PRESS RELEASE

Electronic Driving Licence Offers Added Safety and Security
Europe to set an example for other regions and countries

Brussels, April 29th 2013 – Eurosmart welcomes the increasing interest in the eDriving Licence in Europe, based on the European Directive 383/2012 advocating the introduction of a smart secure element as part of the driving license, and recommends that all EU member states implement it to ensure better safety on the road and to reduce the potential for fraud. Since the new European eDriving Licence can also reliably serve as an identity card and may be used for many services, Eurosmart urges nations in other regions like Africa, the Middle-East, Asia or the Americas to use the European eDriving Licence as a model.

According to Eurosmart, six EU member states [insert the six states], had completed the tender procedure for the card body in line with the new EU design and optical security feature by the end of 2012 and six other EU members states have announced their interest. "We have come a long way in Europe," stated Oyvind Rastad, Eurosmart's chairman. "Before the European Commission passed this directive, 110 different valid driving licence documents were in use in Europe. They differed in design, material, data set, optical security and validity period. Most of them were written in the national language of the country of issue. Many of these will still be around, however, with the new eDriving Licence we will progress in the long term toward one standardized chip card for all of Europe."

Rastad then pointed out that "fitting driving licences with an electronic chip, a smart secure element, has obvious advantages for both law enforcement authorities and citizens" as it allowed for
- cross-checking the printed information against the data stored in the embedded chip (off-line scenario), or both data sets against a remote database (on-line scenario), making document verification faster, easier, and more reliable.
- a pan-European electronic driving licence along the lines of Commission Regulation 383/2012, contributing to the unification of electronic identification standards within Europe
- a multi-application capability, opening the door to a host of useful and convenient services

"Eurosmart is convinced," said Rastad, "that the new eDriving Licence will make roads safer and protect citizens and their vehicles across borders by thwarting identity fraud. Another big advantage is the potential use as a reliable identity card. Many countries and regions across the world have no national identity document in use. The driving licence then often takes over the role of a de facto identity document in order to rent a place for example, to check-in hotels, or to open a new bank account. Which is why we would recommend that especially countries that issue no national identity document of their own, model their driving licences on the new, secure European eDriving Licence."

Even though the EU specification for the eDriving deviates in two aspects from the international standard ISO 18013 for machine-readable, credit card-shaped driving licences, more than 10 suppliers from the smart security industry have demonstrated technical interoperability between the European eDriving Licence and the international ISO standard 18013. Rastad: "We as the Smart Security Industry are proud to be able to contribute to a safer and more secure Europe across its borders."

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About Eurosmart

Eurosmart is an international non-profit association located in Brussels and representing the Smart Security Industry for multi-sector applications. Founded in 1995, the association is committed to expanding the world's Smart Secure Devices market, developing Smart Security standards and continuously improving quality and security applications.
Members are manufacturers of smart cards, semiconductors, terminals, equipment for smart cards system integrators, application developers and issuers who work into dedicated working groups (communication, marketing, security, electronic identity, new form factors, and prospect emerging markets).
Members are largely involved in political and technical initiatives as well as research and development projects at the European and international levels.

Eurosmart is acknowledged as representing "the Voice of the Smart Security Industry".

Eurosmart members are companies (Austriacard, EM Electronic Marin, FNMT-RCM, Gemalto, Giesecke & Devrient, Infineon Technologies, Inside Secure, LFoundry, Morpho, NedCard, NXP Semiconductors, Oberthur Technologies, Prooftag, Renesas Electronics, Samsung, STMicroelectronics, Toshiba), payment systems (GIE Cartes Bancaires, MasterCard), laboratories (CEA-LETI), research organisations (Fraunhofer AISEC), associations (Smart Payment Association, Mobismart, Danish Biometrics) and independent experts (Michel Koenig).

For more information, please visit www.eurosmart.com