



Media Release

Cognitec Delivers Face Recognition Software To 3M For Belize Passport Issuing System - Biometric Fusion to Ensure "One Person, One Document"

DRESDEN, February 21st, 2005 – Cognitec Systems and 3M announced today that they will be working together in providing a highly secure passport issuance system for the Government of Belize through the Ministry of Home Affairs and in cooperation with the International Organization for Migration (IOM). The system will use biometric fusion technology to prevent multiple passports from being issued to the same person under different identities.

"We are pleased to be deploying a state-of-the-art system for the issuance of our passport," said Gareth Murillo, Senior Immigration Officer and Acting Director, Immigration and Nationality, Belize. "We believe the strong security that is built into our issuance process will ensure our document is trusted at borders around the world."

The system will be built using the web-based Identity Document Issuance System from 3M. Data capture will be decentralized, taking place at seven sites across Belize as well as in seven Belizean Consulate locations. Document personalization and issuance will be centralized at two sites, and the passports will be produced using the Personalization Solution from 3M.

The security of the issuance system will be enhanced by a layered biometric subsystem. Facial recognition technology from Cognitec Systems and fingerprint matching technology from Bioscrypt Inc. will be used to rapidly check each new applicant against all applicants in the passport database to ensure they have not previously applied for a passport under a different identity. The combination of the face and two fingerprints allows rapid automated searching, and a very small chance of an incorrect match. The issuance system operator will be provided with the results of the search, and will make the final decision on whether two identities in the database represent the same person.

"Our issuing system customers around the world are challenged with preventing the issuance of multiple documents to the same person," said Kevin Newman, Business Manager for 3M Security Systems Division. "The government of Belize has taken a strong stand on this issue and we are pleased to be providing the technology solution to support them in their efforts. We are pleased to work with Cognitec's face recognition technology which provides identification performance which is leading in the industry."

"We are delighted to announce this deployment of our face recognition technology to the Government of Belize," comments Alfredo Herrera, Managing Director of Cognitec



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Systems. "3M is widely recognized as a leading provider of Identity Document Issuance Systems, and we see this co-operation as another opportunity to enhance both companies' market offering. The partnership with 3M is part of Cognitec's strategy to provide its world-leading face recognition technology to partners providing best-of-breed biometric platforms and applications."

Cognitec's products implement efficiently the different processes involved in today's identity management systems using facial photographs, such as:

- Acquisition of ISO standardized high-quality facial photographs for ID documents;
- Search for fraudulent duplicate entries in large databases for visa, passport, or drivers' license issuance,
- Identity verification at the border using the new biometric passport;
- Background check at the border, comparing facial images against unwanted lists.

About Cognitec Systems

Cognitec Systems, with headquarters in Dresden, Germany, and offices in Herndon, VA and Miami, FL, develops and markets the well-established and world-leading FaceVACS® face recognition software. Cognitec's software experts have been developing face recognition technology since 1995. In various independent evaluation tests including the Face Recognition Vendor Test 2002 by the US Government, FaceVACS® has proven to be the leading technology available on the market. For more information, please visit www.cognitec.com.

About 3M - A Global, Diversified Technology Company

Every day, 3M people find new ways to make amazing things happen. Wherever they are, whatever they do, the company's customers know they can rely on 3M to help make their lives better. 3M's brands include icons such as Scotch, Post-it, Scotchgard, Thinsulate, Scotch-Brite, Filtrete, Command and Dyneon. Serving customers in more than 200 countries around the world, the company's 67,000 people use their expertise, technologies and global strength to lead in major markets including consumer and office; display and graphics; electronics and telecommunications; safety, security and protection services; health care; industrial and transportation. For more information, including the latest product and technology news, visit www.3M.com.

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