



Axalto to Supply Intelligent Badges to Berlin Police Department

Delivered in collaboration with local provider PPC Card Systems GmbH, provides Berlin Police Department with a simple and cost effective solution to secure physical and logical access

Amsterdam, The Netherlands – September 19, 2005 – Axalto (Euronext NL0000400653 AXL), the world's leader of microprocessor cards and a world leader in smart cards for security applications, and PPC Card Systems GmbH today announced that they have supplied an advanced badge solution to the Berlin Police Department in Germany. The Berlin Police Department uses these badges for identification and for ensuring secure access to networks and information.

The smart ID cards replace the conventional printed, plastic, photo ID badges previously used by the department. By adding a powerful computer chip, the new ID provides active protection against counterfeiting police identity credentials, a significant barrier to any misuse of lost or stolen ID cards. In addition, the chip on the ID enables the Berlin Police Department to significantly upgrade the security of the department's computers, networks and confidential Web sites. The tiny computer embedded in the ID works with the department's public key infrastructure and information system, enabling functions such as secure log-on and single sign-on to several applications. It is also used to control and track access to e-mail and files containing proprietary information, providing a significantly greater level of accountability than a password only approach to system and file access. The new ID card also has a magnetic stripe used only for physical access control.

A smart-card-based solution is ideal for the Berlin Police Department because it is a convenient, cost-effective way to provide the level of security that law-enforcement applications demand. One very important advantage is that since it is a card it can still be used for visual verification by including photographs and other printed security measures. At the same time, the integrated circuit in the card means the same ID can work with computers and networks, so they can have a single ID card for everything. This is a big advantage over other approaches that require a different device for IT security, such as a USB dongle for example.

"At PPC, we believe that the potential for smart card based application is immense," said Achim Pietig, Director Consulting, PPC. "In partnership with Axalto, we have provided the Berlin Police Department with the kind of vital access security they need in a simple and cost effective badge. We look forward to having a continually successful relationship with Axalto."

Axalto supplied advanced Cryptoflex pre-personalised modules to PPC, who in turn produced the cards and tested the secure chips in them. Cryptoflex incorporates a crypto-processor dedicated to security enhancement. By implementing security industry functions based on public key cryptography directly onto the card, Cryptoflex eliminates the risk of sending secret unprotected data across a network. The card provides maximum security and flexibility of system integration thanks to administrative functions such as secure key loading, on-card key generation and ciphering of imported/exported data.

“By partnering with PPC, Axalto is able to provide reliable and proven technology to the Berlin Police Department with the local service they need,” said Philippe Cambriel, president EMEA, Axalto. “By working together, Axalto and PPC are in a great position to offer innovative smart card based solutions to the German market.”

About Axalto

Axalto (Euronext: NL0000400653 AXL) is the world's leading provider of microprocessor cards (Gartner 2005, Frost & Sullivan 2004) — the key to digital networks — and a major supplier of point-of-sale terminals. Its 4500 employees come from over 60 nationalities and serve customers in more than 100 countries, with worldwide sales exceeding 3 billion smart cards to date. The company has 25 years' experience in smart card innovation and leads its industry in security technology and open systems.

Axalto continuously creates new generations of products for use in a variety of applications in the telecommunications, finance, retail, transport, entertainment, healthcare, personal identification, information technology and public sector markets. Microprocessor cards provide convenience, security and privacy to public and private services operators, their customers and end users.

For more info, please visit www.axalto.com

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