



Brussels, January 8th 2010

Eurosmart, the international association representing the Smart Card industry, is following closely the issue related to the German payment cards usage that occurred since January 1st, 2010.

The issue involves a verification procedure on the date, performed prior to any critical transaction with the smart card; therefore no security standards or technologies used by the Payment industry are at stake.

Smart Cards are part of more and more complex systems and it is fundamentally important that such technology demonstrates strong security behaviour while confronted to a potential system level issue.

This issue does not concern cards issued outside Germany.

#### *What is 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, promoting Smart Security standards and continuously improving quality security applications and services.

Eurosmart members are suppliers and manufacturers of smart cards, semiconductors, terminals, equipment and technology for Smart Secure Devices, system integrators, application developers, issuers, associations, laboratories and independent experts. They work into dedicated working groups (communication, marketing, security, electronic identity, new form factors, and prospect emerging markets).

Eurosmart is acknowledged as representing "the Voice of the Smart Security Industry" and is largely involved in political and technical initiatives as well as research and development projects at the European and international levels.

For more information, please visit [www.eurosmart.com](http://www.eurosmart.com)

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