

Media Release

Siemens and Cognitec Announce Partnership in Face Recognition Applications for Border Control and ePassports

Graz / Dresden, November 7, 2006 – Siemens Biometrics Centre, the global Siemens Competence Centre for Biometric Solutions, and Cognitec Systems, the leading provider of face recognition technology and systems, today announced details of a partnership in the areas of border control and ePassport solutions. The partnership covers the integration of Cognitec's face recognition software into Siemens' multi-biometric solutions designed for the issuance of biometric passports (ePassports) as well as solutions for biometric support of border control.

Siemens has already successfully delivered a complete system for capturing and verifying biometric data of Swiss citizens to the Government of Switzerland. This system is based on the Siemens Homeland Security Suite which offers software

- for reading and checking of biometric travel documents, and
- for capturing and verifying of facial images and fingerprints.

The facial image recognition software incorporated in the Siemens Homeland Security Suite is provided by Cognitec Systems GmbH. Cognitec's software is used

- for live capture of facial images and checking their quality against the recently published ISO and ICAO standard, and
- to compare images of the passport holder taken by a live camera with the digital photograph stored in the ePassport.

"We are very pleased that the cooperation with Cognitec has developed into a partnership. Through this partnership, we get access to world leading face recognition technology for the global e-passport and border control market." says Gerd Hribernig, head of the Siemens Biometrics Center Graz.

Alfredo Herrera, Managing Director of Cognitec Systems, comments "We are delighted about this partnership. Siemens is widely recognised as provider of biometric security solutions, and we see this cooperation as another opportunity to enhance both companies' market offering. The partnership is part of Cognitec's

Media Release

strategy to provide its world-leading face recognition technology to partners providing innovative biometric applications.”

About Cognitec

Cognitec Systems, with headquarters in Dresden, Germany, and offices in Herndon, VA, Miami, FL, and Rio de Janeiro, Brazil, 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, FaceVACS[®] has proven to be the leading technology available on the market. With its products FaceVACS-Entry for access and border control, FaceVACS-DBScan for database search, FaceVACS-Acquisition for ID photo capturing, FaceVACS-Alert for video surveillance, and FaceVACS-SDK as a software developer's kit for integrators, Cognitec has deployed numerous systems for customers from government and industry.

About Siemens Biometrics Center

The Biometrics Center is part of Siemens Austria's Program and System Engineering division (PSE). Since 1991, Program and System Engineering PSE has been playing a key role in the development of the Siemens fingerprint technology, from the first steps in research to the launching of products on the market. Systems for face recognition, the integration of iris-based identification systems, as well as new and innovative biometrics technologies complete the service offering. In 2005, the Biometrics Center was founded. The concentration of biometrics competence in the Biometrics Center is designed to pave the way for the various Siemens groups and divisions into the attractive and forward-oriented biometrics market. As a reliable partner, the Biometrics Center has the extensive experience it takes to assist in designing, planning and implementing biometrics solutions for the customers. The Biometrics Center can rely on years of experience as well as on products and components that have already proved successful on the market.

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