



03.06.2005

The Geneva Company WISeKey, HP and Microsoft have created an electronic identity system as part of a flexible solution that responds to various needs

The Hewlett Packard (HP) Innovation Center in Geneva was the site of an international press conference announcing the creation of a new National Identification System (NIS) jointly developed by HP, Microsoft and Geneva start-up Wisekey.

Identity management, under its various guises, remains one of the most important challenges for modern governments and societies. According to a study by US company Morgan Keegan, this market represents approximately 4.8 billion dollars globally and should attain 10.7 billion in 2007. Developed on Microsoft's .net platform, HP's NIS solution uses Wisekey's unique know-how in digital authentication. The young Geneva Company is recognized around the world for its ability to deploy a global security infrastructure based on a proprietary national root.

For the general public, the combination of these different technologies could soon become tangible in the form of a smart card, similar to a bank card, that would substitute current forms of identification (including ID cards, passports, driving licences, etc.). This eID tag will contain a digitally certified microchip whose high encryption levels will be adjustable according to intended use (financial transactions, etc.). According to NIS project partners, some 100 million Europeans will utilise such a card by the end of the decade. 33 countries in the EMEA region (Europe, Middle East, Africa) have shown interest in the system and some 3 million Belgians could already use it by the end of the year.

To learn more about WISeKey and its partnership with HP and Microsoft, please visit the following web link:

www.wisekey.com