says Biometrics Inside the Payments Card Will Close the Gap on Fraud

NEW YORK, NY -- (Marketwired) -- 08/18/14 -- SmartMetric, Inc. (OTCQB: SMME) - The impact on fraud from the introduction of EMV chip cards in other countries around the world has shown a 50% reduction in payments card fraud in those countries. For example when the United Kingdom introduced chip card technology onto its credit and debit cards over six years ago it saw within the first twelve months a drop in store merchant card fraud by 50%. The introduction of EMV into the United States that will see an estimated 1 billion EMV chip cards in use by the end of 2015 is expected to produce the same results. With an estimated card fraud rate of between $8 billion to $11 billion per year in the USA it follows that the card fraud rate will still be a massive $4 billion to $5.5 billion per year.

In order to provide even greater security and potentially save consumers and financial institutions billions in losses to fraud SmartMetric has developed an in card biometric fingerprint reader. The reader is used to identify the user by matching the user's fingerprint with their fingerprint stored inside the card. If the user of the card is
not the rightful user the card itself will not work. This has the potential to save banks, financial institutions,
retailers and consumers multi billions a year said the President and CEO of SmartMetric, Chaya Hendrick. The
company has partnered with a major credit card manufacturer to produce its fingerprint activated cards with an
estimated manufacturing goal of 50 million cards within the first 12 to 18 months.

SmartMetric is a publicly traded technology company that has added a fingerprint scanner built inside EMV
payment credit and debit chip cards thereby creating a second layer biometric authentication protection in
defending against card fraud. The company is now actively marketing its technology to card issuing financial
institutions around the World.

About SmartMetric, Inc.
SmartMetric, Inc. is a technology company that designs and engineers its own advanced products utilizing the
company's expertise in miniaturizing electronics. The company has developed a miniature fingerprint self
powered fingerprint scanner and reader that fits inside credit and identity cards that are at the center of
SmartMetric Inc.’s advanced biometric products. For more information please visit www.smartmetric.com.

Safe Harbor Statement
Certain of the above statements contained in this press release are forward-looking statements that involve a
number of risks and uncertainties. Such forward-looking statements are within the meaning of that term in
Section 27A of the Securities Act of 1933 and Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934. Readers are
cautioned that any such forward-looking statements are not guarantees of future performance and involve risks
and uncertainties, and that actual results may differ materially from those indicated in the forward-looking
statements as a result of various factors.

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171. Viscount Systems completes UL 294 certification testing of the Freedom Access Control and ID
Management Systems

Published on 19 Aug, 2014
Viscount Systems, a leading provider of IT-based security software and services, recently announced the successful completion of UL 294 certification testing of the Freedom Access Control and ID Management Systems with its IP encryption bridges. The Systems have been certified to the UL 294 Standard for Access Control System Units according to testing by Intertek National Testing Labs (ETL), a Nationally Recognized Testing Lab (NRTL). Applicable Freedom Systems' will now be available for customers requiring UL 294 conformity/compliance. UL has developed more than 1,000 Standards for Safety, which are vital to ensuring public safety and improving quality of products and services.

"Our customers rely on us for proven products and solutions for many of their most critical security requirements," noted Dennis Raefield, President and CEO of Viscount. "Completing our UL certification is further industry validation of our Freedom system architecture, which represents a software-centric approach to access control and ID management, a dramatic departure from traditional hardware-centric systems," Raefield further noted.

Viscount Systems completes UL 294 certification testing of the Freedom Access Control and ID Management Systems


172. Saudi biometrics mart to reach $1.5b by 2019


Saudi Arabia’s biometrics market is in its nascent stage, where market is yet to witness swashbuckling growth.

In global biometrics market, contribution of Saudi Arabia was mere 3 percent in 2013. Lack of awareness is the major factor, which has restricted the penetration of biometrics systems in the country. However, in the forecast period, the market for biometrics in the country is anticipated to register growth on account of increasing investments, government projects, expansion of BFSI and IT/ITeS sector, and introduction of e-passports & visas.

Saudi Arabia’s biometrics market is projected to reach $1.5 billion by 2019. The growth of the market would be majorly controlled by fingerprint biometrics technology. Ease of installation & usage and lower cost have led for the rapid adoption of fingerprint biometrics technology systems in the country.

Over the next five years, fingerprint biometrics technology is expected to maintain its dominance, but, other technologies such as facial and IRIS recognition would exhibit higher growth rate, primarily driven by government projects.

Riyadh, Jeddah, Makkah and Madinah are witnessing such developments on larger scale, the report noted.

Urban development, infrastructure expansion, flow of foreign investments and establishment of new enterprises across various verticals in these areas have led for the adoption of biometrics technologies, especially fingerprint biometrics in the Kingdom, the report added. — SG

173. Jakarta Smart Card program to get more funds

Jakarta Deputy Governor Basuki “Ahok” Tjahaja Purnama said Wednesday that the city administration would increase the budget for the Jakarta Smart Card (KJP) education allowance program, aimed at students from families with low income.

Ahok pointed out that the current budget was not adequate, according to surveys.

“Surveys show that the current figures were not enough,” Ahok said during the belated commemoration of the National Children’s Day at Dunia Fantasi (Dufan) theme park in Ancol, North Jakarta. The National Children’s Day falls on July 23.

Currently, KJP beneficiaries earn between Rp 180,000 (US$15.37) and Rp 240,000 per month per student. Next year, the city aims to increase the figure to Rp 800,000 per month per student.

The city will also improve the system to tighten the control.

“Beneficiaries can only withdraw the money [from the ATM] enough for a week so they or their parents can’t misuse the funds for other purposes. They can buy school equipment in designated education exhibitions. Meanwhile, school tuition will be automatically withdrawn from their bank account,” he said, adding that the mechanism was currently being discussed at the City Council. (nvn)

174. South Yorks: Travel is now easier thanks to smartcard technology

Smart ticketing for public transport continues to advance in South Yorkshire, with the launch of more tickets on ‘smartcard’ and the installation of smartcard kiosks in bus interchanges.

Passengers can now use smartcards on buses

Published on the
13:00

Published 20/08/2014 13:00

Tweet
Smart ticketing for public transport continues to advance in South Yorkshire, with the launch of more tickets on ‘smartcard’ and the installation of smartcard kiosks in bus interchanges.

TravelMaster seven and 28 day tickets, which offer unlimited travel on bus, tram and train in Rotherham, Sheffield and other South Yorkshire zones, are now available as smartcards.

Passengers will be able to buy the tickets on an electronic, credit-card sized pass instead of using the scratch cards and paper tickets currently available.

This will make travelling around the region easier.

Thirteen new smartcard kiosks installed across South Yorkshire interchanges which vend smartcards.

This will allow people to buy tickets on these smartcards, or alternatively over the counter at travel information centres.

SYPTF deputy interim director general, David Young, commented: “SYPTF is committed to making travel on public transport easier and more convenient for our customers.”

“This milestone for smart ticketing in South Yorkshire is the next step in revolutionising the way in which our passengers travel.”

175.Dual-Use Payment/ID Cards On The Rise

By pymnts @pymnts

Worldwide, the use of convergent smart card programs is one the rise, according to new research from ABI. Convergent smart cards allow businesses or governments to combine a series of different use-types under a single card or device. An increasingly popular application of this technology is the combined government ID-paycard model.

According to ABI’s research, the use of such cards is forecasted to increase from 569 million last year to 2 billion by 2019, penetrating over a quarter of the total worldwide population. Leading users of duel ID/paycard technology today are China and Malaysia, which collectively hold 95 percent of converged credentials currently in circulation. The remaining 5 percent are tied up in pilot programs in Russia, Brazil and Nigeria.

“All the major smart card vendors, Gemalto, Oberthur Technologies, Morpho, and G&D are gearing up to serve converged markets. These vendors are well positioned, with e-government solutions already in place, a host of specifications and standards from which each can leverage, and online solutions, providing multiple platforms to enable access to converged solutions through multiple channels. Competing in a converged
market will likely be a more crowded playing field, requiring multiple partnerships and/or consortiums to bring products to market,” noted ABI senior analyst Phil Sealy. “Those smart card vendors active at the top end of secure credential manufacturers want to be a part of this market trend, strategically positioning themselves now to become future of choice.”

Topics: What's Hot


176. Saudi biometrics market gains ground, expected to reach USD 1.5 bln by 2019

Friday 22 August 2014 | 02:02 PM CET

The biometrics market in Saudi Arabia has begun registering a boost, due to the increase in IT spending and the rise in adopting biometrics technology across different industrial sectors, a recent research indicated.

A Saudi Gazette report shows that the Saudi biometrics market is still in its blossoming stage, after a 3% contribution in the global market. However, the market is expected to register growth in investments, government projects, the expansion of IT sector and the introduction of e-passports and visas.

This growth is expected to reach USD 1.5 billion by 2019. This lead will be mainly controlled by fingerprint biometrics technology, which is already being adopted in the country.

Keywords: Saudi, biometrics, USD 1.5 bln, online security, web fraud, digital identity

177. Card system a boost for public transit in Abu Dhabi

The machines will sell and top up the cards with payment by cash or credit card. The message on the machines read: “Soon. Get ready for the launch of the most advanced Abu Dhabi bus card system.”

ABU DHABI // Bus travel in Abu Dhabi will soon become easier through a new automated fare collection system.

The new system is called Hafilat, meaning buses in Arabic.

Currently, there are three ticket vending machines inside the bus terminal adjacent to Al Wahda Mall.

The machines will sell and top up the cards with payment by cash or credit card. The message on the machines read: “Soon. Get ready for the launch of the most advanced Abu Dhabi bus card system.”

Last December, the Department of Transport (DoT) announced that the system would be launched this year, although it did not provide a timeline. This month, the authority said it was still testing the system.
The objectives for testing and the internal simulation of the system’s operations are “to reach the highest degree of precision in operations management, distribution and sales to achieve the desired goals of this project” and “to switch from the traditional payment methods to smart payment methods”, it said.

The DoT said it planned to install up to 70 ticket vending machines at all bus stations in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, and the Western Region, near AC bus shelters, and in shopping malls.

Five machines called “swift reloaders”, which allow commuters to simply charge their Hafilat cards, have so far been installed inside the Al Wahda bus terminal. The DoT will install up to 300 of the machines in all bus stations in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, and the Western Region, customer service centres, AC bus shelters, airports and hospitals. These machines only accept bank notes and do not provide change unlike the ticket vending machines.

Once launched, cardholders can also visit ticket offices at bus stations in Abu Dhabi, Al Ain, the Western region and in some customer service centres to purchase and personalise their cards with names and photos, renew them, pay fines for breaking public transport rules or report a lost card.

Currently, passengers can pay by cash or buy Ojra bus passes for Dh80 a month.

The bus fare within the city costs Dh2. Fares to the suburbs start at Dh2, plus 5 fils each kilometre, with Dh5 the average fare. The intercity fare costs from Dh10 plus 10 fils a kilometre, with Dh25 the average fare.

Shiraz Babar, 40, an engineer from Pakistan, said he hoped Abu Dhabi would soon roll out the new system. “An e-system is the way to go,” he said. “It’s convenient, saves time and allows passengers to top up their card with cash or their credit card.”

He was pleased to see the ticket vending machines inside the main terminal recently while waiting for the X88 bus to take him to Ruwais, about 240km west of Abu Dhabi in the Western Region.

“A similar machine was installed at the Ruwais bus station about two months ago,” he said.

At the moment, passengers pay their fare directly to the driver who issues a ticket using a portable machine. The journey to Ruwais, which takes 3 1/2 hours, costs Dh35.

“The manual system is really a waste of the passengers’ and the bus driver’s time,” he said. “The driver doesn’t always have enough change, which is a big problem.”

Vinojin Aruldas, 26, a nurse in Dubai, agreed.

He and his parents, who were visiting from Chennai, chanced upon a ticket vending machine while waiting for the number 54 bus on Muroor Road near the bus terminal. For the past two years, he had been using a Nol card, designed to recharge balances regularly, on the Metro and Roads and Transport Authority buses in Dubai.

“It’s good that Abu Dhabi will have its own bus-card system,” Mr Aruldas said. “People will no longer need to carry some loose change to pay for their bus fare.”

Driver Shahul Hameed, 30, hoped Abu Dhabi’s plan would encourage more people to use public transport and help ease congestion on the emirate’s roads.

“The automated fare collection will also improve road safety,” he said. “The driver can now concentrate on his driving and the road ahead.”

News Group : International 2

Date : 2014/08/31


178.A New Era Beckons as Jonathan Launches Electronic ID Card
Mr. Chris Onyemenam

President Goodluck Jonathan will on Thursday formally launch the rollout of electronic identity cards, which will assert Nigerians’ identity, writes Kunle Aderinokun.

AA ceremony, which announced that the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) would be issuing MasterCard-branded national e-identity cards turned out to be one of the most important features of World Economic Forum (WEF) in South Africa for Nigeria.

Present at the ceremony for the announcement in South Africa were the Coordinating Minister for the Economy and Finance Minister, Dr. Ngozi Okonjo-Iweala, and DG, NIMC, Mr. Chris Onyemenam, who represented Nigeria. Also present was the President for the Middle East and African region, Mr. Michael Miebach, representing MasterCard.

The scheme allows the global electronic pay company to issue 13 million cards to Nigerians and legal residents in the country in the first instance. Even in its pilot phase, the national e-ID card which is now ready for launch on Thursday, August 28, 2014 by President Goodluck Jonathan is not only the largest formal rollout of an electronic payment solution in the country but also the broadest platform for financial inclusion in the continent.

Onyemenam said at the forum in South Africa that the biometric infrastructure, which is collectively called the National Identity Management Systems (NIMS) in Nigeria has the capacity to store details of over 300 million Nigerians and legal residents in the country. In addition, the data capture and storage and retrieval system includes authentication and verification services, amongst other value propositions.

With the launch, the identity sector in the country would for the first time be in the position to win back not only the confidence of Nigerians but also make national identity management services and infrastructure to be relied upon by the world. “We are talking about unique identification of Nigerians and legal residents which must be relied upon by all,” said Onyemenam.

What this means is that, also, for the first time, the new national e-ID card will attract positive recognition and respect for Nigerians especially at international gateways and land borders. “One of the most important functions is the payment function, which for now is supported by MasterCard,” noted Onyemenam in an interview recently.

“And for MasterCard to accept to collaborate with us speaks volumes. It means that we have the right ideas and vision. It’s our responsibility to ensure that the right qualifications or criteria that would qualify our cards to be accepted worldwide as a MasterCard card are met and observed and adhered to very strictly.”
The national e-ID card has Access Bank as the pilot issuer institution. Other issuer institutions that are to join in subsequent phases include Zenith Bank, United Bank for Africa, Unity Bank as well as Skye Bank, Unity Bank and First Bank. It is equally noteworthy that the launch of the national e-ID card is coming on the heels of ISO/IEC 27001:2005 certification in Abuja. ISO/IEC which stands for International Standards Organisation (ISO) and International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC) are foremost global rules agencies. While ISO, on the one hand, has thousands of guidelines which touch on almost all aspects of human life, IEC, on the other hand, is the conformity assessment body for all fields of electrotechnology.

Performing audit and accreditation for the certification was the British Standard Institute, a UK firm which has over 100 years of experience on global best practices. In the last one century since it began business, the BSI has helped more than 72,000 organisations ranging from top global brands to small ambitious businesses in 150 countries.

As a matter of fact, the NIMC strategy has been to complete the information security protection audit before the commencement of mass issuance of the new e-ID cards in the country. Digital Jewels implemented the full ISMS process and conducted a mock audit and, after a few adjustments, invited the BSI as independent auditors to conclude the certification of the NIMC system.

Together, the ISO/ICE 27001:2005 certification and the collaboration with MasterCard have enabled the activation of the third of five components of the national identity management systems (NIMS).

“We have delivered on the third component of the NIMS. The card is the one everyone wants to see. We will give it to you but it should be noted that it’s not even the most important aspect of the NIMS. The remaining four components are the national identity database, the unique identification number, identity and verification services as well as the harmonisation and integration of databases.

The national identification number (NIN), which is the Nigerian equivalent of the social security number in the United States, is erected on a central and secure national database.

According to Onyemenam, “this number is unique to you and that is the one we expect that you should get almost immediately. Once your personal information has been cross-checked and verified, the number will be automatically generated. That number is just for you and no one else. It can’t be shared; it can’t be reproduced; it can’t be replicated and it can’t be reassigned to someone else. Even in death, the number is rested forever.”

“The card is only a means of carrying some portion of your identity in your pocket for purpose of asserting or confirming your identity. It is actually the number [NIN] that is your identity, if you want to refer to any single thing as your identity. So NIN is the universal identification infrastructure system that we have put in place. Every other thing takes its life from that number. This certification is based on the audit of what we have put in place to ensure secure management of personal information and privacy of individuals. So, it means we have kept faith with our promise to meet global best practice in the roll out of NIMS infrastructure,” the NIMC boss clarified.

Onyemenam says the certification amongst other international rules and guidelines backing the operation of NIMC, will help to sanitise the image of the country around the world.

He asserts in fact that the best way to go about improving the image of the country and ensure that the world takes Nigeria serious is through technology. “We have put in place an infrastructure that is technology-driven and based on a verifiable global best practice and this has been so acknowledged by an international standards institute,” Onyemenam adds.

“We are serious about the image of Nigeria and playing by global rules of engagement for such acceptance about issues around the dignity of the Nigerian International status. The world is about to receive a unique card from Nigeria,” he stated, adding: “For the first time the national e-ID will have a payment solution, something that is unprecedented in the world and that’s why so many critics believed it can never happen.
“Very few public sector institutions have this kind of certification. We opted for this as part of credibility-built measures as we know so many people have lost faith in the ability of the public sector to create a basic and support infrastructure to get this identity management issue behind us. “We now need to achieve the GVCP (GigE Vision Stream Protocol) to silence them forever and face the more daunting task of sustainability. For me the single mindedness of purpose bears fruit when things like this come true,” Onyemenam concluded.

