

3-D Secure™ : FINREAD to demonstrate stronger cardholder authentication

Groupement des Cartes Bancaires “CB”, Atos Origin, XIRING, Trusted Logic and Altasys have teamed together to demonstrate during Cartes 2004 the first 3-D Secure transactions to be carried out on a FINREAD secure card reader.

3-D Secure is a protocol promoted by today’s major payment card schemes which has been designed to enhance and validate payments made through the Internet. The protocol is based on a three-domain model (Issuer, Interoperability and Acquirer) where each bank domain ensures the appropriate protection and management of payment card information provided by a cardholder during a payment transaction on the Internet. 3-D Secure is currently in a pilot phase deployment in France, where it involves more than 1.500 retailers with a total volume of about 100.000 payment transactions (up to 25.000 transactions a month).

FINREAD, a CEN CWA standard (CWA 14174), provides a set of technical specifications for a secure card reader to ensure safe transactions on the Internet using a bank smartcard. This initiative has been funded in part by the European Commission in the framework of the IST Programme on Information Technology. The standard has recently been approved as a new Work Item by ISO/IEC JTC1/SC17 (Cards and personal identification).

The combined usage of FINREAD with the 3-D Secure protocol will give to a bank issuing a payment smartcard, such as EMV, the opportunity to authenticate its cardholders with the highest level of security. The 3-D Secure solution has been designed in such a way that it is up to the issuing bank to consider which authentication method is the most appropriate for its own needs. A bank will now be offered a wider variety of authentication methods, which will cover all current methods of authenticating a cardholder in a secure way.

This demonstration will be made possible thanks to the expertise provided by major partners in the field of security and secure payment solutions.

Groupement des Cartes Bancaires “CB” will bring to the project its expertise in developing smartcard-based solutions on behalf of its member banks. CB will provide the demonstration platform and will ensure the co-ordination of the integration process. Atos Origin will ensure the appropriate modification of the current 3-D Secure demonstration platform used by CB. XIRING will provide FINREAD compliant card readers integrating the Trusted Logic middleware (compliant to FINREAD 2.0). Trusted Logic will complete this by offering the necessary PC tools to develop, test and personalise the readers and sign readers applications. Altasys will bring its expertise in developing FINREAD compliant application software for various FINREAD hardware platforms.

“3-D Secure already provides CB member banks with a flexible and secure authentication framework for card payments on the Internet. FINREAD will enhance this offer even further by allowing the banks to adopt and rely on a stronger method of authentication, if they so wish.” underlined Yves Randoux, CEO of Groupement des Cartes Bancaires “CB”.

XIRING is proud to bring its expertise to the 3-D Secure-FINREAD initiative. This demonstration is considered by XIRING as the most appropriate way to promote the use of FINREAD in a banking environment and to ensure a further market take-up of the concept. “We have the strong belief that FINREAD is an excellent solution for securing transactions on the Internet. We have received numerous requests from both B-to-C and B-to-B

stakeholders and we trust that several operators will now be deploying FINREAD compliant products on a large scale” said Georges Liberman, CEO of XIRING.

Trusted Logic has been a front runner in the development of secure middleware and companion tools for FINREAD ever since its inception. “We are happy to see our technology being used by both XIRING and Groupement des Cartes Bancaires to enhance the security of 3-D Secure transactions.” said Dominique Bolignano, CEO of Trusted Logic.

Altasys has been involved from the initial specification phase to the first developments of FINREAD compliant solutions. "As security integrator, we are happy to participate to the first 3-D Secure - FINREAD implementation and are confident in the development of new security solutions based on FINREAD" said Gilles Auffret, CEO of Altasys.

The 3-D Secure-FINREAD project would give to Atos Origin the opportunity to complete its current offer of 3-D Secure SIPS compliant solutions.

The 3-D Secure-FINREAD platform will be demonstrated at Cartes 2004 (2-4 November 2004) - Groupement des Cartes Bancaires’ booth (3G27).

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3-D Secure (<http://international.visa.com/fb/paytech/secure/main.jsp>)

FINREAD (<http://www.finread.com>)

CEN (Comité Européen de Normalisation) (<http://www.cenorm.be>)