

GLOBALPLATFORM and BIOMETRIC MATCH-ON-CARD TECHNOLOGY -

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GlobalPlatform, the international specification body for smart card infrastructure, has published a white paper to explain how its existing technology can add value to biometric match-on-card solutions from research and development cost-savings and improved time to market, to compliance with industry security requirements. The document is free to download from www.globalplatform.org.

The white paper, entitled 'The GlobalPlatform Value Proposition for Biometric Match-on-Card Verification', will be of interest to government officials, project managers and consultants advising on the implementation of biometric match-on-card programs, alongside smart card technical audiences. It discusses in detail how current GlobalPlatform Specifications deliver the required security and privacy to enable the deployment of a secure, interoperable and flexible biometric match-on-card solution.

Dominic Fedronic, GlobalPlatform Government Task Force Leader and Chief Technology Officer at ActivIdentity, comments: 'Biometric technology is fast becoming one of the most convincing ways to confirm the identity of an individual. Biometric match-on-card technology in particular addresses many concerns that society has regarding the complexity of the solutions and intimacy of the details used. This is due to it not only allowing the biometric information to be stored on the card - which is in the possession of the user at all times - but also verified there.

'As this white paper outlines, GlobalPlatform technology enhances privacy by specifying the necessary interfaces and requirements for card, devices and system components to build a trusted, complete and deployable biometrics match-on-card verification solution. There are many benefits of implementing GlobalPlatform's proven infrastructure from driving down costs through competitive procurement practices, ensuring scalability and backward compatibility of the technology, to reassurances that these specifications have been evaluated and are aligned with the highest possible security standards.'

GlobalPlatform on-card access control technology has also been discussed within the white paper. This function can facilitate the delivery of multiple applications on one card, with each application able to securely utilize the match-on-card biometric in a flexible way without having to become biometric aware.

Kevin concludes: 'GlobalPlatform has established a Biometrics Working Group as part of its Government Task Force and is committed to educating the market on how GlobalPlatform technology can be

implemented today to offer many benefits. Moving forward, the group will also provide feedback to GlobalPlatform's technical committees to ensure alignment of their developments with the needs of the biometric match-on-card community.

The white paper was developed jointly by the following GlobalPlatform members: ActivIdentity, Collis, Gemalto, NXP, Oberthur, Precise Biometrics, Sagem Orga and the US Department of Defense.

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