Tags: Nigeria, Featured, Business, Chris Onyemenam


179. Visa payWave hit 2 million transactions in Singapore last month

News

- Technology

Aug 25, 2014 By Elaine Huang

How is Visa’s contactless payment option payWave doing in Singapore? We hear it’s growing fast in Thailand as well

Tap and go. Contactless option Visa payWave did extremely well in Singapore last month, having processed more than two million transactions in July 2014.

According to an official statement, that represents more than one out of every five (21.5 per cent) Visa face-to-face transactions in the same period.

Ooi Huey Tyng, Country Manager, Singapore and Brunei, Visa, said that “consumers are making real strides towards creating a cashless society.”

Additionally, Visa payWave represents 38.5 per cent of all Visa face-to-face transactions in the city-state matching S$30 (US$23.99) or below. For the record, the transaction limit is capped at S$100 (US$79).

Also Read: SingTel pushes cashless society with mCash

These findings were gathered in a Visa Consumer Payment Attitudes Study 2014, which was conducted by BlackBox Research on behalf of Visa. The survey tracked 500 respondents in each of these four markets:
Singapore, Malaysia, the Philippines and Thailand, and was carried out with representative quotas of gender and age in mind.

According to the study, 60 per cent of Singaporean Visa cardholders prefer to shop at stores that offer contactless payments. Across Southeast Asia, seven in 10 respondents stated that they would prefer shops that offer contactless payment options.

“In Singapore, contactless payments and ‘going cashless’ are becoming a part of everyday life, as more consumers and retailers realise that contactless brings greater convenience and speedier checkouts for busy people on the go,” added Ooi.

Also Read: These credit cards reward Malaysian users for shopping online

Across the four markets, Visa cardholders have cited faster transactions (47 per cent) as the top reason for using contactless payments.

Visa also noted that Singapore is leading the region in contactless payments adoption. However, neighbouring countries are catching up fast. Thailand, for example, has a monthly Visa payWave transaction growth of 68 per cent. The Philippines and Malaysia are not doing too bad either, with a monthly Visa payWave transaction growth of 26 per cent and 21 per cent respectively.

For more information, check out this infographic:

Header and Featured Image Credit: Visabrand AP

Russia’s Laitbank is expected to begin issuing 10,000 China UnionPay cards this month, according to Ria Novosti.

The online newspaper Gazeta.ru reported that Laitbank has been in talks with UnionPay since 2012, and finally received a shipment of plastic cards from China in mid-August. The bank expects to receive another 50,000 cards over the next two months, the paper reported.

The Vostochny Express and MDM banks have already announced plans to issue UnionPay cards. Several top Russian banks, including Alfa Bank, Gazprombank and Bank of Moscow, also reportedly preparing to issue the cards as well, but none of those banks confirmed that their UnionPay plans.

A Russian subsidiary of China Construction Bank is also preparing to issue 600,000 UnionPay cards in September, according to Gazeta.ru. That has not been confirmed either.

However, UnionPay has confirmed that it is signing up banks in Russia, though without identifying specific institutions. In July, Fen Zhiguang, a China UnionPay representative, said the card brand has acquired about 30 new partner banks in Russia, and added that the company plans to increase the number of UnionPay debit and credit cards to two million over the next three years.

UnionPay, which was launched in 2002 by the People’s Bank of China, is now the second-largest payment network by value of payments processed, behind Visa.

http://euobserver.com/justice/125342

181. Russians, Chinese keen to buy EU passports from Malta
BRUSSELS - Russians, Chinese, and people from the Middle East have shown the most interest in Malta’s sale of EU passports so far.

A spokeswoman for Henley & Partners, the British firm handling the controversial passport scheme, told EUobserver that “over 200” people from 30 different nationalities have applied since it got up and running in early 2014.

She added that: “The main geographic areas from which applicants originate are the MENA [Middle East and north Africa] region, Russia, China, and South East Asia”.

She also said the well-heeled applicants will bring in more than €200 million in foreign investment to the tiny Mediterranean state.

None of them have passed due diligence tests, designed to weed out shady characters and being carried out by Henley and by Maltese authorities, so far.

Henley noted that, on average, 25 to 30 percent of candidates fall by the wayside in similar schemes in other countries. It added that applicants also have to be resident, in legal terms, for at least 12 months before they get their Maltese and EU citizenship, so that “the first new citizens … will become eligible in Spring of next year”.

Henley says the programme will close once it fulfills its quota of 1,800 new passports.

But each of the 1,800 “main applicants” can see the candidate add children, parents, and grandparents for an extra fee.

The new Maltese citizens will buy the right to live and work in all 28 EU states and to travel without visas to 69 non-EU countries, including the US.

Malta’s conservative opposition party has in the past criticised the scheme because, it said, it makes Malta look financially needy, undermines its appeals for EU solidarity on boat migrants from Africa, and because, opposition MPs claimed, Henley has a conflict of interest in both running the project and in taking a cut from the fees.

MEPs in Brussels and former justice commissioner Viviane Reding also attacked it because, they said, it cheapens the concept of EU citizenship.

But Reding’s lawyers could find nothing in the EU treaty to stop it from going ahead, despite issuing vague threats.

For its part, Henley noted the figure of 200-or-so applicants over the past six months amounts to “significant early success”.

But Malta’s centre-left PM, Joseph Muscat, is currently flying to international events to drum up more interest.

He will speak at one seminar on the subject in New York on 10 September and at a separate, Henley-sponsored, conference in Singapore in late October.

Section

1. Justice & Home Affairs
Over 20 million voters - 15% of the population to take part in the 2014 elections - are estimated to cast their ballot by means of a voting machine with biometric identification, announced the Superior Electoral Court ("TSE") on Wednesday, August 20.

The technology can be found in 762 municipalities, among which 15 state capitals. The machines use the electors' fingerprints to recognize their identity.

"It's the safest process in existence," asserted TSE IT Secretary Giuseppe Janino. He maintains that the purpose of using biometrics is to reduce human intervention in the electoral process as much as possible, increasing speed and minimizing the risk of errors and frauds as a result.

"We can say there's no perfect system, but the biometric identification is considerably safer and more accurate than regular, man-operated identification," he notes.

According to Janino, the biometric system does not currently focus on quick vote counting, but rather on lowering the risks of fraud. "The identification process serves to prevent someone from passing for someone else," he explains.

However, critical of the use of biometrics in elections, Professor Pedro Antonio Dourado de Rezende, from the Computer Science Department at the University of Brasília, warns that there is still room for errors.

"All biometric methods rely on some probability-based technique that entails recognizing patterns and matching a registered pattern with the one presented. They're therefore subject to errors. When widespread, as is the case in Brazil, these errors become inevitable, and occur at a predictable rate," the professor says.

Rezende says that whenever the optical reader fails to identify a fingerprint, it is the assistant's job to use the documents of the electors, along with a special code, to unblock the machine for vote.

In his opinion, this may cause a security breach. "Dishonest people will still be able to use the code to unblock the machine and cast a ballot in an absentee's place, near the end of the election day, for instance," he argues.

For Professor Luís Kalb Roses, from the Catholic University of Brasília, the problem can be tackled by holding hearings during the electoral process and making sure the system in use is appropriately certified.
"Biometrics is a technological solution aimed at authenticity. Now, the equipment on which you place your thumb is one thing, and the process that compares your fingerprint with the database is another. So this checking process must be fully operational. That's why it's important to hold hearings all the time," he says.

Nonetheless, Professor Kalb agrees that biometrics is an "excellent option for identifying users," and further states that "biometrics is just a part of a security solution. It doesn't ensure the security of the entire process alone."

TSE said that the biometric identification entails over 20 operational tests, and that, ever since 2008 - when biometrics was introduced in an election - unsuccessful recognition attempts have been analyzed in order to test the quality of both the software in the voting machines and the fingerprints to be matched.

TSE reports that the non-recognition rate in the last polls stood at around 4 percent.

Even where voting machines are available, electors must carry an official document with their picture on it. It may be either their elector's card or their ID.

http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2124/

183. Venezuela looks to biometrics

25/08/14

The Venezuelan government is turning to fingerprint technology in an effort to combat food smuggling into neighbouring Colombia.

According to reports, the country plans to introduce a compulsory biometric card that will limit individuals’ food purchases.

The move is designed to cut food shortages, which some say has led to hoarding by speculators, who resell goods at a profit. It extends a previous system that was set up earlier this year, but which was criticised as being a ‘Cuban-style rationing policy.’

It is unclear whether the system will be set up throughout the country or only in Venezuela’s border states.

http://blog.m2sys.com/guest-blog-posts/biometric-identification-management-department-defense/

184. Biometric Identification Management and the Department of Defense

John Trader August 21, 2014 Leave a Reply
Can we attribute the success of biometric identification management technology in part on the Department of Defense? (photo courtesy of Shutterstock)

The following is a guest post written by Russel Cooke.

Observe any human being and the attributes that make us unique. The measurement and analysis of physical characteristics as a means of identification has always been easy to imagine and to some extent, easy to implement — as long as the user was resigned to the fact that the method of verification was qualitative and not quantitative. Even with this limitation, the technology could be used quite broadly as a way of developing an educated guess as to who someone was. It’s that quantitative measure of certainty that becomes the breakthrough which dramatically advances the technology and makes it indispensable as a tool for security and investigation.

The journey to achieving quantitative and automated biometrics developed into a specialized knowledge base which later became it’s own branch of scientific research. The list of attributes from which biometrics could be measured expanded to include one’s signature, palm, hand geometry, fingerprint, face, vascular pattern, speech, iris, and DNA from multiple sources on the body.

It’s the Department of Defense, sometimes working in collaboration with the FBI and other agencies, that made intense and concerted efforts to bring this technology to fruition.

Biometrics Milestones:

In 1993 the Department of Defense initiates the Face Recognition Technology program known as FERET. It was sponsored through 1997 by the Defense Advanced Research Products Agency (DARPA) and the DoD Counterdru drug Technology Development Program Office in an effort to encourage the development of face recognition algorithms and technology. During that same period, both military and civilian advancements in biometrics were made:

- Development of an iris prototype unit begins
- FacE REcognition Technology (FERET) program is initiated
- First iris recognition algorithm is patented (US5291560 A)
- Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS) competition is held
- Palm System is benchmarked
- INSPASS is implemented
- Iris prototype becomes available as a commercial product
- Hand geometry is implemented at the Olympic Games
NIST begins hosting annual speaker recognition evaluations

In 2004, there was a flurry of activity, as many of the advancement made during the 1990’s matured and could be put to use. In that year, the Department of Defense implements the Automated Biometric Identification System (ABIS). Designed to improve the US Government’s ability to track and identify national security threats, the system included methods of collecting and storing fingerprint, mug shot, voice, iris, and DNA data from enemy combatants, captured insurgents, and various persons of interest. Also in that year, a presidential directive calls for mandatory identification card for all federal employees and contractors and a palm print database is deployed in the US.

The implementation of biometrics has been increasingly active, if not especially overt. In the case of facial recognition, the technology is software-based, and can be adapted to cameras that have already been installed.

On the Horizon: Some of the technologies under development include “Field-Deployable Rapid DNA Analysis” and international collaborations for automated biometric upgrades. Adaptations of (“soft biometrics”) to social media (for example) are also receiving attention as part of the next generation of biometric technologies. This includes ear recognition, which is now being considered by some to be more effective than facial recognition.

Russel Cooke is a journalist and business consultant. His fascination with technology often leads him away from his business, and he considers writing about it as a passion. You can follow him on Twitter @RusselCooke2

http://www.biometricupdate.com/201408/university-of-georgia-replacing-biometric-hand-scanners-chooses-pin-for-access-control

By Stephen Mayhew

August 21, 2014 -

Administrators at the University of Georgia have implemented PIN entry to access all buildings on its Athens campus, replacing the previous hand geometry biometrics system, according to a report by CR80 News.

Previously, students would place their hands over a biometric reader to gain access to dormitories, dining halls and exercise facilities.

The new system requires students to use a combination of their student ID and a pin number to access campus areas.
The university has been using hand geometry biometrics since the 1970s as a safety measure for students and security controls to prevent students from taking advantage of the school’s unlimited meal plan, according to campus newspaper The Red & Black.

But in recent months, students have voiced their apprehensions about the biometric security system, specifically with how it facilitates the spreading of germs and the system itself being outdated. Although one major disadvantage of the PIN system is that unauthorized students can gain access to a building if they have the pin number and ID of an authorized student.

You may also be interested in -

Q&A with Simon Meyer, Operations Director at Human Recognition Systems

Kaba launches new biometric physical access control systems

Ingersoll Rand boasts new heated Schlage hand geometry attendance terminal

Entertech inks strategic partnership with Software House

http://www.thepaypers.com/default/face-guardian-introduces-facial-recognition-image-protection-service/756276-0

186 Face Guardian introduces facial recognition image protection service

Monday 25 August 2014 | 01:33 PM CET

**Face Guardian, an identity theft monitoring service, has launched its image protection product.**

Face Guardian monitors for an individual’s face in images across the internet. Using facial recognition technology, the service provides user alerts when a duplicate instance of a protected face photo is found on the internet.

A separate remediation service is also offered for identifiable instances of image misuse, in which Face Guardian will negotiate for the removal of an image from the offending source.
Even if a name is not attached, face photos contain biometric data that can be used to reveal someone’s identity.

Users can visit Face Guardian’s website and sign up to monitor one photo for free. The photo selection is done through Facebook Connect and notifications of face matches are delivered via email.

Face Guardian is an identity theft monitoring service of Face Data, established in 2012.

http://www.yourhoustonnews.com/courier/opinion/chip-card-era-coming-to-combat-hackers/article_5aa3c79e-2bd1-59bb-a564-ab2f84b570da.html

187.chip-card-era-coming-to-combat- hackers

By the end of 2015, banks and retailers are expected to replace credit and debit cards with new chip cards, 575 million to be exact (that’s a little more than half of the cards issued in the United States).

The effort is an attempt to curtail the hacking of personal information and account access by criminals around the world, which most recently has affected customers of Shaw’s grocery stores. Last holiday season, millions of Target customers had their card information stolen.

Advertisement

But it’s not just big retailers that have been targeted by hackers. In 2013, a local bagel shop was also victimized. According to Javelin Strategy & Research, credit card fraud totaled $18 billion last year alone.

Chip cards, which have been in wide use for many years in Canada, Asia and Europe, have been hard to catch on here in the States.

“Businesses didn’t want to invest in new technology until the card companies issued the plastic to consumers, while the card companies didn’t want to give them to customers until there was a place they could be used,” wrote Robin Sidel for the Wall Street Journal.

But with these massive breaches going on with regularity, it was a just a matter of time before the financial losses to credit card issuers and other lending institutions forced the issue.

The new chip cards will incur costs for retailers, who will be required to update or replace card readers. The new cards will also force consumers to make some changes.

“Although the cards still have a magnetic strip on the back to use at merchants that haven’t upgraded their technology,” noted the Wall Street Journal, “the computer chips don’t work with a swipe at the register. Instead, shoppers slide the card into the bottom of the terminal and leave it there while the purchase is processed.”

According to the Journal, each transaction made with a chip card has a unique code attached to it, reducing the chance that stolen card data can be used to make fake credit cards.
“Such cards likely wouldn’t have prevented the hacking at Target, but the card data would have been useless to them,” wrote Sidel.

While most of the new cards issued by the end of next year will be chip and signature cards, many businesses in Europe and Asia are using chip and PIN cards, which also require a customer to enter a PIN for an added level of security.

But even smartcards won’t stop hackers from stealing data and gaining access to credit accounts, maintained Ross Anderson, who spoke this year at Black Hat (an annual convention for network security).

He said sophisticated criminals could still steal PINs from certain card readers and others could install malware to capture data.

However, Anderson told PC Magazine’s Max Eddy that chip and PIN cards are technically superior because they are harder to clone.

But in Europe, there has been some controversy with the chip and PIN cards. Many issuers have stopped covering the cost of fraud and shifted the expense to merchants, who end up footing the bill.

Anderson was also critical of the hodgepodge way that chip and PIN has been rolled out around the world.

“(Chip and PIN) isn’t a single protocol,” he told PC Magazine. “It’s a big, random, crafty toolkit to build payment protocols. You can either come up with something that is really secure, or something that is bloody awful.”

We can expect that there will be some confusion over the next 18 months as the new cards and readers are rolled out, but any progress is better than worrying that every time we swipe our cards our information might be stolen. We know it will prove to be a hassle for some people, and definitely will hit the bottom line of lots of mom-and-pop operations around the country, but that’s just the cost of doing business in today’s connected world.

– The Brattleboro (Vt.) Reformer

[link](http://e27.co/visa-paywave-hit-2-million-transactions-in-singapore-last-month-20140825/)

188. Visa payWave hit 2 million transactions in Singapore last month

**How is Visa’s contactless payment option payWave doing in Singapore? We hear it’s growing fast in**

**Thailand as well**

[Image]
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Also Read: SingTel pushes cashless society with mCash

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According to the study, 60 per cent of Singaporean Visa cardholders prefer to shop at stores that offer contactless payments. Across Southeast Asia, seven in 10 respondents stated that they would prefer shops that offer contactless payment options.

“In Singapore, contactless payments and ‘going cashless’ are becoming a part of everyday life, as more consumers and retailers realise that contactless brings greater convenience and speedier checkouts for busy people on the go,” added Ooi.

Also Read: These credit cards reward Malaysian users for shopping online

Across the four markets, Visa cardholders have cited faster transactions (47 per cent) as the top reason for using contactless payments.

