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Press Release

The German Bundesrat gives green light to the electronic identity card

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OpenLimit as pioneer concerning the technological integration of the new identity card

(Baar/Berlin - February 13th 2009) Today the German Bundesrat approved the laws for the implementation of the electronic identity card (e-ID card) enacted by the German Bundestag in December. From November 2010 the identity card will be provided in credit card size. The identity card is provided with digitally readable information and a photo. Optionally, a certificate for the qualified electronic signature can be added.

OpenLimit supports the electronic identity card at this stage

With the electronic identity card citizens will have a document that significantly improves the security during online shopping, electronic transactions and communication between authorities. At this stage OpenLimit offers appropriate software solutions that support the e-ID card to the full extent. At the trade fair CeBIT (hall 009, stand C60) visitors have the chance to test solutions and future fields of application of the e-ID card.

Secure system for electronic identification

"Recent cases of data abuse show the high importance of a secure system for electronic identification on the internet," says Dirk Arendt, Business Development Director at OpenLimit. At present citizens need to pass exhausting registration processes, create user profiles and define different passwords for online shopping or correspondence with authorities. As a result security risks and problems of data protection arise. The electronic identity card simplifies these processes as the owners identity can be verified very easily. Moreover citizens will have the chance to decide which personal data (name, address, date of birth) is transferred to the business partner via internet.

Signing documents digitally and legally compliant

Besides the secure and unambiguous identification, the e-ID card allows signing electronic documents legally compliant. Therefore citizens can use the qualified electronic signature. If required, this function can be added to the e-ID card. The electronic signature is legally equal to the handwritten signature. Therefore paperless business and authority transactions can be carried out. With the electronic identity card, citizens and companies can digitally

sign contracts, cancelations and official documents (application for child benefit, tax return, etc.) on the computer and afterwards send them legally compliant via e-mail.

OpenLimit software fulfills eCard requirements at this stage

OpenLimit is a pioneer concerning the implementation of the federal eCard strategy. The general conditions specify general standards and interfaces to guarantee the interoperability of signature software, identity cards and card readers. Already at present, the OpenLimit software solutions fulfill all these requirements. At the CeBIT OpenLimit will not only give information about future fields of application but support companies that want to implement electronic authentication mechanisms. Therefore OpenLimit experts will present electronic transaction processing by giving examples - e.g. booking a flight online.

About OpenLimit:

OpenLimit is an internationally leading provider of certified electronic identity and signature solutions. The components of the solution can be easily integrated into existing applications and allow a highly efficient document management, workflows without discontinuity of media and process optimization for all business areas. OpenLimit holds the very first certification recognizing world-wide compliance with the international security standard Common Criteria EAL 4+ guaranteeing the highest degree of security and legal validity currently available.

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