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Visa Promotes Add-On Pay Chips for Phones

Visa Inc. hopes to prove to banks that a contactless payment chip in a mobile phone is a much more compelling product to consumers than the same chip in a plastic card.

Though contactless payment cards and terminals are increasingly common, they are not most peoples' primary method of payment. Some people even carry the cards

Micropross Tools Improve Quality and Productivity for Thames Card Technology

Thames Card Technology Ltd, a leading plastic card manufacturer located in the UK, and active in the business of EMVCo card manufacturing personalisation and customisation, faced the challenge to embed and test new dual interface chips for the

around in their wallets, unaware that they feature near-field communication chips and need not be swiped to initiate transactions.

Though adding the same NFC chips to phones offers much of the same benefits as NFC cards, doing so can also open the door to additional control over users' accounts, according to Bill Gajda, Visa's head of global mobile products. This control could convince consumers to use a contactless payment in situations where many still use cash and checks, he said.

Visa is promoting an approach based on a microSD card, which can be installed by consumers in the memory slots found in many phones. For phones without that port, such as Apple Inc.'s iPhone, Visa offers a special case with the port built in. The microSD card is meant as a temporary system that serves to accelerate the payment method's adoption among consumers in anticipation of the time when NFC chips are built directly into mobile phones, Gajda said.

Besides adding an NFC chip, the microSD card can contain software that allows consumers to decide when to activate and deactivate the payment function, and also when to lock it with a password. The software could also be used to deliver coupons and other offers.

banking market. After consulting several potential providers, they have decided to choose the MP300 MT1 tester from Micropross, leading supplier of contactless smartcard, NFC & RF testing tools. This tester is able to perform both analogue and protocol test for ISO 14443 type A, B, Felica, Mifare modules, but also proprietary protocol: Legic.

The MP300 MT1 testers have been easily integrated into the current machines of Thames Card Technology. Within less than a week, the updated machines were able to embed the chips with a total secured control and a maximum quality of test for the end-user market. Also, the MP300 MT1's firmware can be upgraded inside the machine, without stopping the production process.

CEA-Leti Demonstrates New Contactless Communication Technology for RFID Smartcards

CEA-Leti announced that it has demonstrated a contactless, very high-speed interface for RFID Smartcards. Leti has created a prototype of a complete phase modulation system; a reader and a card that can achieve speeds of 6.8 Mbit/s. Phase modulation's

Djigzo and Comodo to Provide Email Encryption and Authentication Solution

Djigzo has teamed with Comodo to provide an easy to use email encryption and authentication solution. As a result of this collaboration, the Djigzo email encryption and authentication gateway will be able to interface directly with Comodo's managed Enterprise Public Key Infrastructure (EPKI).

A fully automated certificate request procedure allows an organisation to obtain trusted signing and encryption certificates for all gateway users without any user intervention, through its Djigzo server. By interfacing directly with Comodo's managed Enterprise PKI, large organisations that need personal certificates for all employees can now automatically obtain the required certificates without having to use complex procedures for requesting certificates.

Djigzo is an email encryption gateway that is fully open source. It is available for free by downloading from the website www.djigzo.com.

spectral characteristics are superior to those of amplitude modulation, allowing considerably higher speeds than the current limit of 848 Kbit/s.

Leti's current work on optimisation of signal processing aims to attain speeds greater than 10 Mbit/s. Leti is also holding discussions with the International Organisation for Standardisation (ISO), in partnership with Gemalto, to take full advantage of this work.

CEA-Leti has received a variety of awards over the years for its work in Smartcards and RFID technology, such as the Jean-Pierre Noblanc Award presented by MEDEA (2006); the Isabelle Attali Award at the e-Smart conference, presented for the most innovative scientific contribution (2007); the Sesame prize for the best material innovation at the "Salon Cartes 2009"; and the award for the best EUREKA project at the EUREKA Innovation Awards 2010.

Spain Airports Implement a Multi-Biometric Solution

Airports in Barcelona and Madrid in Spain have installed self-service kiosks available for

Indian Government Certifies Cross Match Devices for UID

Cross Match Technologies, Inc., a global provider of biometric identity solutions has been recognised as the first certified supplier of biometric devices for India's unique identification numbers (UID) project.

Cross Match will provide Guardian fingerprint capture device and the I SCAN dual iris capture device for India's UID programme. Both systems utilise Cross Match's patented Auto Capture feature, which can quickly captures high-quality images with minimal operator involvement.

The certifications were approved by the Standardisation, Testing and Quality Certification (STQC) Directorate for the Government of India's Department of Information Technology (DIT).

use by holders of Spanish citizen ID cards or European Community electronic passports, according to a Pro Security Zone article. The kiosks are expected to relieve long lines for those travelling into the country and require a positive scan of both a cardholder's face and fingerprint.

The technology behind the kiosks was developed by biometrics developer Neurotechnology who says that the three-factor authentication of the document along with the face-recognition and fingerprint recognition compensates for each mode's weaknesses to create a very strong and reliable method for authentication.

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