

Outstanding success of the Electronic Passport Forum

Over 300 attendees representing 36 countries attended, in Berlin, the most complete global event on the world of machine readable travel documents (www.electronic-passport.com)

Milan, May 23, 2005

Government delegates, state printers and technology experts from 36 countries gathered in Berlin on May 18th and 19th to discuss the critical points related to the deployment of the new travel identification credentials of the digital era, including privacy concerns and technical issues such as interoperability and durability. Significant insight into legal and cost issues regarding the roll-out of the new machine readable travel documents (MRTDs) was also provided during the event.

With 311 attendees, 57 speakers and 19 exhibitors, the event centered around the implementation strategies and the critical technology hurdles involved with e-passport deployments. The Electronic Passport Forum brought together the pivotal players accountable for the success of e-passport deployments.

Produced by Wise Media and sponsored by ACG Identification Technologies, Axalto, Infineon, OMNIKEY and Sokymat, the Electronic Passport Forum also featured the e-passport village: industry representatives gave live demonstrations of passport personalization and reading procedures, showcasing the entire lifecycle of the e-passport from the integrated circuits and the electronic inlays, to durability testing, personalization and new border control processes.

Sophie B. de la Giroday, organizer of the event, comments, "With such a multi-faceted representation of the parties involved in the e-passport dialogue - i.e., key government offices of the US, the EU and other countries, state printers and RFID and biometrics experts - there were obviously quite a number of issues to

ELECTRONIC PASSPORT FORUM



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be discussed and sorted out, beginning with the technology, the implementation process and the trust of future e-passport bearers. The Electronic Passport Forum witnessed a very intense and lively discussion, which will continue in six months time at our next event in Rome.”

The discussion on e-passports will continue at the ID WORLD International Congress, the most exclusive networking and knowledge-sharing event involving the opinion leaders and decision makers of the world of RFID, cards and biometrics. ID WORLD 2005 takes place in Rome on November 2–4, 2005.

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