



German Casinos Secure with Cross Match Technologies Facial Recognition Solution

<http://www.findbiometrics.com/press-release/3868>

Cross Match Technologies, Inc., a leading global provider of high-quality interoperable biometric identity applications and solutions, today announced that Casino Esplanade, Spielbank Hamburg's new casino in Hamburg, Germany, has deployed Cross Match's FaceSnap/FaceCheck facial recognition system to ensure the safety and control of casino visitors.

Cross Match's FaceSnap/FaceCheck identification system examines each visitor individually without direct physical interaction. Special video cameras gather the facial data of every guest as each enters the casino and matches the scan with a database to identify potential threats. Banned gamblers are routinely denied access to the casino with FaceSnap/FaceCheck, which also acts as a public deterrent to suspect visitors, promoting the safety of the casino's guests.

"Implementing biometrics has made Casino Esplanade substantially safer, in addition to helping us identify banned gamblers more quickly," said Otto Wulferding, managing director of Spielbank Hamburg. "Cross Match's technology provides us a level of control that we need, while at the same time giving as much freedom as possible to all of our guests. The FaceSnap/FaceCheck system makes other inspections, which may be considered an invasion of privacy, virtually unnecessary."

Three years ago, Spielbank Hamburg was the first German casino to install the FaceSnap/FaceCheck system. Today, it's the leading technology used in each of the country's casinos, including those in Baden-Wuerttemberg and Saxony. Unlike initiatives where supervisory personnel exclusively monitor for potential threats and banned gamblers, biometric facial identification systems operate without fatigue or stress, and maintain the same high standards regardless of the number of visitors.

"The demand for biometric surveillance systems has increased exponentially during the last few years," said Dr. Thomas Zielke, senior vice president of Cross Match Technologies. "There is always the question of how to monitor visitors in public areas without significantly limiting access. Identifying the target individuals without denying entry to the unknown public is the key to success, and facial recognition is one of the best ways that this can be achieved."

In addition to being used in German casinos, Germany's Federal Criminal Police Office (BKA) has adopted Cross Match's facial recognition solution. FaceSnap/FaceCheck has become an integral part of BKA's unique project, Photo Search Warrant, which was initiated in October at the main railroad station in Mainz, Germany.