

ISSE 2009 – TeleTrusT Innovation Award Ceremony

Acceptance Speech addressed by Mr. Uriel (CECA) to the ISSE audience on October 7, 2009:

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Fortunately, there were no candidates from Rio in this game ... so Madrid has been the winner this time !! talking seriously...

The main objective of CECA with this project has been to get rid of papers in the 25.000 branches of our Confederation. The only paper that cannot be removed from a legal point of view is the one handwritten signed by the clients. Thousands of millions of papers kept from a period between six and hundred years...

The challenge for CECA has been an innovative hybrid approach which uniquely combines the benefits of Biometrics, cryptography and PKI. We understand that TeleTrusT promotes the user-friendly usage of such technologies. The claim of TeleTrusT is "Pioneering IT security" and we really know the pioneering and innovation can be a tough job.

CECA's project has brought together lawyers, certifiers, developers, intensive user training and clients awareness to reach a solution that achieves our goal of having 100% of our documents native digital. Three layers are the basis of our project :

- 1.- A complete legal analysis of the digitalized signatures in all types of documents, from simple transactions to complex contracts. Main conclusion is the complete legal validity of the design and its implementation.
- 2.- A deep review of the security of the solution, from the architecture, code and usage of the innovative combination of biometrics and PKI. Here we used external IT security auditors to certify our solution.
- 3.- An exhaustive control of user and clients acceptance running multiple pilots and tests that concluded with a total success among all segments of age, investor profiles or companies.

Today we are operating more than 10.000 signature capturing devices in more than 1500 branches and have a record of 5 million transactions signed electronically so far. Our objective for next year will be to have more than 20.000 devices on more than 5000 branches in more than 25 Savings Banks of our association.

We believe that this project features some excellent examples which outline a Spanish-German partnership. CECA's solution is closely linked to players within TeleTrusT:

- The German Savings Bank's organization offered valuable inspiration for our project in Spain, we had and have a very vital exchange with their processing centre arm Finanz Informatik and one of their best practice institutes which is the "Berliner Sparkasse and Landesbank".
- TeleTrusT's member list such as the German signature specialist Softpro. With this company we have built a strong relationship in order to kick off our project.

These are great examples how in a united Europe we share the same goals and work highly efficient together.

In the other hand we are delighted about the Spanish flavor of ISSE with the 2007 award, the 2008 Madrid Location and this new 2009 award. We would be honored if ISSE 2010 can accept a presentation of the project findings and evolution.

We highly appreciate that TeleTrusT honors CECA's approach of "Taking Signatures Seriously – make signature biometrics meet digital signatures" in providing us with this prestigious innovation award.

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