Visa also noted that Singapore is leading the region in contactless payments adoption. However, neighbouring countries are catching up fast. Thailand, for example, has a monthly Visa payWave transaction growth of 68 per cent. The Philippines and Malaysia are not doing too bad either, with a monthly Visa payWave transaction growth of 26 per cent and 21 per cent respectively.

For more information, check out this infographic:
Representatives from the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) in Nigeria give an inspiring overview of the Nigerian eID project - and the National Identity Management System (NIMS), which holds the national identity database and underpins the smart eID card.

02/09/14

Representatives from the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC) in Nigeria give an inspiring overview of the Nigerian eID project - and the National Identity Management System (NIMS), which holds the national identity database and underpins the smart eID card.

Babatunde Anifowoshe, NIMC Chief Information Security Officer, and Oyeniyi Olayemi, NIMC Information Security Manager, discuss the project's implementation timelines, explain the need for the eID card, and the scope of its implementation - which will involve capturing fingerprint, face and iris images.

The talk also looks at the challenges involved and the technical approach taken.

This talk was presented at SDW 2014 in June. SDW 2015 will take place 9-11 June 2015 in London
Zetes has announced its first half results for 2014, recording sales of 118.7 million euros, up 15.2% on the same period last year.

Zetes has announced its first half results for 2014, recording sales of 118.7 million euros, up 15.2% on the same period last year. Net profit was 2 million euros, up 134% from H1 2013.

Its People ID division saw sales grow by 45.4% to reach 30.9 million euros. This was mainly due to the delivery of a large batch of biometric registration kits to Uganda’s Electoral Commission. Another major factor was the company’s involvement in the personalisation of the Belgian ePassport, which began in May 2014.

Zetes says the division benefited from an excellent mix between electoral projects (build and transfer) and long-term contracts (build and operate), the latter ensuring a stable income. New contracts during the last 18 months include the Belgian driving licence, the Senegalese biometric visa and the Belgian passport. The company has also been appointed by the government of Togo to prepare the electoral register for its upcoming elections.

Gross margin is down because, with their high hardware component, produce a lower gross margin than long-term contracts, which require significant investments which are not reflected in the gross margin figure but subsequently impact the income statement in the form of depreciation. Operating expenses were up 20.8% because of the new build and operate contract.

The company’s Goods ID division saw a 7.4% increase in sales in the first half.

During the half-year, Zetes bought out the remaining shares of the minority shareholder (15%) in Zetes Industries Israel for 0.2 million euros.

The company says that several potential acquisition files were examined in both Goods ID and People ID, but none of them presented a suitable profile for profitable integration into the Group.

Looking to the future, the company says: “In People ID, all build and operate contracts signed in the past should contribute to the division's income. These various contracts will reach cruising speed in 2015. In addition, preparation of voter lists in Togo is proceeding under the new contract, alongside other smaller short-term contracts.”

191. FBI digitizes millions of records to prepare for Next Generation Identification system

The FBI announced it has digitally converted millions of files stored at its Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) division’s warehouse in Fairmont, West Virginia, as the Bureau prepares to transition to its new biometric system, according to the FBI website.

By Stephen Mayhew Tweet

August 25, 2014 -

The FBI announced it has digitally converted millions of files stored at its Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) division’s warehouse in Fairmont, West Virginia, as the Bureau prepares to transition to its new biometric system, according to the FBI website.
Over the last two decades, the agency has digitally converted more than 30 million records including criminal history folders and civil identity, and as many as 83 million fingerprint cards. This resulted in the dismantling of thousands of filing cabinets once hand-searched by Burje-bidi: embed; direction: ltr”>

“It makes those records immediately accessible to law enforcement across the country,” said Penny Harker, head of the biometric services unit at CJIS. She said fulfilling requests for fingerprint matches that once took hours now take just minutes or seconds. “It’s a great benefit to them not having a delay simply because we were still storing files in a manual format.”

The majority of the files being converted fell into three different categories: criminal history files from the early 1970s or earlier, civil identity files of people born before 1960 who either enlisted in the military or applied for a government position, and fingerprint index cards.

The CJIS maintains files for individuals until they reach 110 years of age or pass away.

192. Morpho presents world’s fastest contactless fingerprint scanner at Global Identity Summit

PRESS RELEASE

Morpho (Safran) today announced the commercial launch of Finger On the Fly®, the world’s fastest contactless four finger scanner. Using advanced imaging technology, this innovation simultaneously captures four fingerprints from a single wave of the hand. Finger On the Fly® will be on display at the 2014 Global Identity Summit in Tampa, Florida from September 16-18 (booth #301).

Finger on the Fly® simultaneously delivers high security through multi finger matching, and extremely fast touchless convenience. Delivering high-resolution fingerprint capture in less than one second, Finger On the Fly® is also the market’s fastest contactless biometric device.
Finger on the Fly® ensures that markets and industries which necessitate truly touchless operation can now also benefit from the world’s leading fingerprint technology from Morpho. Finger On the Fly® is ideally suited for applications such as border control at airports, access control at sensitive and high traffic sites, flow management and a wide range of other situations where high speed enrollment and matching, as well as convenience and security are a priority.

“We are excited to revolutionize the fingerprint identification solutions market with this new product. Our teams have worked tirelessly to this end and we are truly proud of this achievement,” stated Thomas Chenevier, Director of Products and Innovation at Morpho. “As a world leader, Morpho is committed to continually innovate and advance biometric technologies.”

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About Morpho
Morpho, a high-technology company of Safran, is a global leader in security solutions. The company employs more than 8,400 people in 40 countries and reported revenues of 1.5 billion euros in 2013. Morpho’s unique expertise lies in providing cutting edge security solutions for government identity, public security, critical infrastructure, transportation and business markets. Morpho is the world leader in multibiometric identification technologies, biometric identity documents, Automated Biometric Identification Systems (ABIS) and Explosives Detection Systems (EDS). It is one of the leading suppliers of SIM cards, smart cards, trace detection equipment and gaming terminals. With systems operating in more than 100 countries, Morpho’s solutions simplify and secure the lives of people


193.First point of call for secure identity management

Written by Kate McDonald on 26 August 2014.

Healthdirect Australia has contracted Brisbane-based identity and access management firm First Point Global to design a secure, centralised identity management solution for its cloud-based health portal platform, which includes the National Health Services Directory (NHSD), My Aged Care and a number of information services and telephone hotlines.

The solution is currently live for a range of Healthdirect's application programming interfaces (APIs), and will provide the identity and access management (IAM) and security foundations for the government-funded organisation's websites and information portals as they expand and mature. Healthdirect is currently exploring options to provide cloud-based video as well as telephone consultations for its health advisory services.

The My Aged Care website recently began publishing maximum accommodation prices for aged care providers as well as a fee calculator for residential aged care.
First Point Global has recommended a mix of open source and commercial-off-the-shelf technologies for the solution, which covers access request management, password management, authentication and authorisation – including web access control and single sign-on – as well as access management for the APIs and a range of data protection and security technologies.

The company says the advantages of this approach include a better experience for users, easier compliance with legislation, consistency of policy enforcement, and the ability for users to manage their private data irrespective of where it is stored.

Healthdirect requires rigorous security standards as it provides public-facing government services such as My Aged Care as well as the NHSD, which provides public information on locations and contact details for healthcare services including GPs, community pharmacies and hospitals.

It is also being integrated with the PCEHR and the Healthcare Identifiers (HI) Service. As such, Healthdirect Australia needs to comply with the security standards mandated by the government’s Information Security Manual (ISM) standard and the Protective Security Policy Framework (PSPF).

Part of the tender requirements were that the chosen solution provider would adopt an open source-first policy, where proven open source software can reduce costs.

“‘As far as possible we prefer to adopt open source first if it is viable to create as much leverage as we can out of taxpayers’ dollars,’” Healthdirect Australia CIO Anton Donker said.

“‘We also prefer to engage with specialist service providers like First Point Global, rather than very large scale commercial vendors.’”

The access management system for the health portal platform is focused on authentication and identity federation services. End users are given the option to authenticate using social sign-on, or via username and password to the Healthdirect Australia identity store.

A security gateway that enforces access management policy for Healthdirect’s APIs, including the NHSD, is also part of the solution, as is secure management of encryption keys for sensitive information.

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License to Discriminate:’ Ariz. voter registration proof of citizenship

Past generations of Americans defied the odds to achieve the right to participate in the political process — overcoming menacing threats of violence, arrest, and coercion, all to earn the right to vote.
citizens, we pride ourselves on living in a country that has become the standard-bearer of democratic values worldwide. But a troubling pattern has taken hold, threatening this distinction for generations to come.

Since 2011, more than 30 states have passed laws that restrict access to citizens’ constitutional right to cast a ballot. These laws disenfranchise eligible youth, minority and first-time voters, marginalizing their voices and collective role in our democracy. In Arizona, the laws are particularly egregious, requiring certain registrants, including first time voters, to provide proof of citizenship in order to simply register to vote. This week, a federal appeals court will hear oral arguments from Arizona officials who argue that the federal government should help them enforce these harsh state laws.

Make no mistake — these laws suppress turnout. Approximately 30,000 Arizonans have been blocked from registering to vote since the state first passed its proof of citizenship law in 2004. Numerous people currently remain on controlled “suspense lists,” which prevent them from voting, because the state claims these individuals have not provided “proper” proof of their citizenship.

Impoverished rural residents born at home without birth certificates and newly naturalized U.S. citizens are among groups that are particularly likely to be blocked from the polls due to the proof of citizenship requirement. Plus, when I went away to college, I didn’t exactly have my birth certificate in hand.

As the president of an organization that advocates for the political power of young people, I am especially concerned about the disproportionate impact these laws have on students, first-time voters, and young Arizonans. A recent analysis by Reuters showed that young people are less likely to carry ID, and studies have estimated that more than 35 percent of 18-year-olds do not have a valid government-issued license. And in Arizona these days, no ID means no ballot at your polling place on Election Day.

Rock the Vote is committed to the belief that it should be easier — not harder — for all Americans to cast a ballot and have their voices heard. We support efforts to reduce voter fraud when methods are proven to strengthen, not weaken, the health of our democracy. That’s why Rock the Vote recently joined other community-registration organizations, including Voto Latino, to sign an amicus brief arguing that proof-of-citizenship voter laws in Arizona and Kansas unduly impair efforts to register new voters. We’ve also organized a “Protect Voting” coalition of over 50 partner organizations including Planned Parenthood Action Fund, GLAAD, and the National Education Association and launched an online petition to raise awareness about these new laws.

Millennials are the largest, most diverse generation in this country’s history, and we want our voices heard. We are this country’s future, and we want to help shape its representational leadership. Old thinking and new laws designed to suppress youth turnout are standing in our way — we hope as some of these issues are re-litigated this week, Arizonans will stand for the future, and not the past.
Ireland’s Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade is currently looking for a vendor to provide facial recognition software for its passport services, according to the public tender notice. The department is looking for a contractor that will provide facial recognition software and all relevant licenses for an initial period of one year.

After this initial period, the department will have the option of renewing the contract for three more periods of 12 months, subject to the vendor achieving a satisfactory performance.

The vendor is also expected to provide full support and maintenance for software and licenses for the entire duration of the contract.

The company will have to provide an initial batch-run of software for examination of a once-off matching of existing passport data.


196. Danish Government awards Vision-Box® and Biometric Solutions as preferred suppliers of biometric-based automated enrollment and border control solutions

- Related Posts
  - Biometric Solutions and Vision-Box win Danish deal
  - Vision-Box® to supply the Government of Latvia with nationwide deployment of biometric enrollment stations
  - Vision-Box® awarded national framework agreement with UK Border Force for the deployment of Automated Border Control (ABC) ePassport Gates
  - Vision-Box® to Introduce Automated Border Control at Lennart Meri Tallinn Airport
  - Vision-Box® closes the border control loop by unifying the manual and automated border control processes at Lisbon Airport

The Danish Government has awarded the consortium of Biometric Solutions and Vision-Box® with a 4-year framework agreement on the procurement of biometric-based solutions and components for both
Enrollment and Automated Border Control. Under this agreement the consortium will deliver biometric equipment and related services to, among others, the Danish Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA).

By means of this framework agreement, the Danish Government intends to improve processes related to citizen’s electronic identity. The biometric technology provided by the consortium will be used in several Ministries’ missions for Danish citizen and foreigners’ enrollment for passport, visa and residence permits.

The Danish Government will thus be able to benefit from Vision-Box®’s large portfolio of advanced Identity Management solutions. One of the key parts of the whole solution will be a portable biographic and biometric enrollment & verification solution, the vb e-pass® portable, an all-in-one unit that collects a citizen’s face and fingerprint biometric data, as well as their digital signature. The versatility and size of vb e-pass® portable are the key drivers for multiple applications, including extra mobility in citizen identification and enrollment, and enhanced security checks across the country. The partner, Biometric Solutions, will contribute with its existing Enrollment portfolio, already deployed at Danish embassies and municipalities to enroll citizens in accordance with applicable rules and regulatory requirements.

“We look forward to working with the Danish Government, and our partner Biometric Solutions, to provide the best citizen experience ever. For that, we are committed to providing state-of-the-art technology, designed to offer more efficient and convenient services related to Electronic Identity.”, says Jean-François Lennon, Director of Global Business Development, Sales & Marketing at Vision-Box®.

Alex Ramskov Johanssen, CEO of Biometric Solutions, declares: “We are very happy that our collaboration with Vision-Box will help government institutions raise their service level for citizens around the world, while at the same time strengthening the security measures protecting citizens’ personal data.”

With this agreement, effective since February 2014, the two companies are consolidating their position in this region of the globe, where Vision-Box® has been the market leader for some years, with a strong presence in The Netherlands, Finland, Norway, Sweden, Latvia and Estonia, while Denmark is the native territory of Biometric Solutions.

http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2129/

197.FBI readies for NGI system

27/08/14

The FBI¹ says it is modernising the way it stores fingerprint cards, criminal history folders and civil identity files by digitally converting more than 30 million records – and as many as 83 million fingerprint cards.

The organisation says it is fully activating its Next Generation Identification (NGI) system, a digital platform for biometric and other types of identity information.

According to the FBI, the system, which is incrementally replacing the Bureau’s Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System, or IAFIS, will better serve its most frequent customers – law enforcement agencies checking criminal histories and fingerprints, armed forces veterans, government employees, and the FBI’s own laboratory.

¹ The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) is a governmental agency belonging to the United States Department of Justice.
Fulfilling requests for fingerprint matches that once took hours now take just minutes or seconds. “It makes those records immediately accessible to law enforcement agencies across the country,” says Penny Harker, who runs the Biometric Services Unit at the FBI’s Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division.

The FBI’s role as steward of identity files dates back to the 1920s, when it received 800,000 files from the US Army. In the 1930s, its Identification Division compiled the largest-ever collection of fingerprints from files collected from partner law enforcement agencies.

The conversion from manual to digital systems began more than 20 years ago.

http://www.planethiometrics.com/article-details/i/2141/

198. Warid Telecom rolls out biometric-based SIM activation across Pakistan

02/09/14

Warid Telecom has expanded its biometric verification solutions (BVS) network throughout Pakistan, ensuring that its customers are biometrically verified before a SIM card can be activated against their name.

The new biometric verification system asks customers to provide their fingerprints for authentication against CNIC data held with NADRA. After verification, the SIM is activated against customer's name in a process lasting approximately 15 seconds.

Warid Telecom first rolled out the BVS network in December last year at company business centres. In a second phase, around 2000 devices were installed at retailers across Karachi and Balochistan.

The third phase of BVS installations has seen the system extended to ensure Pakistan Telecommunication Authority (PTA) compliance and 10,000 devices have been deployed to all retailers across Pakistan.

PTA had previously announced that from August 1st, 2014, no SIM could be sold or activated without biometric verification.


199. Economic Benefits of New National e-ID Card

04 Sep 2014

Views: 1,774

Font Size: a / A

President Goodluck Jonathan

Emma Okonji writes on the economic importance of the newly launched national electronic identity card, designed as a primary database for all government departments, and can also be used for financial transactions.

Last Thursday was historic for Nigeria when President Goodluck Jonathan launched the country's biometric electronic identity (e-ID) card. The e-ID card replaces the initial identity card that was launched 10 years ago without biometric and electronic features that would have given it real economic value.
The newly launched e-ID card has so much economic value that will further enhance national development in the areas of single database for easy and quick access to information as well as online financial transactions. Apart from using it as a means of national identity, the card is also designed to serve as a personal database repository and payment card, all embedded in the single electronic card.

Director-General of the National Identity Management Commission (NIMC), the agency driving the e-ID scheme in Nigeria, Chris Onyemenam said the card comes with multifunctional features, which allow the cardholder to use it as a means of identity and for carrying out financial transactions, using any bank's Automated Teller Machine (ATM). This was proved right when Jonathan used his e-ID card to carryout financial transactions as soon as he was issued with the card, during the launch in Abuja.

The card can also be used for electronic signatures, biometric on-card verification and other applications.

The card, which would be issued to all Nigerians who have successfully enrolled for the National Identification Number (NIN), has five applications already activated at issuance with a built-in capacity to host more applications on request.

The launch became a remarkable milestone for the country and the National Identity Management System (NIMS). It was also a huge achievement in the overall objectives of NIMC, which has the responsibility to create, maintain and operate the national identity database.

Card Features

The new card shows a person's photograph, name, age and unique ID number, and 10 fingerprints. All these are scanned during enrolment of the cardholder.

The details are intended to ensure that there are no duplicates on the system.

Pleased with the efforts put in by NIMC in ensuring smooth registration and issuance of the national electronic card, Jonathan said the e-ID scheme would be the primary database for all government departments. According to him, by the time all government staff members are captured and issued with the card, it would become easy for government to access the data of any worker, irrespective of the Ministry, Department or Agency (MDA).

