MALAYSIA INTRODUCES THE WORLD’S FIRST NATIONAL MULTI-PURPOSE SMART CARD

CHALLENGE: In the late 1990s, the Government of Malaysia had a vision to introduce the world’s first national multi-purpose smart card that could be used for identification, immigration, banking, transportation and medical services.

SOLUTION: The implementation included the Datacard® DC9000 system and subsequently migrated to the Datacard® MX6000™ card issuance systems and Datacard® Affina® issuance software for centralized card issuance as well as hybrid smart cards, associated supplies and localized service provided by Datasonic — an Enterprise Solutions Provider (ESP) for Entrust Datacard.

RESULTS: Entrust Datacard and Datasonic worked closely together to enhance the security, reliability and functionality of the Malaysian National ID cards (MyKad).

CUSTOMER PROFILE
The National Registration Department (NRD) of Malaysia, under the purview of the Ministry of Home Affairs, oversees registration of its citizen’s important life events — birth, death, adoption, marriage and divorce. In addition, NRD is responsible for determining citizenship status and issuing identification cards for eligible citizens and permanent residents.

Established to maintain administrative citizen data, the NRD requires all citizens age 12 and older to register with the department and obtain an identity card. The NRD serves roughly 30 million citizens and operates from the Federal Government Administrative Centre in Putrajaya, Malaysia.
PAVING THE WAY FOR OUR FUTURE

Over the past 30 years, Malaysia has experienced rapid growth and development in the technology sector under the MSC flagship. This growth has been shaped by solid, strategic five-year development plans to become a mature, high income and developed society by 2020.

Driving these development programs is Vision 2020 — a national agenda set by the Malaysian government with the intent of propelling the country into the Information Age. Vision 2020 encourages technology innovation, partnerships with global technology players and fosters growth in both Malaysian and international companies.

To achieve this vision, Malaysia embarked on an ambitious plan — the MyKad Project — to introduce the first multipurpose national identification card that could be used for identification, transportation, conducting financial transactions, crossing borders and accessing medical services.

INTEGRATED SOLUTION PROVIDED BY ENTRUST DATACARD AND DATASONIC

The MyKad project was initiated in early 2000 as the National Registration Department began to evaluate technology providers. Program requirements included a scalable technology platform that could grow with the program over time, a partner that could provide localized services and the ability to supply and personalize high-quality smart chip cards.

Ultimately, Entrust Datacard together with Datasonic — an Enterprise Solutions Provider (ESP) for Entrust Datacard — were selected because of the cost-effective, efficient inline central issuance solution and in-region services they were able to provide.

Evolving program for continued success

The MyKad project began as a pilot program with five applications using a composite card. Today, it has migrated to a polycarbonate card with highly secure laser engraving and color printing personalization features with a card life of about 10 years.

Currently, every Malaysian citizen is issued a National ID at the age of 12 and are reissued a renewal card at the age of 18. With a population of roughly 30 million citizens, there is an estimated 20 million National ID cardholders and the National Registration Department of Malaysia issues over three million cards per year.

ENTRUST DATACARD’S CONTINUED SUCCESS IN THE GOVERNMENT SECTOR

Entrust Datacard helps government agencies and integrators worldwide implement technologies that empower them to enhance service levels while strengthening security, mitigating risk and controlling costs. The company is engaged in high-profile government identity programs globally for e-passports, national IDs, driver’s licenses and other secure credentials. Implemented in 18 of the 20 largest e-gov programs, Entrust Datacard also has over 400 government projects around the world. Additionally, roughly 165,000 passports, 10 million credentials, and 5 million smart cards are issued daily using Datacard® technologies.

FEATURED PRODUCTS

- Datacard® MX6000™ card issuance systems with laser engraving and color printing provide the National Registration Department with a powerful inline solution for secure, high-volume ID card issuance.
- Datacard® Affina® smart card issuance software that enabled the National Registration Department to create an in-house smart card program that increases control, enhances security and minimizes costs.
- Hybrid smart cards, associated supplies and a service agreement provided by Datasonic for in-region project management, implementation and technical support.