



Smart Payment Association completes first global payment cards market monitoring

Figures highlight key trends in financial smart cards: a dynamic market, more added-value applications, more security.

Munich, Germany, April 4rd, 2007 – The Smart Payment Association (SPA), that brings together the largest payment smart cards manufacturers, completed its first internal market monitoring in order to get a better understanding of the actual situation and trends of the payment smart cards market.

Key findings:

- More than 340 million payment smart cards shipped in 2006, complying largely with the EMV standard.
- Dramatic increase of the share of DDA (Dynamic Data Authentication) within EMV cards - which more than doubled - to now represent more than 27% of all EMV cards shipped in Q4 2006.
- Open platform cards (comprising cards based on Java Card™ and Multos™) now account for almost 10% of the global shipments.
- 12% of the cards shipped have their data storage capability enabled at issuance for value-added applications, such as: loyalty, access control, ticketing, etc. In order to standardize data storage, the SPA released last year a joint industry specification addressing cross vendor interoperability for contactless datastorage.

"The results of the first global payment cards market monitoring show a clear trend: the move of financial institutions towards higher value-added and more secure cards", said Jerome Ajdenbaum, President of the Smart Payment Association. "The dramatic acceleration of the conversion of Static Data Authentication to more secure Dynamic Data Authentication EMV cards and the growing share of cards enabled with data storage capability are the most concrete signs of this trend".

The detailed figures of the Smart Payment Association market monitoring are only available to its contributing members.

About the Smart Payment Association

The Smart Payment Association (SPA) members are Gemalto, Giesecke & Devrient, Oberthur Card Systems and Sagem Orga. The Association carries out projects to advance interoperability as well as develop additional smart payment solutions, which would be difficult to achieve without the concentration of such industrial knowledge.

The Association's main objective is to accelerate the transition from traditional, magnetic stripe cards to chip based cards by:

- promoting the benefits of smart cards for financial institutions
- ensuring optimal interoperability between all system components, for both payment and value-added applications
- establishing representation on standardization committees and within payment associations
- describing case studies for value-added applications and, whenever necessary, establishing joint industry specifications for them.

For more information, visit the SPA web site: www.smartpaymentassociation.org or contact the SPA by email: info@smartpaymentassociation.org.