The card, according to NIMC, can also be used as voters’ card for every election in the country, apart from being used for electronic signatures, electronic payments, biometric on-card verification, among other applications.

"The card is not only a means of certifying your identity, but also a personal database repository and payment card, all in your pocket,” Jonathan said at the launch in Abuja.

Economic importance speaking on the economic importance of the card, Jonathan said "I have taken keen interest in this project, primarily because of the pervasive impact it can have on every facet of the socio-economic fabric of our dear nation.”

According to Division President of sub-Saharan Africa of MasterCard, Daniel Monehin, the national e-ID card would break down one of the most significant barriers to financial inclusion and proof of identity.

He said the broader economic impact of the card would be felt as the previously unbanked and under-banked would be able to gain access to the mainstream economy because the visibility of their assets allows them to build a financial history and establish credit-worthiness with financial institutions.

"Using the card as a payment tool, Nigerians can deposit funds, receive social benefits, save, or engage in many other financial transactions that are facilitated by electronic payments with the extra security assurance that biometric verification provides. They can also pay for goods and services and withdraw cash at millions of merchants and ATMS that accept MasterCard payment cards in Nigeria and in more than 210 countries and territories globally,” Monehin said.
Going by the statistics of the Central Bank of Nigeria (CBN) that only about 30 per cent of the country's 167 million people are banked, while 70 per cent are unbanked, the national e-ID card will sure help in providing access to financial transactions to as many Nigerians that would be issued with the card, since it could also be used for financial transactions at ATMs. If this is achieved, it would no doubt reduce the percentage of unbanked and boost financial inclusion, which the CBN is trying to achieve with the cashless policy.

MasterCard's role
The e-ID is built on MasterCard technology, and it comes branded with MasterCard, thus giving it international recognition and acceptance, based on the world-class security features embedded in it. In the pilot phase, NIMC will issue MasterCard-branded identity cards with electronic payments functionality to 13 million Nigerians. This initiative is the largest rollout of a biometric-based verification card with an electronic payment solution in the country and the broadest financial inclusion programme in Africa, according to financial experts.

According to Monehin, “Combining an identity card with MasterCard’s prepaid payment capability creates a game changer as it breaks down one of the most significant barriers to financial inclusion, proof of identity, while simultaneously enabling Nigerians to access the global economy.”

The e-ID card forms a key component of the NIMS deployed by NIMC as part of its mandate to create, maintain and operate the country’s first central National Identity Database and provide proof of identity to Nigerians. With 13 applications, including MasterCard’s prepaid payment technology and Cryptovision’s biometric identification technology, the e-ID card will provide millions of Nigerians, the majority of whom have never had access to a banking product - with the security, convenience and reliability of electronic payments.

According to Jonathan, “I am happy that this important milestone of the rollout of the NIMS has been realised in Nigeria. I am impressed with the quality of the e-ID card and the work of the corporate partners that made it possible. I commend especially MasterCard, and Access Bank Plc as well as NIMC for achieving a world-class product.”
He said the card builds a window to a social security benefit system and therefore, it is a card every Nigerian should get.

Collaborations
NIMC is working with several government agencies to integrate and harmonise all identity databases including Driver’s License, Voter Registration, Health Insurance, Tax, SIM and the National Pension Commission (PENCOM) into a single, shared services platform. According to Onyemenam, “The National e-ID programme enables us to create an optimised common platform for Nigerian citizens to easily interact with the various government agencies and to transact electronically.” “There are many functions of the card, including the potential to use it as an international travel document, which will have significant implications for border control in Nigeria and West Africa,” he added.


200.SYRIANS TO BE TRACKED BY BIOMETRIC IDS

- Daily Sabah
- Updated : 03.09.2014 12:15:24
- Published : 03.09.2014 00:22:45
ANKARA — Officials from Turkish Prime Ministry’s Disaster and Emergency Management Authority (AFAD) said yesterday that they completed the biometric registration of 740,000 Syrians in the country that hosts about 1.1 million displaced Syrians. AFAD hosted a symposium yesterday that was attended by deputy governors from around the country to address the problems related to displaced Syrians.

AFAD officials said that 220,000 Syrian "guests" stay in 22 accommodation facilities including tent camps in 10 provinces and they would implement decisions taken at a recent high-level summit on Syrians as soon as possible. The government officials and local authorities had convened last week to resolve the issues displaced Syrians faced in Turkey after the unrest broke out in several cities against Syrians.

The majority of Syrians who took shelter in Turkey do not live in camps provided by the state. Rich Syrians buy or rent houses in big cities while impoverished ones turn to begging, low-paid jobs and, sometimes, to crime to look after themselves, giving rise to anti-Syrian sentiment among the Turkish public. Through biometric registration, Turkey plans to monitor Syrians closely and to address their problems more effectively.


201. Somaliland: Pilgrims to Use New National E-Passport

Thursday, 04 September 2014 20:55

Reveals the interior minister Al Waran’ade as police commissioner Gen Fadal says investigations on the mysterious Hijab man are still ongoing
**Somaliland has acquired a new e-passport**

HARGEISA (Somalilandsun) – The Impact of the One Million Dollar expenditure on an E-passport by the Somaliland government shall be accrued starting with the next pilgrimage.

This was stated by the Somaliland interior minister Ali Mohamed Waran'ade while revealing that the long awaited e-passport is finally available for issue to interested citizens among them pilgrims to the holy sites in Mecca.

"While the Saudi Government has in the past forced pilgrims to use non Somaliland passports during Hajj, the newly acquired Somaliland e-passport is now a valid travel document in Saudi Arabia for pilgrimage and other purposes” said Waran'ade in Hargeisa.

For a number of years Somaliland citizens have undertaken the annual pilgrimage under duress having been forced to utilize passports from either the neighbouring Somali republic or other countries worldwide thence the huge sigh of relief on this new development.

of countries including Kenya, Ethiopia, Djibouti and South Sudan that have accepted the now on phase out old Somaliland passport as a valid traveling document in their respective countries are expected to treat the newly acquired e-passport similarly.

On the issue of security which in his ministerial docket Waran'ade who said the government which is determined to eliminate murders within communities has established new legal parameters geared towards eliminating prevalent norms that legalize the payment of blood money by the family of killer to that of the butchered and replace it with "An eye for an eye"

Though the new law might receive some opposition from traditional leaders in whose domain the settlement of crimes in which the community accepts blame rests, the elimination of blood payment and subsequent replacement with the murderer following his victim to the grave is a welcome move that shall greatly help reduce rampant and meaningless killings especially in the eastern parts of Somaliland.

The interior minister upon Queries on the fate of the man recently caught dressed as a woman in Hargeisa delegated response to police commissioner Brigadier General Abdilahi Fadal Iman who informed that the Hijab man is still in police custody where investigations are ongoing to unearth reasons behind this strange behavior.

Once investigations are complete we shall reveal to the public the motive behind the reasons that drove the Hijabman to dress like a woman" said Gen Fadal Iman adding that police investigators have eliminated intent on terrorism related activities as motive.

The saga of the Hijab man has remained one that continues to confound citizens months after he was arrested while dressed as a woman at a market in Hargeisa following a tip-off from a female citizen who upon brushing shoulders with the Hijabman became suspicious reportedly from the sturdy physical status of the suspect.


202.Facial recognition trials resume at Narita, Haneda airports

**Immigration lines eyed but ability to ID moving people also a motive**

Automated facial-recognition tests are underway at Narita and Haneda airports in a stated attempt to reduce lines at passport control.
The facial-recognition trials are also focused, however, on examining whether machines can accurately identify passengers not only when standing before a camera, but also when walking.

The trials began Aug. 4 and were to end Friday. They are being used on Japanese whose passports have memory chips that can be scanned.

It is the second time the technology has been tested, after a trial in 2012 yielded an unacceptably high error rate.

The Justice Ministry thinks that using automated facial recognition gates to verify the identity of Japanese passport-holders will allow it to assign more immigration officers to screen foreign visitors.

Officials said the trials aim to gather data on around 25,000 individuals departing from and arriving at the two airports. The ministry, which runs the Immigration Bureau, wants to decide by year’s end whether to adopt the system.

“We would like to introduce it in time for the Tokyo Olympics” in 2020, a ministry official said.

The studies stem from a target set in June 2010, when the Democratic Party of Japan was in power. The DPJ wanted to boost annual tourism numbers from overseas to 25 million by 2020, up threefold from the 8.35 million in 2008, which was itself an all-time record.

The ministry set up a panel in October 2011 to pursue the goal. In an interim report in March 2012, the panel proposed running a facial ID experiment on Japanese travelers.

At present, Japanese can use automated ID gates if they register their fingerprints in advance. The ministry plans to replace fingerprint authentication with facial authentication by storing facial data in passport computer chips.

The ministry ran its first trials at the two airports in August and September 2012 and ended up with a 17.7 percent error rate. This led officials to put the program on hold.

But the need to cut lines at immigration became more apparent in 2012, when foreign arrivals topped 10 million.

Then, in September 2013, Tokyo was chosen to host the 2020 Summer Olympics, generating more concerns.

Japan is keen to perfect facial recognition for surveillance. In July, it was reported that the Internal Affairs and Communications Ministry and the Education, Culture, Sports, Science and Technology Ministry conducted experiments with Omron Corp. on unknowing commuters in Tokyo, Yokohama and Kyoto by secretly filming them at train stations with help from East Japan Railway Co. (JR East) and West Japan Railway Co. (JR West).
In JR East’s case, Omron allegedly used a year of images from the stations for a state-backed surveillance project without JR East’s consent, it was reported. It was not clear if the experiments are linked to the railway’s popular Suica card.

http://www.biometricupdate.com/201409/biometric-identifications-role-in-the-on-boarding-process

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203. Examining the use of biometrics in ID protection and KYC

Biometric identification’s role in the on-boarding process

By Steve Cook Tweet

September 4, 2014 -

This is a guest post by Steve Cook Director of Business Development at Facebanx

Biometric identification systems are now being deployed within various applications into more and more public and private institutions. For those that are new to biometrics, biometrics are the unique characteristics of a human being that can be used to clearly identify a person. Biometric technology such as fingerprint, iris, face and voice recognition is now widely available at an advanced level and has many different user cases when it comes to the financial services sector.

One of the key areas where using biometrics will play an important role will be in the on-boarding process. It will form part of the credentials of an individual in the enrolment procedure. For example, some new online banks and mobile wallets are now requesting new customers to add one or more biometric characteristics during a registration or transaction process. This could be an impression of your finger to create a unique fingerprint, or a voice print containing a phrase or random numbers, or even a photo of your face. 80% of Apple iPhone 5S and Samsung Galaxy S5 owners are already familiar with using their fingerprint to unlock their smartphones. In the case of the Samsung Galaxy S5, customers can already authorise certain payments through their PayPal account by just using their unique fingerprint as authentication. Apple had announced recently that it was opening up the API for its Touch ID fingerprint sensor to app developers so that it could be used for authentication. Apple is also planning to launch its new flagship iPhone 6 very shortly with a digital wallet called the “Apple Pay” that allows their customers to make physical purchases with fingerprint authentication.

The fingerprint is currently leading the way in the biometrics field as the choice of preference, but other biometrics such as face and voice are not far behind.

Biometrics are seen as a high end tool for verifying new customers. It also meets with banking compliance regulations. Both banks and card companies are looking into the possibility of introducing biometrics as a way of improving their KYC (Know Your Customer) processes. Visa Europe recently announced that it is going to introduce biometrics in order to enable quicker and more secure payments on mobile devices. Retailers are
turning to different APIs that store payment card data in the cloud. This way a consumer doesn’t have to type in all the payment card information but instead just properly authenticate to the site. Visa’s digital payments objective is to strive to ensure the payment experience facilitated by such technology is safe, secure and consistent for consumers.

At Facebanx, we are currently working with a number of banks, payment processors, money transfer operators and mobile wallet providers, utilising both the face and voice biometric applications as a way of proving who a person is. For example, in the on-boarding process, a customer will be requested to add an image of their face. A photo of a person is taken through existing hardware such as the camera from a PC, tablet or smartphone. That image is added to the database. It is also checked to see if that face matches any other faces in the database. This can prevent multiple accounts from being active in different names. Facial recognition technology has an accuracy of around 95-99%, providing a good quality photo can be taken. If a number of face matches occur, known as false positives, a voice print can be taken and then matched against these identical faces to reduce the selection down to just one person. A customer may be asked to read out a set of random numbers for example. The software detects these patterns to prove a liveness test and to show whether the person is genuine. However no single operator should solely rely on biometrics for a complete verification method, but using two or more biometrics within the enrolment process reduces the risk. Using biometrics in conjunction with other verification checks can provide that extra secure layer of authentication.

So what is in it for the customer? Why would consumers want to add their unique biometrics to their personal accounts? Providing a customer’s privacy and data protection rights are upheld then there are considerable benefits for consumers to adopt biometric verifications. Obviously it is an easier way to pay for goods and services allowing for a frictionless process, with instant log-in into an account replacing the dependency for passwords with different accounts. New technology is moving all of us into these new ways of proving who we are. However one of the strong cases for consumer adoption is preventing identity theft. Having your unique biometric characteristics pinned to your bank account makes it much harder for fraudsters to circumvent your account. With the amount of data breaches and account takeovers that are happening these days, biometrics could be seen as the answer for preventing your ID from being stolen and what is more, being used to perpetrate other frauds. Recently a group of Russian hackers have amassed the largest ever cache of stolen internet credentials, reportedly accumulating more than 1.2 billion user name and password combinations and more than 500 million email addresses.
Identity theft is becoming a daily occurrence. Identity theft is one of the most insidious and fastest growing consumer crimes in the United States. It affects nearly twelve million people every year. That’s around 30,000 identities stolen every day. These are alarming statistics, but even worse is that some of these identity theft victims are arrested for crimes committed in their good name.

There are many different scenarios for adopting biometric technology; from replacing passwords and password re-sets to improving KYC methods, identifying fraud, preventing account takeovers and multiple accounts from taking place. However it is in the on-boarding process that biometrics will play a key role. Over the next few years, using your face and voice to open accounts and to purchase goods and services will become fairly standard, particularly with the younger 16-25 age group, where biometrics has already hit the mainstream with the advent of the smartphone and tablet ‘selfie’ generation.

DISCLAIMER: BiometricUpdate.com blogs are submitted content. The views expressed in this blog are that of the author, and don’t necessarily reflect the views of BiometricUpdate.com

http://allafrica.com/stories/201409121237.html

204. Kenya: State Plans to Include Banking in National Electronic ID Card

By Richard Mungai

THE government is considering having banking as part of the database to be integrated in the planned national electronic identity card in a bid to enhance the accessibility of financial services to more Kenyans.

The Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology Cabinet secretary, Fred Matiang’i said the proposal to have a payment enabled national eID has been tabled to the Ministry of Interior and Coordination of National Government which is overseeing the exercise that will shift the country from manual public record keeping.

"All East African Community member countries are required by the EAC protocol to have new generation IDs before end of June 2015. The suggestions we have made on the kind of new generation ID that Kenya should have include a tool that will make it a payment card," he said on Wednesday during the launch of banking and mobile money Comesa conference 2014, in Nairobi.

Matiang’i said the eID will also host an individual’s biometric details, voter registration, passport and the driving licence information adding that local banks which have operations across the EAC will be the biggest beneficiaries since the card will ease access of service to customers.

He added that there will be a public consultation so that the banking sector can give suggestions on the matter. "After we release the sample of the new generation ID please feel free to make suggestions on what it should contain," he said.

According to the Kenya Bankers Association chief executive officer Habil Olaka, integrating payment services in the eID will bring enormous benefits to the banking sector as it will ease the hassle of cross border operations for banks, but it will have to be more secure than the current chip and pin ATM (automated teller machine) cards.

"This type of card can be used on ATMs of different banks thereby eliminating the need of carrying many cards. We welcome it but the security risks posed by such a system will need to be thoroughly scrutinized," he said.
Kenya

**Nairobi Remembers Mall Massacre**

On the first anniversary of the al-Shabab militant attack on Westgate Mall in Kenya's capital Nairobi, thousands of … see more »

http://e-pao.net/GP.asp?src=9..150914.sep14

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**Imphal, September 14 2014:** A strong allegation has been raised that Rs 30 each has been charged for issuing Aadhaar cards to people of Imphal at a particular Municipal Council Ward.

According to some people of the particular Ward who went after Aadhaar cards, a team of the Unique Identification Authority of India took photographs and other necessary data of citizens at the office of the Ward Development Committee on September 13 and 14.

The citizens who came to collect Aadhaar cards were allegedly charged Rs 30 each.

Even though the Counsellor and Member of the Ward could not be found at the office of the Ward Development Committee, one individual who identified himself as a close associate of the Member said that they organised a
special drive in view of the large number of people who are yet to possess Aadhaar cards.

People gave monetary aid voluntarily so that it could be of some help to the visiting officials and in processing Aadhaar cards.

There was no question of charging any money from the citizens in the name of Aadhaar cards, claimed the Member's associate.

* This news is as published by respected news daily at Imphal, whose name is duly marked as 'Source'. E-Pao.net is not responsible for it's sanctity & originality.


206. Door To Door Voter Registration

Illinois residents can vote on election day this year, November 4, but if you would like to beat the crowds, you can register early.

Next Saturday, the Faith Coalition For The Common Good will be going door-to-door with the NAACP to get people signed-up.

The two organizations will be knocking on doors in the second and third wards of Springfield.

"We have a lot of turnover rate in our community, and we don't know if those people have gotten older," said Shatriya Smith, a volunteer for the event. "They've changed addresses. So we definitely want the people currently living in those homes to make sure they're registered, and get out and vote as well."

