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PRESS RELEASE

European Association for Biometrics and Eurosmart enter into partnership

This month, two major European associations have agreed to enter into a partnership for the purpose of optimizing synergies in their fields of activities. The European Association for Biometrics (EAB) and Eurosmart have decided to join forces in the following areas:

- Information exchange between members and associated communities;
- Undertaking joint efforts on education and training regarding various aspects of biometrics and smart secure devices, such as target market, use cases, business models, functional and technical integration, standardization and testing;
- Cooperation on various activities, such as joint workshops, seminars, production of educational materials, standards development and testing/evaluation;
- Mutual involvement of members from both organizations in relevant activities;
- Dissemination of industrial, academic and governmental information, focusing on research and development, project development and implementation, and industrial excellence;

The partnership results in Europe's largest cooperative platform on biometrics, smart secure devices and identity. After a period of cooperation and constructive discussions the EAB and Eurosmart have agreed to enter into a mutual partnership. The two associations have acknowledged that the combination of smart secure devices and biometrics constitute a potential business area of significant importance and volume. The combination of smart secure devices and biometrics does pose the communities of both organizations with new opportunities and challenges, both from business and technical perspectives. Therefore, it is the primary goal of the two organizations to develop joint activities to address these challenges and market opportunities.

Oyvind Rastad, Chairman of Eurosmart, says: *"We strongly believe that the cooperation with the EAB will bring our members and communities a unique opportunity to make strategic progress in the proper and beneficial application of biometrics in combination with smart secure devices. Together we will be able to develop and disseminate information that will be of essential importance for the development of strong authentication systems."*

Also **Alexander Nouak**, Chairman of the European Association for Biometrics, has also good reasons to support the partnership with Eurosmart: *"Within the biometrics market the domain of smart secure devices has received relatively less attention than database-oriented identification systems, despite the emergence of the e-passport. The partnership with Eurosmart should bring our community closer to the understanding of the large potential of token based biometric verification systems."*

The European Association for Biometrics (www.eab.org) located in The Netherlands, is a pan-European non-profit association seeking to advance the proper and beneficial use of biometrics in Europe, taking into account

the interests of European citizens, industry, academia and governments. The EAB is the European platform for biometrics. Driven by developments in connection with immigration challenges, the requirements of e-passport implementations and a whole range of emerging commercial applications, the EAB fulfils the role of an independent and multi-stakeholder platform where stakeholders can meet, exchange information and visions, discuss new initiatives and benefit from training and education programmes. The stakeholder groups represented by the EAB include operators, governments, industry, research, academia and citizens.

Eurosmart (www.eurosmart.com) is an international non-profit association located in Brussels and representing the Smart Security Industry. Founded in 1995, the association advocates the use of Smart Secure Devices and smart security solutions to enhance the usability of digital services while protecting privacy and combating fraud. Smart Secure devices (SSDs) are smart objects which contains a secure IC and embedded software and support personalization by the issuer. The main purpose is to offer Human to Machine as well as Machine to Machine security services including user authentication, secure transactions and secure storage. SSDs come in multiple form factors, including Smart cards, Smart USB tokens, μ SDs and embedded Secure Elements. This includes personal, portable as well as embedded devices. Members are providers of smart secure devices and solutions, semiconductor manufacturers, academics, laboratories and associations who work into dedicated working groups (security, electronic identity, communication, marketing).

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