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Corporate News

OpenLimit Holding AG: First Certification for BSI Smart Meter Gateway has started

OpenLimit and Power Plus Communications develop BSI protection profile certified Smart Meter Gateway

(Baar/Mannheim, July 24, 2012) - Power Plus Communications AG (PPC) in exclusive partnership with the OpenLimit SignCubes AG (OpenLimit), a subsidiary of OpenLimit Holding AG, have started to develop a Smart Meter Gateway. The cooperation also involves the joint production and marketing of the gateway. In a certification process (BSI-DSZ-CC-0831) that accompanies the development, the partners are implementing the guidelines of the Federal Office for Information Security (BSI) for the Smart Meter Gateway. Because the Gateway collects data from smart meters and controls decentralized power generation systems, it must meet the highest security requirements. As a specialist in digital security solutions in many sectors, OpenLimit will provide the security-specific elements for the Gateway. PPC as ICT systems provider for Smart Grids contributes to the partnership with its combined know-how of energy and communication technologies and is responsible for the development of hardware components and the protocol implementation. Sharing this wealth of experience in a successful development and certification by the Federal Office for Information Security, as well as the distribution of the Smart Meter Gateway in the German market, not only ensures the leading role but also forms the basis for offers to DNOs and opens up attractive cooperation models for partners from the industry.

Due to the amendment to the Energy Industry Act (EnWG) in the summer of 2011, the Federal Government adopted far-reaching requirements concerning the implementation of "intelligent" electricity and gas meters -- so-called Smart Meters. The Smart Meter Gateway is the interface between meters, decentralized producers and energy customers. The two partners, OpenLimit and PPC, will offer one of the first BSI-certified Smart Meter Gateways on the German market. Both companies are already working on the development of the Gateway and, together with the TÜV as technical inspection authority, on the fulfilment of certification requirements.

"We assume the first certified Smart Meter Gateway to be available on the market as of the beginning of 2013," says Ingo Schönberg, CEO of Power Plus Communications. "With

OpenLimit we have found a perfect partner. We will not only offer the BSI Gateway but also a suitable communication solution for customers and partners, using BPL technology.”

“We have extensive experience in security-related inspections and certifications concerning a wide range of software products,” adds Marc Gurov, CEO of the OpenLimit SignCubes AG. “Many of our products are already certified according to the ISO/IEC 15408 standard - Common Criteria for Information Technology Security Evaluation - and we are pleased to contribute our experience to this partnership. It offers the possibility to position ourselves in new, promising growth markets such as the smart sector, where our know-how plays a decisive role. PPC is an established and innovative partner with a large amount of experience in the energy market and we look forward to a long-term and very successful cooperation.”

Power Plus Communications AG

Power Plus Communications AG (PPC), Mannheim, is a leading provider of Broadband Powerline communication (BPL) systems for Smart Metering and Smart Grids. Both Managing Directors Ingo Schönberg (CEO) and Eugen Mayer (COO) have led the company since its foundation in 2001. PPC's shareholders include Climate Change Capital Private Equity, Siemens Financial Services' Venture Capital unit, the Venture Capital group of British Gas, PPC's Managing Directors and employees. PPC's Broadband Powerline Technology (BPL) provides DNOs and utilities with a powerful communications solution enabling Smart Metering and Smart Grids. Their open, standards-based BPL communications technology uses the existing electricity grid itself for broadband data transfer, in real-time, encrypted and Internet Protocol based. As a pioneer of BPL technology, PPC has outstanding experience and expertise and has already implemented BPL networks in electricity distribution grids supplying more than 500,000 households. PPC's customers include leading European DNOs and utilities such as E.ON, WPD and EnBW as well as utilities such as MVV Energie AG, Stadtwerke Düsseldorf, DEW21 (Dortmund) and Stadtwerke Ratingen.

PPC is a partner in multiple Smart Grid projects such as E-Energy (Germany), DG Demogrid (Austria) and the Low Carbon Network Fund (Great Britain). PPC has won numerous awards for its innovative products and solutions, including three entries in the GB Bullhound's Cleantech Connect list, the "Guardian Global Cleantech 100" award and was "Selected Landmark" of "Germany, Land of Ideas".

www.ppc-ag.de

About OpenLimit

The OpenLimit Holding AG is an internationally leading provider of certified software for electronic signatures and identities. At the branch offices in Switzerland and Germany the company group is working to offer its customers technologically perfected and practical

solutions for a legally compliant and efficient management of electronic documents and identities in all business areas. Founded in 2002, OpenLimit offers a modular system of software components for generating and verifying qualified and advanced signatures, for electronic authentication and revision-safe long-term archiving of electronic documents. These modules are linked up into made-to-measure software products that can be applied as client-, server- or integration-solutions. The OpenLimit technologies support the most common signature cards on the German market as well as many international smartcards. The certification according to the highest international security standard for software products Common Criteria EAL 4+ guarantees the uppermost degree of security of the OpenLimit software solutions.

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