A total of 100 volunteers are expected to participate in the event.

http://ir.aware.com/releasedetail.cfm?ReleaseID=870374

207. Fingerprint Cards suspends CEO accused of insider trading

12/09/14

Swedish fingerprint sensor maker Fingerprint Cards said on Thursday that it had replaced its chief executive until further notice, after police initiated a preliminary criminal investigation into him over alleged insider trading.

The Swedish Economic Crime Authority (SECA) had said that CEO Johan Carlstrom was being investigated for serious insider crime.

Carlstrom denied the accusations in a phone interview with Bloomberg.

“I’m innocent and that will be proven,” Carlstrom said. “Why would I take the risk? So far the prosecutor has proven nothing. The allegations will be dismissed when he investigates more.”
Fingerprint Cards’ stock plunged as much as 42% on the news, added the financial news service.

Last October, the SECA launched a fraud probe following reports of a hoax press release which claimed Samsung was buying the company for US$650 million.

Joergen Lantto, head of product and development, will be acting chief until further notice, Chairman Urban Fagerstedt told Bloomberg.

While the Stockholm stock exchange on Wednesday suspended trading in shares of Fingerprint Cards, a day later it lifted the measure.

In earlier news, on 4 September, Fingerprint Cards (FPC) announced the launch of a smartphone using the touch fingerprint sensor FPC1020. The sensor for the Ascend Mate7, developed by China's Huawei, uses a fingerprint algorithm co-developed between Precise Biometrics and FPC. At the time, shares rose nearly 11%.

Launched in April, FPC1021 is more than 30% smaller in size, the company claims, and comes pre-integrated with software and matching algorithms for Android and Windows.

http://www.planethiometrics.com/article-details/i/2172/

208. Research firm: Facial recognition market to grow 9.5% by 2020

The value of the global facial recognition market will grow 9.5% per year between 2014 to 2020 from a value of US$1.17 billion in 2013, Research and Markets has predicted in a new report.

The firm cited rising instances of criminal, terrorist and fraud as fuelling development in the sector, saying that technological advancements and social media use such as tagging would also continue to drive the market.

“Facial recognition systems that can scan images in all environmental conditions are being developed using 3D facial recognition technology. This would help overcome the barriers of 2D facial recognition technology,” said R&M.

The report said that because facial recognition results in better surveillance, the technology had been accepted across various government and private sectors, including military, homeland security, banking, financial services, insurance and retail.

In terms of limiting factors, R&M noted that “restrictions on users to share their personal details ie covert monitoring of an individual, are expected to hinder market growth”.

The firm said that growing security threats at government organizations and departments, coupled with demand for better authentication systems had resulted in the “highest market revenue share as compared to other end-use industries” in 2013.

“Facial recognition is expected to be used as an authentication method in various handheld devices such as laptops, computers, and smart phones,” wrote R&M “Furthermore, the retail industry is expected to witness rapid adoption of facial recognition in terms of security as well as surveillance to monitor customers’ behaviour”.

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209. Stapleford Park Hotel Using Biometric Scanners for Staff Data

On 10 September 2014, Hotel Business reported:

"Stapleford Park Hotel Using Biometric Scanners for Staff Data"

More Detail...

Hotel Business – The number 1 ABC certified trade magazine for the hotel industry across the UK

Stapleford Park Country House Hotel and Sporting Estate in Leicestershire has just installed biometric fingerprint scanners to provide accurate real-time staff attendance data for the HR and payroll teams. Like many hospitality venues, Stapleford Park employs a diverse range of personnel including casual and agency staff, and ensuring accurate, reliable time and attendance data can…

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New Biometric Scanners means Reliable Staff Attendance Data for Stapleford Park

The historic Stapleford Park Country House Hotel and Sporting Estate in Leicestershire has just installed biometric fingerprint scanners to provide accurate real-time staff attendance data for the HR and payroll…

In "Supplier Announcements"

210. Emirates ID cards used as bank cards

Abu Dhabi: A positive response from bank customers to use their Emirates ID cards as ATM cards proves the UAE’s residents’ keenness to adopt latest technologies without any apprehension, a senior bank official told Gulf News on Sunday.

Hundreds of customers of Al Hilal Bank have started using Emirates ID card as Automatic Teller Machine (ATM) cards to withdraw cash from ATMs, which proves UAE residents’ trust in modern technology, said Mariam Al Ahli, Head of Corporate Communications at Al Hilal Bank.

Since the bank introduced this service on September 7, more than 8,000 customers have registered their ID cards with the bank to use them as ATM cards, she said. “Every day more people are registering for this service.” The bank has 84,000 customers and 22 branches in the UAE and three in Kazakhstan.

Al Hilal Bank is the first bank in the country to use Emirates ID cards as bank cards.

Gulf News
211. Kenya eyes eID cards

Following in the footsteps of Nigeria’s launch of a new eID card that can also be used for payments, the Kenyan government is making moves to deploy a similar solution designed to improve financial inclusion in the country.

According to reports in Kenyan media, a proposal for payment-enabled national eID have been submitted to the Ministry of Interior and Coordination.

Kenya’s Star newspaper quotes Ministry of Information, Communication and Technology Cabinet secretary Fred Matiang’i as saying: “All East African Community member countries are required by the EAC protocol to have new generation IDs before the end of June, 2015. The suggestions we have made on the kind of new generation ID that Kenya should have include a tool that will make it a payment card.”

212. Smart ID card to benefit overseas Pakistanis

JEDDAH: FOZIA KHAN

Published — Thursday 18 September 2014

Last update 18 September 2014 12:23 am

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Madinah police arrest 967 offenders

The Smart National Identity Card (SNIC) launched by the Pakistani consul general in Jeddah will benefit overseas Pakistanis in a number of ways.

Jeddah is the first overseas destination to have launched the SNIC also known as the “3rd generation ID card” which will ensure overall convenience and security for Pakistanis living abroad.

Speaking to the media at the launching ceremony of the card by NADRA officials (National Database and Registration Authority) at his residence, Pakistan Consul General Aftab A. Khokher said: “This is a landmark development as it is the first time SNIC has been launched outside Pakistan, and Jeddah is the first overseas destination to do so.”

NADRA is planning to link some special services with the SNIC, including cash transfer facilities, frequent flying miles programs, store chain discounts, Haj and Umrah packages, pension payments, conditional cash transfers, welfare schemes, cash grants, E-voting and driving license issuance.

Khokher said that after its launch in Jeddah, the card will be introduced in Dubai, followed by the United Kingdom, adding that the card will preserve citizens’ identity more efficiently by preventing all types of forgery.

“It is also more reliable and secure with almost 36 built-in security features which will benefit Pakistani nationals in different ways in the future,” he said.

The main features of the card are laser engraving and chip encryption. The card is made of durable ply-carbonated material guaranteeing over a 10-year product life.


213. Increasing Demand For Advanced Security Boosting India Fingerprint Biometrics

Companies referenced in this item: 3M Cogent, DigitalPersona, NEC Corporation of America, Safran Group

Topics relating to this post: Access Control • Attendance • Biometric • DigitalPersona • Fingerprint • HealthCare • Security • Sensor • Software • Time

A new report from Research and Markets states that India’s fingerprint biometrics market is expected to grow at a CAGR of 35.1 percent between 2014 and 2020. According to ‘India Fingerprint Biometrics Market 2014-2020: Market Forecast By Applications and Regions’, Morpho (Safran), 3M and NEC are the key vendors in this area.
According to the new report, fingerprints have dominated India’s biometrics market and are expected to continue to do so thanks to the affordability of the technology combined with how easy it is to use.

The companies above hold their status as key players thanks to a focus on government and travel/transportation applications, from which, the report states, they generate the most of their revenue in this respect. That said, the report also predicts that those applications are likely to decline due to an increased market penetration and adoption of fingerprint biometrics in other verticals. Healthcare, banking, retail and commercial offices are all expected to contribute to this factor.

Research and Markets calls India’s biometrics market among the fastest growing in the world. Fingerprints have dominated this space and are expected to continue to do so thanks to the affordability of the technology combined with how easy it is to use.

Examples of the biometric adoption demand in India can be seen in the news throughout the past year. In March the DigitalPersona TCS1 Steelcoat sensor was selected by Visiontek, a telecom equipment and software solutions provider, to aid citizens of India to access services such as banking and entitlement programs. Selected for its durability, performance capabilities and cost, DigitalPersona’s fingerprint sensor is currently deployed in 60,000 readers for these express identification services.

In June, FindBiometrics reported on the 98 medical dispensaries in the capital city of New Delhi that will be adopting biometric time and attendance measures in order to address complaints of slacking and cleanliness.

September 19, 2014 – by Peter B. Counter


PREPARATIONS are underway for the conduct of voters’ registration in preparation for the Sangguniang Kabataan (SK) election next year.

Zamboanga City first district election officer Atty. Stephen Roy Cañete said the Commission on Elections (Comelec), through en banc Resolution 9899, has scheduled the registration of voters for the SK polls from September 20-29 this year.

The SK election is scheduled to be held on February 21, 2015. An SK chairperson and seven SK councilmen will be elected by then.

Advertisement
Cañete said that he and second district election officer, lawyer Lerdo Matildo Jr., expected at least 10,000 registrants from the two districts.

Qualified to register and vote are youths aged 15 to 17.

"I am encouraging them (youths) as early as now to exercise their right of suffrage and to participate in our electoral activity, which is our basic right afforded by our democratic system," Cañete said.

The SK election was supposed to be held together with the barangay election but was postponed to allow Congress to pass a law that would institute reforms on the SK system.

The Comelec decided to push through with the holding of the SK elections since no law was enacted. (Bong Garcia)

http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2176/

215. ING Netherlands plans voice biometrics for banking app

15/09/14

The banking arm of Dutch financial group ING has revealed that it plans to incorporate voice biometrics into a banking app that uses an intelligent virtual assistant.

ING Netherlands on Monday released a demo video of “Inge”, a human-like conversational interface which allow customers to make voice commands such as "transfer" or "balance".

"ING is also innovating ahead of their competition and will be introducing voice biometrics to their app in the coming months to create a mobile voice experience that is convenient and easy to use", said the bank.

Last March, ING said it was piloting facial and voice recognition technology with a small number of employees and customers


216. Vision-Box® successfully deploys state-of-the-art multibiometric Automated Border Clearance eGates at Hamad International Airport

- Related Posts
  - Vision-Box® is currently deploying Automated Border Clearance multimodal eGates at the Hamad International Airport – State of Qatar
  - Vision-Box® S.A., deploys 24 Automated Border Control eGates at Lisbon International Airport’s newest Terminal.
  - São Paulo International Airport will implement the latest Automated Border Control technology
  - São Paulo International Airport to install innovative eGates
Recently opened and already a reference for innovation and passenger experience in the whole of the Middle East, Hamad International Airport is now the airport with one of the largest deployments of ABC eGates in the world.

The new ground-breaking Hamad International Airport (HIA) in Qatar was designed with customer experience to the fore. The result is a world-class facility, where the concept of hospitality underpins everything. Unsurprisingly, a seamless, memorable passenger journey was also the motto for the implementation of a state-of-the-art Border Control process at the Airport. Vision-Box®, leader in Automated Border Control solutions and expert in Passenger Experience, was contracted by the NDIA Steering Committee as the partner in charge for the implementation of one of the largest deployments of eGates in one single airport.

The 62 vb i-match® eGates are already in use at the HIA, operated by Vision-Box®’s front-end Border Control application, the vb inspector®, and totally integrated with the advanced Identity Management Infrastructure of the Ministry of the Interior of the State of Qatar, ensuring the highest levels of security and efficiency.

The Vision-Box® eGates were exclusively designed to meet the Hamad International Airport performance and meticulous design requirements. The multimodal capabilities allow for the use of face, iris and fingerprint as biometric identifiers. They ensure a speedy passage time with maximum accuracy, offering state-of-the-art Automated Border Control to several different traveler profiles, while making sure that the border is secure and that the passenger has a pleasant experience.

Jean-François Lennon, Director Global Business Development, Sales & Marketing at Vision-Box®, emphasizes that this implementation represents one of the largest deployments of multimodal ABC eGates in the world, and on a single airport. Vision-Box® feels honored to be part of this world premiere airport project. “The Middle-East continues to represent an enormous potential. We’ve been witnessing an outburst of initiatives by Governments, Airports, Airlines and private sector adopting digital identity as a means to improve security and efficiency, and also to provide value-added services to their citizens. We look forward to further contributing to their success, both through on-going Identity Management programs and other GCC initiatives, by continuously delivering stunning innovation and investing in local resources”.


217.Thousands of smartcard ID’s uncollected at Home Affairs

Monday 15 September 2014 06:30

SABC

The Department of Home Affairs urges South Africans from the age of 16 to apply for their smart identity document cards. (SABC)
Thousands of smartcard Identity Documents are lying uncollected at Home Affairs offices across the country.

Home Affairs Minister Malusi Gigaba has appealed to South Africans to register to collect their ID’s, adding that he intends shutting down the late registration of births.

“As you know by the 31 of December 2014, I intend shutting down the late registration of birth process, secondly we have been asking South Africans that all children who are 16 years old apply for their smart identity documents cards.”

Gigaba says every South African must safe guard and protect the national IDs as a way of protecting of our citizenship and identity.

He maintains at the present moment they have many ID cards that lie uncollected in their offices.

NEW DELHI: The government is looking for a new parent for the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) as it prepares to wind up the Planning Commission, which had so far been the administrative authority for the body that has been tasked with issuing chip-based, biometric photo ID cards, called Aadhar, to all Indians.


Companies referenced in this item: DigitalPersona
DigitalPersona, Inc., a global provider of strong authentication and access management solutions, today announced the results of a survey which shows more than half of retailers still use passwords for point-of-sale (POS) system login, despite concerns over the sharing and misuse of those passwords. The survey also revealed that of those companies considering a change to new login methods, nearly 70 percent are considering a switch to biometric authentication.

The 2011 survey of more than 1,100 participants was conducted by NetWorld Alliance, the retail industry’s premier publisher of news and information about self-service, digital signage and retail customer experience. Results revealed that over 90 percent of the respondents ranked fraud prevention to be one of the most important aspects when considering sign-in methods. Furthermore, respondents cited eliminating fraudulent overrides and attendance fraud as the most important security concerns facing their business. Fraud and theft remain dominant issues for global retailers as losses continue to mount. The Centre for Retail Research’s Global Retail Theft Barometer estimates that approximately $40.7 billion is lost due to disloyal or fraudulent employees per year.

"Despite the overwhelming indication that fraud and theft are major business concerns for POS security, it’s surprising that over half of businesses still use the least secure method of user authentication," said Jim Fulton, vice president at DigitalPersona. "The retail industry continues to be a victim of their own inaction – they know the use of passwords is a threat to their business, and yet will accept this situation despite the availability of cost-effective and proven alternatives. Fingerprint biometrics is a proven solution that prevents fraud and theft, is easy to use and deploy and can rapidly pay for itself."

Fingerprint biometrics enable organizations to quickly and securely identify users when performing tasks or accessing applications and records. Biometric POS systems reduce fraud, cut IT costs and improve efficiency. DigitalPersona U.are.U Fingerprint Readers are easily integrated into existing systems and due to their ease-of-use and stability, are used in more than 90 percent of the biometrically-enabled POS systems. Large, national retailers and restaurateurs including Yogurtland, KFC, Garden Fresh, Pizza Hut, Popeye's, Connectivity Source and Prime Communications have implemented DigitalPersona fingerprint readers enabling them to transition away from passwords or PINs, and allowing management to tie individuals to the actions they perform. This provides a powerful deterrent to time- and attendance and management-override fraud. Furthermore, fingerprint biometrics make it easier for businesses to address the stringent PCI mandates, as well as improve productivity and customer response times by simplifying system login at the POS.

Integration with Oracle Retail POS and other Solutions on Display at Retail’s BIG Show

Next week, DigitalPersona will be exhibiting the company’s fingerprint biometrics solutions at the National Retail Federation’s (NRF) 101st Annual Conference and Expo in Booth #1868. At the event, dubbed The BIG Show, attendees will be able to see integration of DigitalPersona fingerprint biometrics with the latest release of Oracle Retail Point-of-Service at the Oracle Retail booth #1319. DigitalPersona will be also be showcased in many other booths throughout NRF, including Epicor #2105, IBM #619, iQmetrix #2859, Micros-Retail #2303, NCR #415, Panasonic #2239, Posiflex #2458, Retail Anywhere #2059, Tomax #2119, Wincor Nixdorf #451 and more.
protection software is shipped by computer manufacturers on millions of notebooks and desktop computers per year; its cloud- and Active Directory-managed solutions for full disk encryption, multi-factor/strong authentication and single sign-on (SSO) password management simplify compliance and cut IT costs. For more information contact DigitalPersona, Inc. at: +1 650.474.4000, or visit www.digitalpersona.com.

220. Biometrics attendance scanners installed at historic English hotel

Time and attendance firm Bodet has deployed biometric fingerprint scanners to provide accurate real-time staff attendance data for the HR and payroll teams at the historic Stapleford Park Country House Hotel and Sporting Estate in England's Leicestershire. The firm said that like many hospitality venues, Stapleford Park employs a diverse range of personnel including casual and agency staff - meaning that accurate, reliable time and attendance data can be a problem.

In a press release, the company said that in response it has implemented a system that uses scanners to recognise each staff member's fingerprint, with these compared against stored profiles.

This data is sent directly to software on a main server which records identity and time. The software then generates customised reports of time and attendance for payroll and operational teams.

"We have over 150 employees who are working different shifts around the clock. It makes it very difficult to monitor staff attendance, especially on overnights and when people swap shifts. We used to use time sheets, but this is very time consuming, both for the non-salaried staff and for the payroll teams, " said Stapleford Park’s payroll administrator, Sally Hatton.

