

The Electronic Passport Forum: Paris, June 8th and 9th

Dates and venue announced for the world's most comprehensive event on electronic travel documents

Milan, March 9th, 2006 - Wise Media S.p.A. announces the dates and venue for the Electronic Passport Forum 2006, the annual international summit on the introduction of electronic travel documents and the revolution this represents. This year's event will take place on June 8th and 9th, 2006 at the Hyatt Regency Paris – Charles de Gaulle.

Following the outstanding success of the Electronic Passport Forum 2005 in Berlin (311 delegates from 36 countries), the event will once again open its doors this spring, in Paris, welcoming the key players behind the success of state-of-the-art citizen ID programs: government representatives, border control and law enforcement authorities, supporting organizations, integrators, state printers as well as technology vendors and experts. The Electronic Passport Forum is endorsed by the French Ministry of the Interior and the European Commission.

This year's event will highlight and discuss the issues and opportunities related to the introduction of electronic travel documents, provide a snapshot of the status of deployments on a global scale and showcase the technology at the basis of the entire life cycle of machine readable travel documents. Focusing closely on the European scenario, the Electronic Passport Forum will analyze the three subsequent waves of introduction of electronic travel documents - first **ePassports**, then **National IDs** and finally **Visas** - and the roll-out of the infrastructure necessary to support this major shift. As a consequence of the mandatory implementation of a relatively narrow project, the introduction of electronic travel documents worldwide will pave the way towards the much broader market penetration of RFID and biometric technology in the areas of citizen ID and eGovernment projects.

The event will consist of two cornerstone initiatives: the Conference and the Exhibition.

- The two-day Conference, supplemented by interactive networking activities, will gather together a panel of top-level government representatives and key players in the electronic travel document industry and act as the perfect backdrop for the discussion and analysis of the fundamental issues.
- The two-day **Exhibition**, organized as a Technology Village, will illustrate the entire life cycle of electronic travel documents. Leading global suppliers will showcase the offerings of stable and proven technology for the creation of durable and interoperable biometrics-enabled travel documents and state-of-the-art border control systems.

The Electronic Passport Forum is the global summit focusing on the revolution represented by the introduction of electronic travel documents: ePassports, National IDs and Visa.

www.electronic-passport.com

Media contact:

Pier Costa
Wise Media S.p.A.
Via R. Lepetit 4
20124 Milan – Italy
Tel: +39-02-8903-4112
Fax: +39-02-6738-8322
pier.costa@wisemedia.com