



Article

STid : data protection is vital to the success of security technology

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'How does your solution ensure data protection?' is a question vendors often get asked nowadays. Data protection is clearly one of the current hot topics. Data protection is in essence about safeguarding personal data from being unlawfully accessed, used or manipulated. STid, one of the leading European developers of high security contactless identification, applies the principle of 'data protection by design', says Pierre-Antoine Larrera de Morel



How do you see data protection in the access control market?

Pierre-Antoine Larrera de Morel: It is fair to say that the introduction of the GDPR legislation by the European Union has greatly increased the awareness of the importance of data protection.

Many other countries around the world have also adopted legal provisions to ensure that the personal data of their citizens is under control. Examples of these countries are the State of Qatar and the Kingdom of Bahrain.

The great number of large-scale data breaches, including the widespread abuse of the exposed data in recent years, is clear proof there is a practical necessity to safeguard personal data against abuse.

Data protection and security should be at the centre of attention when developing and deploying security solutions. High security systems, like STid Mobile ID®, make use of cloud based services hosted in datacentres, apps and public communication networks.

How do you ensure data protection?

Pierre-Antoine Larrera de Morel: On STid's readers and STid Mobile ID®, personal information is only stored where it is absolutely needed. Virtual and physical credentials only contain a unique number that is related to that individual person. There is no other personal information stored locally. Only in system modules where it is needed, personal information is processed.

We prioritise "data protection by design", also means "security by design". Modern open standards for encryption and authentication are used to protect information and communicate data between apps, cards, readers, controllers and management software. One of these standards is the SSCP® Protocol, which allows only ciphered and signed communications. Security by obscurity is avoided. STid perfectly masters the security chain and guarantees end-to-end security for both data storage and data exchange.

One of the strongholds in STid Mobile ID® is the online Portal that enables users to customise, distribute and revoke thousands of virtual access cards in just 1 click. Clients are in full control of their application, their security keys and have exclusive access to their account. Access by anyone else is made technically impossible.

STid Mobile ID® even permits you to be totally autonomous and allows you to host your data within your organisation. Therefore, you are always in total control of your security.



You are known to embrace and empower industry standards. Can you elaborate on the idea behind that?

Pierre-Antoine Larrera de Morel: STid not only follows existing standards, we are the driving force behind the rise of new standards that are essential to our security industry. STid is one of the founders of S.P.A.C. – an organisation consisting of European key players in physical security. Members of the organisation collaborate on informing and educating the industry and promote standardisation.

S.P.A.C. promotes and maintains the SSCP® standard: this intelligent communication protocol secures the communication of physical security equipment.

A last word?

Pierre-Antoine Larrera de Morel: Our business success is based upon the pleasant experiences of our clients: users are more likely to adopt simple and effective systems. Solutions as STid Mobile ID® remove the physical constraints of access control and increases the adoption of the corporate security policy.

At STid, we develop technology to make the everyday life of people more pleasant while safeguarding data protection.

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