Thanks to Bodet's biometric system, "we now have reliable data and we now know exactly who’s on site and when. It also saves so much management time, " added Hatton.

The French-based Bodet Group has been developing time measurement products since the 1860s. The Group has five subsidiaries across Europe exporting to 60 countries and have expanded from clock-making into IT-based time and attendance, controlled access, school class change systems and sports scoreboards.


221. US: South Dakota State's ID card facelift

The initial idea for a new card design came up because there was confusion surrounding the name for the card, as students would report to card services and didn’t know what to call their credential. According to SDSU’s campus card services manager Kendell Rorhbach, in addition to the name some students were unaware of the functions the student ID card at South Dakota State.
According to the SDSU Collegian, Card Services partnered with the student union to devise a new name for the campus credential. The Union, in turn, consulted with student groups on campus until the MyJacks Card was born.

South Dakota State migrated from a swipe-only credential some three years ago, at which point students were required to get a new ID. Any students who received an ID in 2011 or later, then, are not required to get a new MyJacks Card. The newly redesigned MyJacks card has the same functionality as the cards issued after the 2011 change.

As in past years, University Marketing and Communications came up with the design for the card. If students want the new card, they can trade in their old ID in working condition for a half price upgrade of $10, with a full replacement costing $20.

Key to the MyJacks Card is Hobo Dough, SDSU’s declining balance funds. There are currently 15 off-campus locations that accept Hobo Dough, but Card Services is working to add more locations.

To help support use of Hobo Dough, SDSU posts deals and advertisements on the Hobo Dough Facebook page every Thursday and Friday throughout the school year. These deals and ads feature partnering off-campus businesses and the deals they offer to student using the declining balance funds.

The program is still in its first year and card services is still working with businesses on promotions and deals, but university officials insist that the Facebook page will be updated regularly with promotions, discounts and contests where students can win a Hobo Dough deposit.

The MyJacks Card website – where students can find the orientation video about the card and a full list of venues that Hobo Dough is accepted – has also been added as part of the card redesign.

The MyJacks Card can be managed via the website, enabling students to mark their card as lost and freeze its use so that funds cannot be withdrawn from the account. Likewise, if the card is found students can unfreeze the account via the website without having to get an entirely new card.

Through the Facebook page, contests and promotions, Card Services hopes to spark the use of Hobo Dough, as well as promote the “MyJacks” name on campus.


222.Gambia to introduce new biometric passports

Gambia to introduce new biometric passports Posted by: APA Posted date : September 18, 2014 at 1:44 am UTC 438 views In: Africa
Gambia’s Immigration Department is set to introduce new biometric passports for all eligible citizens with effect from 22nd September, 2014, a press release from the department confirmed Wednesday. With the introduction of the biometric passport, the cost would increase by 200 percent – from D1,000 to D3,000 ($75).

Payment will be made at any Ebobank office in the country.

The Immigration department said the present machine readable passports are valid until their expiry date mentioned on their bio-data page.

223. UIDAI pilot project to weed out 10-12% wrongful beneficiaries in social sector schemes

NEW DELHI: The government has begun a crackdown on "ghost" beneficiaries of its social sector schemes, a move aimed at curbing misappropriation of funds and strengthening the Aadhaar number-linked direct benefit transfer channel.

The pilot project, to be undertaken by the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) which issues the Aadhaar number, will be implemented in 300 of the country's 630 districts. It will cover schemes including distribution of LPG, rural employment guarantee, MGNREGA, the public distribution system, scholarships and old age pension, according to a senior official.

224. Kenya to launch ecommerce-enabled eID cards
Following the Nigerian move, the Kenyan government is expected to also launch a new national electronic identity card (eID) initiative.

This is aimed at designing cards which have inbuilt ecommerce capabilities, which will further boost financial inclusion in Kenya.

In what concerns Kenya, Fred Matiang’I, Cabinet Secretary for Information, Communication and Technology, has informed that the proposal for a payments-enabled national eID card had been submitted to the Ministry of Interior and Coordination which oversees an ongoing exercise to transition the country away from manual public record keeping.

Similar to the model for Nigeria’s eID cards, the proposed cards for Kenyans are to host the biometric details of the owner and also provide information on voter registration, driving license and international passports, besides banking-related payment capabilities.


Press Releases

225. MasterCard Advisors Announces Leadership Changes in Asia Pacific

Tweet: #MasterCardAdvisors announces leadership changes http://mstr.cd/1wnitgQ2

Singapore, 16 September 2014 – MasterCard Advisors, the professional services arm of MasterCard, today announced the appointment of Pierre Burret as Head of Delivery, Quality & Resource Management for Europe, Asia Pacific, Middle East & Africa and Eric Schneider as Region Business Lead for Asia Pacific.

Based in Singapore, Burret will take up the newly created role to lead delivery, quality and resource management across three key regions (Europe, Asia Pacific, Middle East & Africa). In his new role, Burret will lead and develop the MasterCard Advisors’ consulting team to deliver business intelligence and provide solutions to financial institutions, merchants, governments and other organizations.

In his most recent role as Region Head, Asia Pacific, MasterCard Advisors, Burret successfully led a team of 30 consultants who provide payments consulting, analytics and customized services to financial institutions and their merchant partners.

Taking over the role of Region Head for MasterCard Advisors in Asia Pacific is Eric Schneider, who has moved from the U.S. where he served as group head and member of the MasterCard Advisors management team for the U.S. market. In that role, Schneider undertook business development with key clients in the U.S. He was also responsible for formulating highly customized solutions leveraging an array of consulting, information and implementation capabilities to address the most pressing challenges of their clients.

Schneider will be based in Singapore, and will oversee MasterCard Advisors’ market operations in the Asia Pacific region. He will work closely with MasterCard’s partner banks to improve business, from strategy development to improving operational efficiency.

Schneider and Burret have been with MasterCard since 2001 and 2005 respectively.
About MasterCard Advisors

MasterCard Advisors, a division of MasterCard, provides clients around the world with insights and solutions that drive business impact and ROI. The company uses advanced analytics and deep payments expertise to translate data into actionable behavioral insights and customized services. With more than 80 billion anonymized transactions processed annually in 210 countries worldwide, the company leverages aggregated information and a consultative approach to help financial institutions, merchants, media companies, governments and other organizations grow their businesses. For more information, go to http://www.mastercardadvisors.com/.

About MasterCard

MasterCard (NYSE: MA), www.mastercard.com, is a technology company in the global payments industry. We operate the world’s fastest payments processing network, connecting consumers, financial institutions, merchants, governments and businesses in more than 210 countries and territories. MasterCard’s products and solutions make everyday commerce activities – such as shopping, traveling, running a business and managing finances – easier, more secure and more efficient for everyone. Follow us on Twitter @MasterCardAP and @MasterCardNews, join the discussion on the Cashless Pioneers Blog and subscribe for the latest news on the Engagement Bureau.

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Print Page | Tags: executive appointments, mastercard advisors

http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/id/2174/

226. Full steam ahead for FBI’s biometric NGI system

The Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division has announced full operational capability of its Next Generation Identification (NGI) System. The FBI’s NGI System was developed to expand the Bureau’s biometric identification capabilities, ultimately replacing its Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS) in addition to adding new services and capabilities.

As part of NGI’s full operational capability, the NGI team says it is introducing two new services: Rap Back and the Interstate Photo System (IPS). Rap Back enables authorized entities to receive ongoing status notifications of any criminal history reported on individuals holding positions of trust, such as school teachers. Law enforcement agencies, probation and parole offices, and other criminal justice entities will also greatly improve their effectiveness by being advised of subsequent criminal activity of persons under investigation or supervision.

The IPS facial recognition service will provide the USA’s law enforcement community with an investigative tool that provides an image-searching capability of photographs associated with criminal identities. This effort is a significant step forward for the criminal justice community in utilizing biometrics as an investigative enabler.
This latest phase of NGI is only one portion of the FBI’s NGI System. Since phase one was deployed in February 2011, the NGI system has introduced enhanced automated fingerprint and latent search capabilities, mobile fingerprint identification, and electronic image storage, all while adding enhanced processing speed and automation for electronic exchange of fingerprints to more than 18,000 law enforcement agencies and other authorized criminal justice partners 24 hours a day, 365 days a year.

Earlier this year more than 30 privacy organizations teamed up to demand that the FBI conducted and published a privacy impact assessment (PIA) for its Next Generation Identification (NGI) database.

The Electronic Frontier Foundation (EFF) said the capacity of the FBI to collect and retain information has grown exponentially. It is essential, EFF says, "for the American public to have a complete picture of all the programs and authorities the FBI uses to track our daily lives and an understanding of how those programs affect our civil rights and civil liberties."

FBI officials said it was wrong to think the FBI collected images in any general kind of way. "These are only lawfully collected mugshot images during the incident to arrest," one senior official said.

The database of mugshots in March reportedly stood at 17 million individuals in the repository. However, the overall FBI criminal master file has more than 70 million people in it, and most of these have mugshots attached to them. The FBI official said pilots were underway to include these mugshots so that "very quickly there will be a much larger repository available to search".

Further search opportunities exist - but only for direct FBI case work, it emerged. FBI attorneys and privacy officials have reportedly negotiated with various state and local DMVs, as well as the Department of State and others, to allow additional database searches, meaning that the FBI has access to roughly 270 million individuals images. However, these are only searchable against in connection with a properly predicated investigation, the FBI official stressed.

http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2178/

227.LIVE at the 2014 Global Identity Summit

The risks created by our ever expanding online identities, cyber security's intersection with biometrics and the future of video analytics were among important emerging trends driving discussion at the Global Identity Summit in Tampa.

Planet Biometrics followed events as they happened:

- In an opening talk on Day One, Duane Blackburn, former Assistant Director for Identity Management and Homeland Security at the White House, explained the security challenges inherent in our increasingly intersected tentacles of online identity, before describing how speakers would be exploring the problem's links with biometrics.

- FBI Executive Assistant Director for Science and Technology Amy Hess described the bureau's achievements and challenges in using biometrics and identity concepts for modern crime. On the importance of video, she said: "[For some jurors] if it isn't on video, it didn't happen".
- In an engaging and forward-looking talk, economist Michael Garcia, Deputy Director of the NSTIC's National Program Office, explained that the current chaotic nature of online privacy - and the economic consequences of this - could eventually have dire implications for the online market.

The current situation, where online consumers have "no idea what's behind the curtain", is far from ideal, explained Garcia. He said "kids do care about privacy", but that the sheer number of places our private details are currently stored make online security seem "a lost cause".

- After lunch, Catch Me If You Can author Frank Abagnale gave a frank, moving and humourous account of his notorious life in identity theft as a teenager in the 1960s. Abagnale detailed a colourful past that saw him launch cheque frauds, impersonate an airline pilot, doctor and lawyer, as well as use pioneering techniques to forge documents ranging from magnetic deposit slips to driving licenses.

The expert on forgery, embezzlement, and secure documents - a lecturer at the FBI Academy for 35 years - said that "technology breeds crime", and that security today is "800 times easier to crack" than when he was operating as a teenage fraudster.

- Delving into the world of investigative video analytics, Scott Swann, Special Assistant to Hess at the FBI, detailed in his talk how the bureau had launched a major study into analysing video following the "catalyst" of the April 15, 2013 bombing at the Boston Marathon.

Swann noted that an appeal to the public for evidence had resulted in 10,800 online tips, 11,000 calls, 126,000 images, and some 123,000 videos. The sheer size of the evidence, said Swann, underlined the future importance of automation in analysing video.

Video will become a routine part of almost all daily investigations, said Swann, reiterating Hess' remark that for some people, "if it didn't happen on video, it didn't happen".

Noting that civil liberties and reducing bulk data were among his department's key challenges, Swann said the FBI model would analyse an intake of digital evidence, public video and streaming video.

Day two

- In morning sessions, Richard Selden, President and CEO of NetBio, illustrated the improved ruggedisation and strength of his firm's RapidDNA device, which has been tested in everything from desert valleys to sea swells. He also illustrated the value of a new "low content" bio chipset, which was able to extract results from swabs with less DNA content - because it has a more efficient purification module.

Selden said that there was "enormous momentum in law enforcement and the military" for RapidDNA, and ended quoting Victor Hugo, saying: "No army is as strong as an idea whose time has come".

- Richard Tontarski, Chief Scientist at the Defense Forensic Science Centre, started by playing down expectations on RapidDNA, saying "DNA is not a biometric". However, he noted that the project was "pretty close" to achieving results in 60 minutes and that, more importantly, the "technology works".

He stressed that there was unused potential in exploring "full profiles" versus "intelligence profiles", saying that degraded or minor samples can satisfy the former because they can whittle down suspect lists to far smaller than without using the technology.

- Thomas Callaghan, Senior Biometric Scientist at the FBI, took a different stance to Tontarski, saying that there was a chance that "RapidDNA could make DNA a biometric".

Callaghan gave an in-depth appraisal of RapidDNA's progress, describing the "swab-in, profile out" ideal and stressing that the goal was to always get the technology to "booking stations".

Stressing that the technology was designed to compliment what was already a very effective system, Callaghan outlined a time-line which revealed that from taking up to eight weeks for results in 1988, that times of one hour and five minutes were now possible using the RH200 and DNAScan.

Critically, if suspects are profiled sooner there is less chance they'll fall through the cracks, said Callaghan.

- In the second keynote speech, Sean Kanuck, the National Intelligence Officer for Cyber Issues Office of Director of National Intelligence, outlined the importance of cybersecurity, saying that "every identity problem is related to cybersecurity".

In terms of emerging trends, Kanuck warned that there was more of everything: More actors, more data.
breaches, more incidents, more targets and more collateral damage. The key is to “protect the naive from the unsophisticated”, said Kanuck, adding that the effort will require public and private inputs.

Not only are more actors targeting firms developing cybersecurity, there is also the risk of unwitting proliferation of cybersecurity tools. He stressed the need for holistic security and said that by encouraging “bring your own device” schemes at the workplace, that firms risked extending their security perimeters.

- On the exhibition floor, two very different but equally interesting “finger on the fly” tools were duking it out over speed, usability and in various other areas. A full report on the difference between Morpho and Advanced Optical Systems’ offerings is coming later in the day.

Day three
- Facial recognition was discussed widely on the third day, with speakers outlining the various challenges presented by the technology.

- In a study with potentially important implications for criminal investigations, Lacey Best-Rowden from Michigan State University detailed how technology could build up information on suspects using one or more video tracks, multiple still images captured by bystanders (using, for example, their mobile phones), 3D face models, and verbal descriptions of the subject provided by witnesses. Even the century old practice of criminal sketches had a role to play.

- Michael Thieme, director of Special Projects, International Biometric Group then gave an illuminating talk on the increasing success with which social networking services like Facebook are Google + are employing facial technology to “group” individuals.

Datacard Group Announces New Card Delivery and Envelope Insertion Systems for High Volume Card Programs

MINNETONKA, Minn.—(Oct. 6, 2014)—Datacard Group today announced the introduction of the Datacard® DX5100TM card delivery system, as well as the Datacard® MXi810TM and MXi610TM envelope insertion systems. The addition of these new products enable financial institutions, government agencies, retailers and other issuers to set up their production process and card delivery model that aligns with their current and emerging needs – whether it is a secure and efficient inline system, a flexible stand-alone solution, or hybrid card delivery model.

Specifically, the DX5100 card delivery system is a stand-alone card attachment and envelope insertion system that enables card issuers to segment the personalization from the card delivery process. The new DX5100 card delivery system gives issuers real-world productivity, plus the advantages of a modular system that can grow with evolving business needs. Features include full-color printing and personalization for on-demand 1:1 marketing materials or the ability to feed pre-printed forms; support for larger sizes of up to 11”x17” / A3; and automated envelope insertion capabilities that allow card issuers to manage card mailings from beginning-to-end.

Complementing the high-volume Datacard card personalization product line, the MXi810 and MXi610 envelope insertion systems offer issuers an inline option that fully automates the card personalization to card delivery process. With the ability to automate envelope insertion and sealing, the systems support a wide variety of insert types and sizes and can automatically divert mail packages, rank important deliveries, and organize output for efficient distribution in the production and card delivery process. In addition, the

Datacard Group continues to add to its product portfolio to offer the most complete line of stand-alone and inline card delivery solutions for issuance of payment, citizen ID and membership or loyalty cards.
systems can print directly on the envelope, which eliminates production steps and ultimately improves the overall package integrity for mailings.

“Issuers today want the flexibility to decide whether to segment their card issuance and card delivery operations or to run production and delivery completely inline,” said Russ St. John, senior vice president of global marketing for Datacard Group. “That’s why we have continued to expand our portfolio to include these new products. Datacard card delivery solutions let issuers strike the perfect balance of inline and stand-alone card delivery capabilities in a market that demands increasing agility, flexibility and personalized communications.”

For more information about these new products, please visit http://www.datacard.com/central-card-issuance-systems.

About Datacard Group

Datacard Group offers technologies for securing identities and safeguarding transactions in physical and digital environments. The company’s innovative portfolio now includes Entrust® authentication software platforms, bringing important new capabilities to tens of thousands of government agencies, financial institutions and other enterprises in more than 150 countries. Together, Datacard Group and Entrust issue more than 10 million secure identities every day, manage billions of secure transactions annually and issue a majority of the world’s financial cards. For more information, visit www.datacard.com or www.entrust.com. Follow us on Twitter, YouTube and LinkedIn.

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http://www.tribuneindia.com/2014/20141006/himachal.htm#9

229.lakh get health smart cards in the state
Tribune News Service

Shimla, October 5
Three lakh beneficiaries have got health smart cards under the Rashtriya Swasthya Bima Yojna (RSBY) which is providing a health cover to the weaker sections of the society in the state.

