

## **Citizen ID Forum 2009: Speakers of the Global eID Summit Announced**

*The Citizen ID Forum opens its doors in Abu Dhabi on February 15-16, 2009 with the patronage of the UAE Minister of Interior, the endorsement of the European Commission, and the support of the Emirates Identity Authority and Abu Dhabi Police*

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Wise Media, organizer of the ID WORLD International Congress, announces today the first names of confirmed speakers for the Citizen ID Forum, the global summit on the digitalization of citizen identification documents. The Citizen ID Forum opens its doors under the patronage of the United Arab Emirates (UAE) Minister of Interior, H. H. Sheik Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan in Abu Dhabi on February 15-16, 2009 and is endorsed by the European Commission. It is supported by the Emirates Identity Authority and Abu Dhabi Police.

“The exposure to the experiences of other governments worldwide make this a unique knowledge-sharing platform that we are delighted to support,” said H.E. Darwish Ahmed Al Zaraouni, Director General – Emirates Identity Authority.

The Citizen ID Forum ([www.citizen-id.com](http://www.citizen-id.com)) is the world's premier and most comprehensive summit on the digitalization of citizen ID documents, focusing on the most relevant issues related to the introduction of secure and biometrics-enabled identification documents. Building on the outstanding success of 2008, this two-day event will see the participation of key players behind the advancements in citizen ID programs and secure ID projects – including high-level government representatives, border control and law enforcement authorities. Confirmed speakers at this year's event include:

- Robert Mocny, Deputy Director - U.S. Department of Homeland Security
- John Stienen, Program Manager IDABC European Interoperability Strategy Sector, Digit - European Commission
- Elaine Dezenski, Managing Director, Global Security Initiative - Interpol
- Martin Schallbruch, Chief Information Officer - Federal Ministry of the Interior, Germany

- Alan Matthews, International Business Director - The Forensic Science Service
- John P. Wagner, Director, Trusted Traveler Programs, Office of Field Operations - U.S. Customs & Border Protection
- Col. Saleh Al Kubaisi, Director of Information System Department, Ministry of Interior
- Brig. Salem Ahmed Moeen, Former Chairman - National Database & Registration Authority
- Dr. Gisela Meister, Chairman - The Standardization Group for the European Digital Signature Application
- Ahmed Al Marzooqi, Chairman - UAE DNA Commission
- Joel Shaw, Convenor, Working Group 3 (WG3), ISO/IEC JTC1/SC17
- Michael Hegenbarth, Head of German Delegation - ISO/IEC JTC1/SC17
- Sertac Özinal, CEO - BKM Interbank Card Center
- Abbas Khodaverdi, E-passport & Smart Card Project Manager - Scientific Green

The Citizen ID Forum, which takes place at the Beach Rotana Hotel in Abu Dhabi, features two cornerstone initiatives:

- The **Conference**, supplemented by interactive networking activities, will gather together a panel of top-level government representatives and leading figures in the secure ID document arena and act as the perfect backdrop for an open dialogue and analysis of crucial issues. Topics will include the progressive digitalization of passports, national IDs, driver's licenses, health cards and visas, as well as the future of smart tickets and payment systems.
- The **Exhibition**, organized as a Technology Village with live demonstrations, illustrates the entire lifecycle of secure ID documents: from the integrated circuits and electronic inlays, to the durability tests, to enrollment, personalization and identity verification processes. Leading global suppliers will showcase stable and proven technologies for the creation of durable contactless and/or biometrics-enabled documents, cutting edge data collection systems as well as identity management solutions.

## Testimonials from Citizen ID Forum 2008

H.E. Eng. Sultan Saeed Nasser Al Mansouri, Minister of Economy UAE:

*"The Citizen ID Forum highlights how the objectives that governments strive to meet via the digitalization of ID documents go far beyond homeland security. They are much more related to creating a means of delivering better services to both national and non-national residents."*

Dr. Frank Paul, Head of Unit "Large-scale IT systems" – European Commission:

*"The European Commission has endorsed Wise Media's event since its first edition in Berlin. We have always seen the great value of this initiative in bringing together government representatives and security experts from around the world to discuss the issues and opportunities related to the digitalization of citizen ID documents."*

H.E. Darwish Ahmed Al Zaraoui, Director General – Emirates Identity Authority:

*"This was an immensely useful forum that truly brought together the representatives of all countries in our region to discuss the introduction and evolution of digital ID documents. Of course, there are also official meetings happening at government level, but both the opportunity to develop the discussions in a different ambience than our formal working environment and the exposure to the experiences of other governments worldwide make this a unique knowledge-sharing platform that we are delighted to support, also in the future."*

General Ahmed N. Al Raisi, General Director – Abu Dhabi Police:

*"We are very satisfied with our decision to endorse Wise Media's event as it really gave us the opportunity to see the best technologies available today for the creation of durable biometrics-enabled documents, cutting edge data collection and border control systems, as well as identity management solutions. It was indeed an outstanding event from our perspective."*

Dr. Khalid M. Al Tawil, Director General – National Information Center Saudi Arabia:

*"Wise Media's efforts in organizing the Citizen ID Forum promote the sharing of ideas and encourage government cooperation in the field of digital citizen ID documents. Providing a secure authenticated identity for every citizen will help us provide better, faster and more reliable secure governmental and non-governmental services and thereby enhance global security."*

Martin Schallbruch, Chief Information Officer – German Federal Ministry of the Interior:

*"The German Federal Ministry of Interior has participated in the Citizen ID Forum over the years and we are glad to have attended this year's well-organized and independent initiative as well in order to share our experience and exchange views with other governments."*

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#### About Citizen ID Forum

The Citizen ID Forum is a vertical event of the ID WORLD International Congress, focusing on the evolution of government-driven citizen identification programs. After successful events under the patronage of the Ministers of Interior from France, Germany, Italy and Turkey in Berlin, Rome, Paris, Istanbul and Milan, the Citizen ID Forum took place for the first time in Abu Dhabi in February 2008 under the patronage of the Minister of Interior of the UAE, H. H. Sheik Saif bin Zayed Al Nahyan. Building on the achievements of 2008 in Abu Dhabi and Milan, the 2009 Citizen ID Forum will be held again in Abu Dhabi on February 15-16, under the patronage of the Minister of Interior of the UAE, with the endorsement of the European Commission and Emirates Identity Authority and supported by Abu Dhabi Police.

For further information visit: [www.citizen-id.com](http://www.citizen-id.com)

#### About ID WORLD International Congress

The ID WORLD International Congress, organized by Wise Media, is the annual world summit on automatic identification. It is the most comprehensive showcase of RFID, biometrics and smart card technologies, and is the only international forum that looks at the auto ID industry as a whole, rather than focusing on a specific technology or vertical sector.

The eighth ID WORLD International Congress will take place in Milan at the Milanofiori Congress Center on November 3-5, 2009, and explore the fundamental issues associated with automatic identification in a variety of market segments via three cornerstone initiatives: the Conference, the Exhibition and the Exchange.

For further information visit: [www.idworldonline.com](http://www.idworldonline.com)

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