



PRESS RELEASE

Five countries in West Africa select SPS solutions for their national eID cards

Smart Packaging Solutions (SPS), one of the world leaders in reliable and sustainable ID card and ePassport manufacturing technologies, is proud to announce its solutions have been selected by five countries in West Africa for their national eID cards as part of the ECOWAS (Economic Community of West African States) document standardization project.

ROUSSET, FRANCE, November 20, 2018 – SPS technology selection for these five countries demonstrates the company's products are fully compliant not only with the ECOWAS international standard, but also able to fulfill specific demands from each government.

The international ECOWAS biometric ID card project standardizes a new generation of eID documents to facilitate the movements of the 350 million citizens of the 15 countries constituting the ECOWAS zone. The ECOWAS biometric ID card aims at providing the maximum protection against fraud and identity theft while offering interoperability with the existing national systems.

The ECOWAS specification includes provisions for the card, data, format, color and manufacturing requirements. Among these characteristics is the ability to have a means of level 2 card authentication thanks to an "aluminum watermark" visible by transparency. SPS Customized Antenna Image, or CAI™, perfectly answers this demand. With SPS unique manufacturing process, based on EBoostID®, the antenna is designed on request, which allows including aluminum etched distinctive signs in it. Typically, an antenna distinctive sign can be a national symbol, an acronym, or a second embodiment of the national symbol already part of the marked module or the card surface. This level 2 security feature is highly appreciated by law enforcement officers to perform night control. It can be easily and instantly checked with a smartphone torch by any policeman in the field to make a quick and fast opinion on the identity card authenticity.

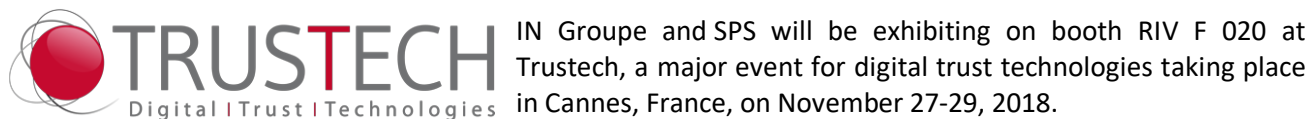
Complying with ECOWAS and national governments' demands, SPS technology also includes its Customized Module Image, or CMI™, that consists in having a specific image engraved on the micromodule for each member state. This image typically represents the symbol of the ECOWAS region or, for each state, its coat of arms or another design decided by the government. This level 1 feature has been widely deployed for more than 10 years on various ID documents across Europe, Africa, America and Asia.

Working in cooperation with card manufacturers familiar with secure document printing, SPS provides them with full polycarbonate (PC) card inlay subsets, allowing them to have an integrated and efficient manufacturing process while delivering the highest quality cards to the governments. SPS delivers its subsets in two forms: S-Lam® where the antenna is totally laminated in polycarbonate or S-Fix® where it is prefixed within the PC layer structure. Also, in order to satisfy all manufacturers technical needs, SPS micromodules can be delivered in standard thickness or thin version on request to accommodate various card structures.

Dominique Charrie, ID Product Manager at SPS declares: "We are very proud to be the first supplier for ID card modules and antennas for the eID cards of five countries among ECOWAS members. This demonstrates our

technology totally fulfills government requirements and is acknowledged by card manufacturers as the most cost-efficient and giving the best results.”

ECOWAS countries include Benin, Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, Cote d’Ivoire, the Gambia, Ghana, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Nigeria, Senegal, Sierra Leone and Togo.



About Smart Packaging Solutions

Smart Packaging Solutions is specialized in the design, manufacturing and sale of contactless solutions dedicated to ID cards, e-passport and dual interface banking cards.

With the SPS brand, IN Groupe opens its secure components technology to all card and document manufacturers.

Located in Rousset, France, with a subsidiary in Singapore, Smart Packaging Solutions employs 180 people. Part of the French IN Groupe, the company specializes in contactless and dual-interface products, with a recognized micro packaging expertise. SPS has filed over 120 patents supporting its exclusive technologies. More information at <http://www.s-p-s.com>

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SPS is part of the IN Groupe.



A partner of the French government for close to 500 years, IN Groupe offers identity solutions and secure digital services, at the leading edge of technology and integrating electronics and biometrics. From components to services and from documents to interoperable systems, IN Groupe is a global specialist in identity and secure digital services. The institution plays a daily role in facilitating everyone's life: helping states exercise their sovereignty, citizens protect their identity and businesses preserve their integrity. Whatever the issue, IN Groupe, a company for digital sovereignty, contributes to asserting a fundamental right for everyone: the right to be you.

Based in Paris, the IN Groupe has two production centers and employs more than 1000 employees, of which over a third is dedicated to technology development.

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