Eligible families get free, cashless medical treatment at the empanelled hospitals like the Indira Gandhi Medical College (IGMC), Tanda Medical College and PGI, Chandigarh, a government spokesperson claimed.

The scheme has been extended to MGNREGA, building and construction workers, besides the below the poverty line sections, including persons with 70 per cent disabilities, domestic workers and street vendors.

Now, other categories like sanitation workers, rag pickers, auto rickshaw and taxi drivers, weavers, artisans and contractual employees are also being covered under RSBY and they can be enrolled till November 30, a press release issued today said.

Enrolment has already been started and more than three lakh new smart cards have already been issued.
The eligible members get smart cards for health cover up to Rs 30,000 for one year under floater basis under the scheme, providing insurance to five members of the family.

The cover includes over 1,000 diseases and the eligibility for the claim becomes on the admission in empanelled hospitals.

The new smart cards provide benefit of the scheme without admission into the hospital.

A patient is entitled to get free medicines up to Rs 150 per month, including medical test, and can avail benefit up to Rs 1,500 in a year, he added.

The RSBY provides for cover of Rs 1.75,000 per family for critical illness. Three hospitals - IGMC, Shimla, PGIMER, Chandigarh, and Dr Rajendra Prasad Government Medical College, Tanda, provide the critical treatment for diseases like cardiac and cardiothoracic surgeries, genito-urinary surgery, neuro-surgery, radiation oncology, trauma, transplant surgeries, spinal surgeries, surgical sastroenterology, hemophilia and cancer.

The treatment expenditure under critical care is directly reimbursed to empanelled hospitals by the state nodal agency.

To widen the benefits, the state has empanelled 177 hospitals which include 155 public and 22 private and beneficiaries can choose the hospital to avail the RSBY.

As of now, benefits worth Rs 64.37 crore have been availed by 1.43 lakh smart card holders.

As many as 2,816 patients got treatment under critical care and claimed Rs 1,296.87 lakh, the spokesperson added.

Health matters
- Eligible families get free, cashless medical treatment at the IGMC, Tanda Medical College and PGI, Chandigarh
- The scheme has been extended to MGNREGA, building and construction workers, besides the BPL sections, including persons with 70% disabilities, domestic workers and street vendors
- Now, other categories such as sanitation workers, rag pickers, auto rickshaw and taxi drivers, weavers, artisans and contractual employees are also being covered under RSBY and they can be enrolled till Nov 30

230. Obama’s cyber security chief stresses biometrics’ importance

US President Barack Obama’s top cyber security adviser has said that biometric scanning devices are the most likely technology to replace passwords as identification technology evolves

White House Cybersecurity Coordinator Michael Daniel said at an event hosted by the Christian Science Monitor, Northrop Grumman and the Centre for National Policy that passwords should be ‘killed dead’ as a primary security method.

“It has to be replaced with something easy to use. There are variety of technologies that will be able to do that, some of which will be biometric-related. You started to see some of that with the emergence of fingerprint readers but also you can use the cameras on cell phones, which are now ubiquitous.”


On behalf of The Federal Ministry of the Interior (BMI) Germany, the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) represented by Dr. Dennis Kügler and The Security Identity Alliance represented by Frederic Trojani, Chairman of the Board, will be chairing a Workshop on eIDAS on Monday 13 October at 16:15.

With the eIDAS Regulation coming into force this year and directly applicable across the EU, the workshop will look at where and how a European Model of implementation can be achieved that can bring more value to Member States, companies and citizens alike and improve Europe's position.

**What are the key usages for digital identity in Europe?**

The workshop will do a quick review of key stakes: eGovernment, health, education, transport, bank, telecoms, energy, social support and other key economic applications for digital identity and how digital identities are central to the future of economic and social intermediation in Europe.

**Why advocating an European model?**

The workshop will consider relative advantages to adopt a common model (against not doing it) in key fields such as security, privacy, interoperability, legal consent and others. How can eIDAS be implemented in order to best reflect this European model?

**What recommendations for the identity infrastructure in Europe?**

Through a synoptic look of different states implementation (Estonia, Sweden, Germany, UK), the workshop will look at key aspects of the technical, legal interoperability aspects through trust levels, standards, and secure technology.

**From infrastructure to architecture: building interfaces and interoperability for long term preservation**

What are the key architecture recommendations to improve interoperability within a European model through Identities, credentials, signature, PKI and crypto for long term validation.

The Alliance is also hosting a special breakfast meeting - welcoming participation from government/public organisations interested to foster international collaboration on Digital ID challenges and the issues of data security, citizen privacy, identity, authentication – and more.

In its first year, the Alliance has laid the foundation for scaling up in years to come. The Alliance counts seven member companies to date, including the leaders in security technology and two Government Observers, EIDA (UAE) and BMI (Germany). The Alliance has launched two workgroups and has already published some key reports including one jointly conducted by the Secure Identity Alliance and The Boston Consulting Group (BCG) confirming explosive growth of eServices based on Trusted Identity.
A computer science professor from Michigan State University has revealed plans to develop a fingerprint-based recognition system which will track exactly which vaccines children have been given.

Computer science and engineering professor Anil Jain presented the results of a study on increasing vaccination coverage through fingerprint recognition at the International Joint Conference on Biometrics, which was held in Clearwater, Florida last week.

Jain said that in developing countries keeping track of a baby's vaccine schedule on paper can often be dangerously ineffective.

"Our initial study has shown that fingerprints of infants and toddlers have great potential to accurately record immunizations. You can lose a paper document, but not your fingerprints," he told Michigan State University Today.

Jain’s team tested the system in rural health facilities in Benin, West Africa, with optical fingerprint readers used to scan the thumbs and index fingers of babies and toddlers.

The plan is for healthcare workers to simply re-scan the child's fingers to view the vaccination schedule - each year, an estimated 2.5 million children die worldwide because they do not receive life-saving vaccinations at the appropriate time.

"We will continue to work on refining the fingerprint matching software and finding the best reader to capture fingerprints of young children, which will be of immense global value. We also plan to conduct a longitudinal study to ensure that fingerprints of babies can be successfully matched over time," Jain told the university newspaper.

He said that collecting fingerprints from fidgety infants was not easy, and that small fingerprint patterns have low contrast between ridges and valleys.

Mark Thomas, an executive director of VaxTrac, a nonprofit organization that has supported Jain’s research, says that there will be other benefits of fingerprint scanning, in addition to tracking vaccinations.

In March, Lumidigm announced that its multispectral imaging fingerprint sensors, as part of a solution created by VaxTrac, were helping to stop vaccine waste in Benin.
Over 21 million of the country’s 141.8 million voters were registered to use fingerprint scanning technology for the vote, which has led to a run-off between incumbent Dilma Vana Rousseff and challenger Aecio Neves da Cunha.

Because the fingerprint identification did not always work, long lines were reported at polling stations in Brasília, the capital, and Niterói, near Rio de Janeiro.

However, Antonio Dias Toffoli, president of the Supreme Electoral Court (TSE), said the delays were to be expected as the system was being tried for the first time in the capital. Other cities used the biometric system in 2012 regional elections.

"Since it's the first time (it's used) in an election in the Federal District, where 100 percent of the population is identified biometrically, there's often difficulty in placing the finger," he said at a press conference.

"It's all part of a learning process, like buying a new car and not knowing where to open the fuel tank," added Toffoli. "It can lead to lines, but we must be patient."

The TSE has said elections will be fully carried out through biometric identification by 2018.

The head of the electoral body also commented on the incidence of voters taking selfies in the polling booth, warning that it was illegal and could lead to fines or even prison.


234.TSYS Transforms Cardholder Experience for Business

New Functionality Provides Commercial Cardholders Greater Flexibility

COLUMBUS, Ga., Oct. 7, 2014 — TSYS (NYSE: TSS) today announced new functionality for TSYS CentreSuite®, its online self-service solution for commercial cardholders, as part of a multi-staged transformation designed to enhance the user experience and provide greater performance and functionality to issuing banks and administrators.

TSYS has completed the first in a multi-stage transformation with the newly designed online Statements Module, with responsive design for quality viewing and ease of use on mobile devices. Administrators and account holders will also benefit from updated, intuitive navigation and functionality that facilitates making payments, as well as viewing account, transaction and authorization details.

Similar enhancements to Expense, Account, Reporting and Administration modules will occur in the coming months.

"TSYS is enhancing its approach to digital engagement, and our investment in CentreSuite will greatly enrich the experience of card program administrators and their account holders," said Paul Bridgewater, group executive of Global Product, TSYS. "This initiative demonstrates our people-centered approach and vision of providing our clients and their customers the most innovative, convenient and user-friendly solutions."

Future benefits for program administrators and cardholders will include card program trend
dashboards, online personal identification number (PIN) management and the ability to deliver alerts via SMS. CentreSuite will also enhance TSYS’ recently introduced Oversight Insights On Demand – Powered by TSYS, by providing data integration that will enable corporate users to efficiently evaluate purchases and trigger alerts.

"TSYS is committed to the advancement of new commercial solutions designed to support the growth and management of commercial card programs," said Keith Pierce, group executive of Commercial Services, TSYS. "Strategic efforts — such as those surrounding CentreSuite — will deliver greater value to our clients, while providing their customers an enriched user experience."

CentreSuite is utilized by card issuers to provide corporate customers the ability to manage card programs of any size efficiently while providing account holders a robust tool for tracking and reporting purchases.

About TSYS
At TSYS® (NYSE: TSS), we believe payments should revolve around people, not the other way around. We call this belief “People-Centered Payments®.” By putting people at the center of every decision we make, TSYS supports financial institutions, businesses and governments in more than 80 countries. Through NetSpend®, A TSYS Company, we empower consumers with the convenience, security, and freedom to be self-banked. TSYS offers issuer services and merchant payment acceptance for credit, debit, prepaid, healthcare and business solutions.

TSYS’ headquarters are located in Columbus, Ga., U.S.A., with local offices spread across the Americas, EMEA and Asia-Pacific. TSYS is a member of The Civic 50 and was named one of the 2013 World’s Most Ethical Companies by Ethisphere magazine. TSYS routinely posts all important information on its website. For more, please visit us at www.tsys.com.

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235. Massachusetts granted REAL ID extension

By Jessica Meyers

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5 Comments
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WASHINGTON - Massachusetts residents will no longer find their drivers licenses rejected from some federal agencies – at least for now.

The Department of Homeland Security has granted the state a year extension to fulfill requirements for a federal law known as REAL ID. The measure pushes states to verify citizenship and update security standards when they issue licenses.

Massachusetts failed to make a July deadline, which left residents unable to use their license to enter certain government buildings. If the state did not comply – or does not get a renewal – residents would eventually lose the ability to use Massachusetts identification to tour the White House or fly on a commercial plane.

Massachusetts officials initially balked at a program they viewed as costly, riddled with privacy implications and infringing on state’s rights. But now that the law is in effect, they vow to work on meeting the requirements.

Celia Blue, the state’s Registrar of Motor Vehicles, said in a statement that officials are “planning for and taking necessary steps” to comply.

Twenty-one states already have received extensions and must reapply annually to keep them.

The agency plans to incorporate the law’s requirements into an ongoing modernization of its license system, expand security training for some employees, draft new regulations and join a program that promotes information sharing among states. The administration intends to file legislation in coming weeks that ensures the state’s license expiration dates meet the law’s guidelines.

State officials hope to achieve full compliance within the next three or four years.

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Verify electronic ID service goes public

Ordinary users of government services will be able to sign up to the GOV.UK Verify ID management scheme in "a couple of weeks", the programme revealed today.

GOV.UK Verify is the new name of the identity assurance programme, launched set up by the Cabinet Office's Government Digital Service as a key element of its digital by default programme.

The service has been in private beta phase since February this year. Writing in the GDS’s identity assurance blog, Janet Hughes, the programme’s head of policy and engagement, reveals today that “we’ve completed all the work we need to do to go into public beta”.

This means the programme is ready to start allowing government services to use GOV.UK Verify without having to issue special invitations. “The first service will start doing that shortly.”

Verify is a federated service, under which third-parties will manage online authentication. The launch providers are likely to be Experian and Verizon, with Digidentity and the Post Office joining by the end of the year. Individuals’ details will be checked against driving licence and/or passport details through document checker service created by the programme.
"Our first identity provider has been certified as being compliant with the standards required to verify people's identity entirely digitally," Hughes writes.

"The next step will be the first service to start allowing users to access its service through GOV.UK Verify without invitations. This will happen within the next couple of weeks."

https://identityassurance.blog.gov.uk/2014/10/14/gov-uk-verify-public-beta/


237.Use Emirates ID to pay utility bills, traffic fines

UAE bank enables e-Dirham features on Emirates ID

By

* Joseph George

Published Wednesday, October 15, 2014

An Abu Dhabi-based bank has tied up with Emirates Identity Authority (Eida) to incorporate e-Dirham features into the Emirates ID.

The e-Dirham which is a payment initiative between The Ministry of Finance and the National Bank of Abu Dhabi will roll out the services expanding it to all existing users of Emirate ID.

What this means is that anyone who holds an e-Dirham account will now be able to activate the service on their Emirates ID and use the card to process all federal and local government payments include payment of all traffic fines and making utility bills.

"The exact procedure about how to enable the service on your card will be revealed within the next few weeks,” says a senior NBAD spokesperson.

Earlier, Al Hilal bank became the first bank to incorporate payment features into the Emirate ID when it enabled a service that allowed its customers use the card to withdraw cash and for money transfers across all bank ATMs.

The NBAD initiative, on the other hand, allows the use of Emirates ID as a pre-paid card.

According to the spokesperson, only the existing card holders will have to enable the service on their ID cards, all new cards issued from December 2014 will automatically have the feature incorporated.

Meanwhile, the number of active e-Dirham card users has touched one million. The Ministry of Finance celebrated the achievement at a simple ceremony at its stand at Gitex Shopper on Tuesday.

“We have many more cards that have been issued. But we have now reached one million active users. Currently we achieve about 120,000 transactions on an average every day,” he said.

According to the spokesperson, the expansion of service to Emirates ID will automatically increase the numbers to about 6 to 7 million. “We are hoping that more users will start using the service soon,” he said.
An e-Dirham card can be topped up in branches across the country. “Soon you will be able to even top up the card through your mobile as well,” added the spokesperson.

While a user of Master or Visa enabled e-Dirham card can use it anywhere in the world to make any sort of online and direct payments, the Emirates ID will currently only work with payment related to UAE government entities.

“Soon we will incorporate features that will allow the card to be used at third-party retail outlets. We are rolling it out in phases,” he said.

http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2288/

238. Neuro technology reveals new real-time face identification SDK

Lithuania-based biometric identification firm Neuro technology has released a new version of its facial-recognition surveillance software which the firm says boasts a number of new features.

VeriLook Surveillance version 3.0 not only identifies faces in a crowd, it also detects and differentiates people from objects while they are moving through the video frame, said Neuro technology.

The new version is also claimed to be able to detect if a person or object is entering or leaving a predefined boundary area and provides even faster face detection, improved face feature determination and emotion detection, including detection of smiles, added the firm.

“In this release of VeriLook Surveillance we have introduced new features, such as pedestrian detection, security zones and moving object tracking, all of which increase the flexibility of our product and allow our customers to apply it in many new and different ways,” said Dr Raimond Laptik, surveillance research lead for Neurotechnology.

The company adds that the SDK’s face recognition algorithm enables detection of faces with up to 45 degrees out-of-plane rotation in yaw angle and uses motion prediction models to re-localize faces that have undergone full occlusion.

In August, Neurotechnology released the NCheck Bio Attendance 2.1 software solution, which uses fingerprint or face biometrics for tracking of time and attendance.

http://www.cr80news.com/2014/10/15/mississippi-state-cracks-down-on-id-use-at-sporting-events

239. Mississippi State cracks down on ID use at sporting events

Wednesday, October 15, 2014
Mississippi State University takes its football seriously, in particular its student admissions. The university sent out a mass email last week reminding students of the proper usage of their ID cards come game day.

In addition to reminding students of policy guidelines, the email also warned students that those caught violating the policy would face disciplinary action by the dean of students office.

In a report by The Reflector, Mississippi State’s student newspaper, students use their cards for admission to sporting events on campus and the tickets are non-transferrable. Per the university’s ticket guidelines, students cannot let other students or non-students use their ID.

The Reflector’s report states that students wishing to transfer their game ticket simply present their ID and the name and NetID of the student who is to receive the ticket. The student receiving the transferred ticket then picks up their ticket in person and presents their valid MSU student ID at the will call window on game day.

While MSU students must swipe their ID cards at the stadium gates upon entry, this is the first year that Mississippi State athletics department has used an online portal for issuing student tickets.

At Mississippi State, it seems that complicated processes and a stricter enforcement of the student ID policy has made it difficult for students to sell, gift or rent their tickets. It’s a problem that has led to some students simply exchanging ID cards rather than actual paper tickets.

For a number of reasons, this is an unacceptable alternative to a legitimate ticket transfer, as a student ID card can act as everything from a room key to a meal ticket for many students. Simply handing an ID card to another person seems a simple solution, but in doing so it also introduces security concerns.


240.New Australian passport first in the world to use 3M™ Colour Floating Image Security Laminate

EmailPDFPrintRSS
"The Australian passport is internationally recognised as one of the most trusted and secure travel documents in the world. These new security features build on our reputation, as part of our commitment to stronger borders.”

The Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade (DFAT) has commenced issuing a new generation of Australian passports using the 3M™ Colour Floating Image Security Laminate. This represents the world’s first travel document to utilise the latest 3M security laminate technology.

The Australian passport has five pairs of stylised red and blue kangaroos that appear to ‘float’ above or ‘sink’ below the surface making it easy to authenticate and more difficult to forge. The kangaroos look to have dynamic movement as the viewing angle is changed and are visible as a different colour when viewed under retro reflective lighting.

