



Article

STid: offering instinctive solutions for everyday use

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STid, the leader in contactless identification, continues to grow. The Group deploys its know-how in two strategically important fields of activity: security, with access control for people and vehicles, and traceability in industries like aerospace, energy or defense. Focus on the latest trends with **Vincent Dupart**, STid's CEO.

What are the major trends for STid?

VD: STid has achieved record growth: 40% in 2019, when the market only expanded at a rate of 4.5%. This development is based on our plan for growth launched in 2019. Almost €30M of investments over 4 years! This plan has taken the form of international development in the United Kingdom, the United States and the Middle East, and the successful strategic diversification of our activities, in particular in the field of industrial traceability.

Another piece of important news from STid is the creation of the Smart Physical Access Control [SPAC] association, of which you are a founder member. What are its missions?

VD: The SPAC is an organization that federates European players in digital security, with a mission to inform, train and standardize. As a catalyst of the success of the European security industry, the SPAC aims to protect the strategic assets of the most demanding enterprises and governments. The SPAC aims to create a genuinely powerful European force in physical and logical security. The SPAC will provide access to information that is essential for defining security targets to match the challenges of any business. It is a federating European initiative that will also promote the influence and the defense of all the European players in digital security.

The access control market is moving towards virtual badges in smartphones. Why are phones replacing access badges?

VD: The access control market is turning to the smartphone because of its performance and its flexibility. We use smartphones for both professional and private purposes. But when it comes to access control, we must protect data. STid's strengths lie precisely in its ability to combine instinctive access control with uncompromising levels of



security. For more than 20 years, we have been protecting people, data and the property of the most demanding businesses, governments and industries. Our STid Mobile ID® solution embodies this shift towards intuitive and ultra-secure technologies.

STid Mobile ID® is your digital access control platform. What is special about it?

VD: STid Mobile ID® digitalizes all your access badges in a single mobile application. The system manages physical employee access, the reception of visitors, access to a virtual workstation, etc., and the smartphone, when simply switched on, and even during phone calls, becomes a means of identification that uses several different modes (passing your hand or the smartphone in front of the reader, tapping the smartphone, etc.). Access to buildings is controlled according to the user profile, with access rights that can be granted or denied remotely.

Unlike physical badges, virtual badges can be easily and cheaply personalized in line with the company's graphical identity (logo, visuals, colors, etc.). And it can make significant savings too. One virtual badge is between two and five times cheaper than a physical badge. No more consumables, printing and personalisation costs, recycling expenses or costs incurred when badges are lost or damaged. Thanks

to virtual identification, the solution offers economies of scale and higher operational efficiency, all in an eco-friendly package.

What are the latest features?

VD: STid Mobile ID® is being developed constantly. With the administrator's permission, it is now possible to transfer virtual badges to another smartphone, making for greater ease of use, while still meeting the most stringent security demands. We have a strong end-to-end command of the security chain to guarantee the protection and the confidentiality of data. How? By using data encryption and authentication methods that guarantee secure data storage and data exchanges that follow the recommendations of the French State information system security agency (ANSSI) and Federal Information Processing Standards (FIPS).

The latest version of STid Mobile ID® adds another layer of security to identification, by using the smartphone's biometric sensor. Why? To offer dual authentication when unlocking the virtual badge.

For even more instinctive use, STid Mobile ID® is now compatible with the SIRI command on iOS and the remote control mode of the Apple Watch to open doors.

What are the next main steps for STid in 2020?

VD: We will continue to strive on a daily basis to make access control even more instinctive, by designing new means of identification, improving ergonomics, exploring solutions that others have not, and strengthening the relationship of trust with our partners and customers. This is a key point for our employees every day, which explains our ambition to develop our existing teams in order to provide even more support! With this in mind, the STid offices will be expanded and a new building will be opened to better organize our activities and improve the working environment!

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