

# PRESS RELEASE

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## Over 45 banks participating to the EAB banking seminars

During the last 3 months the European Association for Biometrics (EAB) has organized three seminars on 'Biometrics for Banking and Payments'. The seminars took place in three main European financial capitals: Frankfurt, London and Amsterdam. Over 45 banks and other financial institutions have participated. From the seminars it can be concluded that biometric technologies are on their way of becoming an integral part of various identification and authentication processes within the financial services industry. An emphasis was seen on user convenience, while adding confidence about the identity of the user. In most cases biometrics is not presented as an identifier, but rather as a convenient tool to add the physical person to the chain of authentication tools in an environment that otherwise is fully digital. Illustrated by various case studies and demonstrations the happy marriage between biometrics and smart devices (such as mobile phones and cards) is triggering a variety of innovative and user friendly client experiences.

### *Trends*



Over 45 banks and other financial institutions have participated, such as ING Netherlands, Rabo Bank, SNS Bank, Binck Bank, ABN AMRO Bank, Deutsche Bank, BaFin, DKB, Commerzbank, AXA, Deutsche Kreditbank, Lufthansa AirPlus Servicekarten, German Association for Banks, Bundesverband Volksbanken, Raiffeisenbanken, Bank of Tokyo, Tesco Bank, Boursorama Banque, Royal Bank of Scotland, Tesco Bank, Santander, Lloyds Banking Group, Credit Suisse, Metro Bank and Barclays. Representatives from the

financial institutions are keeping a range of positions, such as Digital Fraud Manager, Banking Operations Projects Analyst, Banking Operations Projects Analyst, Solutions Delivery Manager, Customer Journey Specialist and Security & Resilience Analyst.

The high level of interest of banks and other financial institutions can be explained by the important role that biometrics is starting to play in remote authentication as a 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> factor. Depending on the kind of application biometrics such as behavior, voice and face are capable of performing continuous authentication without the user to perform extra efforts. New fingerprint-on-card technologies enable smooth chipcard activation and therefore deliver an improved user experience. This new role of biometrics of providing convenient authentication is combined with a higher level of assurance regarding the physical identity of the person.

An observation is that a large variability exists between the various use cases and solutions. Matters such as on-device or off-device processing, but also the choice which biometric modality to be used,

are subject to specific choices and requirements. One may ask whether a consolidation may be ahead of us, or that this variability actual contributes to ensuring a specific use of the technologies for the various scenarios. For sure, banks, credit card companies and other financial services providers seem to have chosen for flexibility by adapting to whatever the consumer may choose to use.

### ***The EU Regulative Landscape***

From a regulative point of view, the use of biometrics for authentication is not a done deal in Europe. Expert presentations about the new European Payments Services Directive (also PSD2) and about certain guidelines from the European Banking Authority (EBA) learned that further elaboration on the regulative part as well as the solutions part is needed in order to bring these two in sync with each other. Also regarding the data protection and privacy aspects of biometric identification and authentication solutions more clarity is desired. This is especially needed in the light of the revised European Data Protection Regulation, which considers biometrics as a technology that imposes specific risks.

### ***Partners of the 'Biometrics in Banking and Payment' series***

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Full program of Biometrics in Banking and Payments London: [www.eab.org](http://www.eab.org) (go to past events)

#### **About the European Association for Biometrics**

*The European Association for Biometrics ([www.eab.org](http://www.eab.org)) 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, currently having over 185 members from 35 countries. Driven by developments in connection with immigration challenges, the requirements of e-passport implementations and a whole range of emerging commercial applications, the EAB fulfills the role of an independent and multi-stakeholder platform, where stakeholders can meet and exchange information and visions.*

*For more information about the EAB please contact [secretariat@eab.org](mailto:secretariat@eab.org).*