"The Australian passport is internationally recognised as one of the most trusted and secure travel documents in the world. These new security features build on our reputation, as part of our commitment to stronger borders,” Foreign Affairs Minister Julie Bishop said in a statement.

“We are pleased DFAT has decided to build upon our 25 year relationship by using the 3M™ Colour Floating Image Security Laminate to secure the new Australian passport,” commented Eoin Geaney, Business Manager, 3M Australia Public Security Business.

Geaney continued, “The Department’s decision re-affirms their commitment to adopting innovative security technologies that maintain Australia’s passport as one of the world’s most trusted and secure travel documents.”

3M are committed to providing world-class, innovative identity management products, systems and solutions to our Australian customers through our continuous investment in research and development."

About 3M Identity Management

3M delivers end-to-end, innovative security solutions to businesses and governments worldwide—helping to ensure security of people and documents. With an unmatched mix of leading technologies in biometrics and credentialing as well as expert systems integration and support, 3M helps solve an array of security challenges, including efficient border management, secure issuance and authentication of civil IDs, and controlling access to facilities and information. 3M identity management technologies are used in over 100 countries around the world. For more information, visit www.3M.com/IdentityManagement

About 3M

3M captures the spark of new ideas and transforms them into thousands of ingenious products. Our culture of creative collaboration inspires a never-ending stream of powerful technologies that make life better. 3M is the innovation company that never stops inventing. With $31 billion in sales, 3M employs about 89,000 people worldwide and has operations in more than 70 countries. For more information, visit www.3M.com or follow @3MNews on Twitter.

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Media Contact:

Valerie Woods
Estonian National ID Cards Embrace Electronic Payment Capabilities

The Baltic country Estonia — about the population of Dallas, Texas — embraces a niche in the payment world with its use of national identity cards that offer capabilities to access banking services, conduct government services, among other non-traditional payment features.

It all starts at age 15 for the Estonians, when they are issued a microchip-enabled ID card that holds all personal information needed for government and commerce services that are not traditionally merged because of security concerns. Like a debit transaction, a PIN is needed for access use with the ID card. The country banks on the government-run digital infrastructure, X-Road that connects public and private databases. The cards are also used for reviewing medical records and ordering services on smartphones, filing taxes and casting a ballot.

A New York Times story published last week (Oct. 8) takes a peak into how this historic city embraces digital culture as the way of life when it comes to making payments online, whether it be for commercial, banking or government purposes. The question up for debate, however, is what risk does it pose to consumers when faith in technology trumps ability to ensure payment security.
United States and European leaders continue to wrangle with how to embrace a digital future while still being secure. Meanwhile, Andrus Ansip, Estonia’s former prime minister, who is the new European Commission vice president tasked with securing Europe’s digital future, is focused on earning trust when it comes to e-services.

“All personal information is kept on separate servers and behind distinct security walls of government agencies, but the system allows the state and businesses like banks to share data when individuals give consent,” the Times article explains.

Snafus in the system become apparent when the system crashes, the report concludes, particularly when too many users sign into the system at once. Still, the concept of a digital way-of-life and using ID cards with broad-reaching payment capabilities — including conversations about expanding to an “e-residency” program that gives access to Estonia’s public and private online services to those outside Europe, according to the report.

“If we had a centralized system, it would be a privacy concern,” Taavi Kotka, Estonia’s chief information officer, said to the times. “But nobody has the whole picture. Everything is separate, but connected.

When you’re working on a small budget like Estonia — or roughly $63 million in U.S. dollars for informational technology services, it’s hardly a drop in the bucket compared to U.S. spending. But for Estonia, it’s about being budget-conscious, even if that means taking a risk with digital security.

“In large part, Estonia’s decision to go digital also has been driven by one basic fact: It had no other choice,” the Times article reports.

Topics: cyber-security data security electronic payments ePayments europe European Commission


242.IRS Makes Slow Progress on Issuing ID Cards


By Michael Cohn

The Internal Revenue Service will not meet the Treasury Department’s 2015 goal for full compliance with a directive requiring federal agencies to issue identification cards that allow workers to gain access to federally controlled facilities and information systems, according to a new government report that found IRS officials citing the lack of enough funding and staff as the main obstacles.

J. Russell George
The report, from the Treasury Inspector General for Tax Administration, examined the IRS’s progress in implementing Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12 (HSPD-12) requirements for accessing IRS facilities and information systems. The Treasury Department has set a goal for its bureaus to achieve 100-percent HSPD-12 compliance by fiscal year 2015.

HSPD-12 requires agencies to issue personal identity verification, or PIV, cards that meet a government-wide standard for secure and reliable forms of identification.

Partner Insights

What’s this?

“Without full implementation of HSPD-12-compliant authentication, IRS facilities, networks and information systems are at an increased risk of unauthorized access,” said TIGTA Inspector General J. Russell George in a statement.

An 85 percent majority of the IRS workforce has been issued HSPD-12-compliant PIV cards, according to the report. However, full implementation of PIV card electronic authentication for accessing IRS facilities is not scheduled until at least fiscal year 2018, and only if funding is available, TIGTA found.

In addition, major challenges remain in the area of implementing PIV card electronic authentication for accessing IRS networks and information systems, the report found. These challenges include many legacy systems and technologies in use at the IRS that are incompatible with PIV cards, and limited HSPD-12 staffing and funding for resolving these conflicts.

TIGTA recommended that the IRS’s chief technology officer and chief of agency-wide shared services ensure that all IRS facilities are equipped with HSPD-12-compliant physical access control systems. TIGTA also recommended that the chief technology officer ensure that specific requirements, staffing and scheduling are identified and adequate funding requested to ensure full implementation of mandatory PIV card access to the IRS network and information systems. The IRS should also issue an agency-wide memorandum to reiterate the requirement for full PIV card adoption, the report suggested, and ensure that HSPD-12-compliant requirements are integrated in the IRS’s lifecycle management process to ensure that new and existing systems implement this requirement.

The IRS agreed with all of TIGTA’s recommendations and has planned corrective actions to address them.

“The IRS is committed to continuously improving its security posture, but we are limited by a shortage of financial resources,” wrote IRS CTO Terence V. Milholland in response to the report. “Your report recommendations will further assist us in prioritizing activities related to mitigation of security risks associated with accessing IRS facilities, networks and information systems.”

1 Comment

here is an idea. take some of your "work from home" employees who only put in about 4-5 hours each day and have them do some work on these. Keep in mind that getting the ID cards together is NOT rocket science. sick of IRS WASTING tax payer dollars and complaining they don't have enough.

Posted by: HN | October 21, 2014 9:41 AM

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Telia Sweden said it suspended some electronic identification cards issued during 2014 in the early hours of 18 October after incidences of fraud that are now under police investigation. What these cards have in common is that they were sent to individual users via registered delivery and required the recipient to show identification, which specialists now say is a shortcoming in security. Telia Sweden CEO Malin Frenning said the company regrets that people have become crime victims through the use of Telia e-ID. Blocking the cards is a necessary step, she said.

Telia said it is concerned at criticism levelled at post office collection centres and that it would initiate dialogue with the mail service and the police. Telia said customers affected will receive a letter with detailed information about how the card block will affect them and how to get a replacement.

An Australian parliamentary committee that was tasked with reviewing so-called “foreign fighter” national security legislation that’s been proposed by Canberra has recommended against allowing law enforcement agencies to expand the extent of biometric data collected at airports.

Amid increased concern over Westerners travelling to Iraq and Syria to join Islamic extremist groups such as Islamic State, and following the smashing of an alleged terror cell linked to a plot to behead a random victim in Sydney, the government last month proposed sweeping new national security laws.

The so-called "foreign fighters" bill recommends a major expansion of facial recognition imaging of Australians passing through international airports, with biometric data also set to be potentially shared with other government agencies.

However, last week a bi-partisan Parliamentary oversight committee said that Customs and Border Protection should be made to submit their data collection plans to the oversight of the Australian Privacy Commissioner, while having plans for additional collection of biometric data halted under the Foreign Fighters Bill.

Opposition politicians and privacy advocates had already cried foul over the biometrics gathering plans.

"It's clear that this provision would be a significant expansion of biometric data collection by the government," said shadow attorney-general Mark Dreyfus, reported the Sydney Morning Herald.
"Australians deserve a clear explanation from the government about what protections will be put in place to protect the privacy and security of their information."

Immigration minister Scott Morrison has defended the plan.

“What we’re talking about here is biometric information which is becoming a common standard in what governments do to protect their citizens and to work together to protect more broadly against counter-terrorism and transnational crime and these tools are becoming the basic tools that are really necessary in a modern age to combat the real threats in a proportionate way,” he told ABC last Thursday.


245. Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank Launches Voice pass tm – A Voice Biometrics System To Identify And Authenticate Customers

\(^{\text{\textcopyright}}\) October 2014

advertisement info

Abu Dhabi Commercial Bank “ADCB”, one of UAE’s leading banks will soon offer voice biometrics as a means to authenticate customers and allow them to perform banking transactions via phone or mobile devices more easily and securely. ADCB is the first bank in the world to offer voice biometrics in Arabic, English and Hindi.

“ADCB has always been committed to bringing in new technology and innovation to customers’ advantage and introduction of this new system is an extension of this commitment. Our decision to invest in this new technology was primarily driven by the key objective of enhancing the everyday banking experience for our customers” said Arup Mukhopadhyay, Head-Consumer Banking Group of ADCB.

Today, when customers call a bank to access their account, they are asked to prove their identity through a set of complex security questions – what the industry refers to as 'knowledge-based authentication'.

ADCB will simplify this experience using the secure voice biometrics technology to allow customers to simply speak and be taken at their word- no PINs, passwords or probing security questions. The voice biometrics technology compares the customer’s spoken passphrase to a registered voiceprint. Once matched, it authenticates and permits the customer to proceed with the banking transactions. This is safe, secure and reduces the chances of fraud. ADCB has partnered with Nuance Communications, Inc. to implement this system for their retail banking operations in the UAE.

“In this competitive environment we need to make sure that Customer Convenience and ease of access are effectively balanced with Information and Transaction Security. The voice biometrics technology will play a vital role in ensuring increased security and convenience at the same time whilst making client calls shorter and reducing our overall cost to serve,” said Ravi Nair, Head –Customer Experience.
“With voice biometrics, banks have a real opportunity to change their customer experience for the better, while at the same time providing a high level of security,” said Robert Weideman, executive vice president and general manager for the Enterprise Division of Nuance. “Our voice biometrics technology offers a dependable solution for companies like ADCB who truly value customer convenience in a quickly-evolving digital banking environment”.


246. Secure Connections for a Smarter World @ CARTES 2014

October 20, 2014

Visit us at CARTES in Paris, France, November 4-6, booth #4M070. With over 20,000 visitors from over 140 countries, the CARTES Secure Connexions Event 2014 is one of the largest global events dedicated entirely to secure solutions for payment, identification and mobility. The central theme of this year’s CARTES is ‘Users on the Move’ and will focus on the following topics:

- Security for mobile
- Trusted cloud services
- Biometrics
- Privacy in the digital society
- Smart retail

NXP, as a leader in creating solutions that enable secure connections for a smarter world, will be showcasing its latest applications for a secure and connected lifestyle at the event. Our products and services allow customers and partners to design and develop complete solutions that authenticate identities and secure transactions, providing safe and convenient interactions in our increasingly connected world.

NXP experts will also be speaking at the CARTES 2014 conference. We will be participating in The Opening Summit, which gathers together industry leaders from the payment, identification and mobility ecosystem to discuss the macro trends behind tomorrow’s innovation. The panel discussion will focus on three groundbreaking topics – innovation for payment and retail, privacy for the digital society, and connectivity and intelligence, in relation to the Internet of things (IoT), mobility and M2M. We will also deliver the following presentations as part of the conference:

- **Real Security Asks For A Secure Element**
  
  Tuesday November 4, 11:25 am

- **The New Ecuadorian Electronic ID Card: Delivering Services to Citizens**
  
  Wednesday November 5, 4:00 pm
If you are attending CARTES this year then please plan on visiting us – booth #4M070, Paris-Nord Villepinte Exhibition Centre. We look forward to meeting you!

Related links

- CARTES 2014


247. Ruling to enforce ID law at polls

Requirement raises questions of discrimination

By Sam Scott

On October 19, 2014

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Early voting begins Monday, and with a ruling by the U.S. Supreme Court Saturday, a controversial Texas voter ID law will be enforced for the first time in a federal general election.

The law, which was originally passed in 2011, requires voters to display one of seven forms of identification for the Nov. 4 elections.

Controversy over the law revolves around the concern that the law discriminates against lower income voters who cannot afford the cards.

Francisco Pedraza, assistant professor of political science, said over 600,000 Texas voters, many of which are minorities, could be adversely affected by the decision.

“What is clear is the research that shows voter ID laws disproportionately impact the poor, the elderly and people who live far from a Texas Department of Public Safety office,” Pedraza said. “Among these groups, African Americans and Hispanics are over-represented.”

Pedraza said college students, including those at Texas A&M, may be negatively affected by the requirements in the upcoming elections.

“Government issued photo IDs are not free and many Aggie students, like college students across the nation, are getting by on a personal budget that is spread very thin,” Pedraza said. “The total cost for underlying documents, transportation, and time, plus the $16 to $25 fee to obtain an ID or license in Texas can be a real burden.”

Alicia Pierce, a spokesperson for the Texas Secretary of State office, said the office is obligated to enforce any law passed by the legislature. Pierce said the office is in the process of ensuring that voters remain aware of the identification requirements.

“The secretary of state is working to make sure every voter has all the information they need to pass the ballot, that they’ll have to bring one of seven valid forms of ID,” Pierce said.
Sherry Mashburn, the College Station city secretary, said it reduces the possibility of fraud without disenfranchising certain demographics.

“My opinion is that it doesn’t disenfranchise voters, you just have to bring a photo ID or your voter registration,” Mashburn said. “The law makes sure the person voting is the person on the poll books, I’ve never seen it as an issue, especially in College Station.”

Mashburn said voter awareness in College Station has led to successful past elections under the law, and she expects the same for the Nov. 4 election.

“We had a very successful election last year using the voter ID law because everyone was aware of it,” Mashburn said. “The City of College Station has been trying to get the word out about it so I don’t think this will affect the election negatively in anyway.”

Pedraza said the argument that the law it will reduce voter fraud and increase voter turnout, isn’t substantive.

“The evidence of voter fraud is scant and the states with voter ID laws do not have higher rates of voter turnout,” Pedraza said. “In fact, in some places, turnout decreases after the passage of voter ID requirements.”

The valid forms of ID include a Texas driver’s license, a Texas personal ID card, a Texas concealed handgun license, a U.S. military ID with a photo, a U.S. citizenship certificate with a photo, a U.S. Passport and an Election ID Certificate.

http://www.cubaheadlines.com/2014/10/18/p6/cuba-will-modernize-the-id-card.html

248. Cuba will modernize the ID card

The Cuban government has informed the implementation of a new ID card, more durable and, in a format consistent with the new technologies and standards. This process will begin gradually from October 29. The new identity will be made of polycarbonate and will be similar to a magnetic card with dimensions according to international standards.

That format “is more durable and safe, as it reduces the chances of supplanting identities, besides integration and agility of procedures will be greater once the country develops the computerization of society ”, government sources reported.

The new card will be developed with new technologies to include, inter alia, biometrics, holograms, signature and digital photography, security patterns and machine readable zones.

The implementation of the document, which as usual will be valid for ten years, will take place gradually, in a process that will begin in Havana with plans to extend it next year to the rest of the country.

The issuance of the new license will cost 25 Cuban pesos and can be made in any of the 189 offices to process this document that exist on the island.
Pakistan planning border biometrics scans to tackle trafficking

17/10/14

Pakistan’s Federal Investigation Agency plans to install a new biometric system at all airports in response to human trafficking concerns.

The FIA has also decided to implement surveillance systems at all the country's airports with the coordination of Airport Security Force, the Anti-Narcotics Force and the Civil Aviation Authority.

FIA Zonal Director Inam Ghani told The Express Tribune that the biometric system will also be integrated with National Database and Registration Authority records and passport and immigration authorities to check the documents of each passenger.

“As soon as a passenger places his or her finger on the biometric machine, their complete national identity card, passport and visa details will be displayed on the screen,” he said. The biometric machines will be installed at the arrival and departure sections of all airports.

“Currently, the Airport Security Force, the Anti Narcotic Force and the FIA have their own cameras. Under the new system, all CCTV cameras will be integrated and operational control given to the Civil Aviation Authority,” Ghani said.

The decision follows an incident earlier this month where 10 Afghan nationals managed to travel to the United Kingdom on fake Pakistani documents via Benazir Bhutto International Airport.

In 2011, Pakistan rejected American offers to upgrade the Personal Identification Secure Comparison and Evaluation System (PISCES) border security watch system. It replaced the system with a Pakistani-developed system called Integrated Border Management System.


http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2292/
250. Turkey’s PM unveils biometric ID card plan

16/10/14

Turkish Prime Minister Ahmet Davutoglu said on Thursday that a nationwide biometric ID card scheme will be launched in December.

Davutoglu said cards will include data about their owners, and allow Turkish citizens to carry out transactions such as paying for various services, withdrawing cash at ATMs and accessing online services through e-signatures.

The card will also have law enforcement applications, with Turkish citizens who can present a new biometric identity card to a police officer able to testify at a scene, rather than at a police station, reported Turkish media.

The prime minister said the cards would also streamline notoriously long bureaucratic procedures surrounding births and changes in names and address.

In November 2012, 222,000 ID cards were distributed in Bolu as part of a pilot scheme. At the time, the government stressed that the cards were made of polycarbonates and carried microchips in line with international standards.