



## Microsoft Employees Use Axalto Cryptoflex .NET Smart Cards Everyday for Secure Access

**ITForum 2005, Barcelona, November 14, 2005** – Axalto has delivered an additional 22,000 Cryptoflex .NET smart cards to Microsoft to help secure access to its corporate assets, bringing the total number of cards delivered to 47,000. The cards are being issued to Microsoft employees worldwide in the form of a corporate badge used for logical and physical access to Microsoft's facilities, systems and applications. Axalto will demonstrate how Microsoft employees use their corporate badge for secure network access and various applications, at both Cartes in Paris and the Microsoft IT Forum in Barcelona. The Cryptoflex .NET smart card enables organizations to deploy smart card security at a significantly lower total cost of ownership and to spend less time and resources on developing the custom applications that run securely on the card.

“The flexibility and programmability of the Cryptoflex .NET smart cards from Axalto makes them a key component of our internal identity management solutions today,” said Sanjay Parthasarathy, Corporate Vice President of the Developer & Platform Evangelism Group at Microsoft Corporation. “Because they are based on the ECMA standards for core .NET technologies, they are easy to deploy and easy to integrate into a large number of internal systems.”

“By implementing a subset of the Microsoft .NET framework on the cards, we've made advanced logical access features and custom application development extremely easy to implement,” said Francois Lasnier, Vice President of Axalto North America. “Combining two authentication processes into one with smart card technology is a logical approach to increase productivity by managing secure access to vital resources.”

The world's first deployment of Axalto's Cryptoflex .NET smart cards by Microsoft is a further example of the tremendous growth in smart card technology. Over 130 million smart cards are expected to be shipped in North America in 2005, with over 27 percent compound annual growth rate projected through 2010, according to a study by Frost & Sullivan, an independent growth consulting company. An executive summary of the report by Frost & Sullivan is available at [http://www.smartcardalliance.org/alliance\\_activities/americas\\_report.cfm](http://www.smartcardalliance.org/alliance_activities/americas_report.cfm). The complete report, F602-33: “Americas Smart Card Market Analysis,” is available from Frost & Sullivan at <http://www.frost.com>.

**Contact:** Deb Montner, Montner & Associates, 203-226-9290, [dmontner@montner.com](mailto:dmontner@montner.com)  
*All trademarks are properties of their respective owners.*

# # #

### **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 4,500 employees come from over 65 nationalities and serve customers in more than 100 countries, with worldwide sales reaching 3 billion smart cards to date. The company has 25 years of 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 information, visit us at [www.axalto.com](http://www.axalto.com)