

AuthenTec and Microsoft Collaborate on Biometric Authentication

MELBOURNE, Fla., Apr 28, 2003

AuthenTec, Inc., the leader in advanced biometric semiconductor technology, announced today that the Company has entered into an agreement with Microsoft Corp., world leader in software solutions, to develop native biometric authentication software support for Windows(R). Both Companies will cooperate to develop a reference driver that will enable Windows users to authenticate to Windows systems using biometric devices.

Microsoft plans to build the reference fingerprint device driver based on AuthenTec's TruePrint(TM) based fingerprint software technology. The architecture will support multiple biometric authentication vendors including AuthenTec's TruePrint-based fingerprint sensors. Microsoft will develop a common biometric device driver model and make this available through the use of a Device Driver Kit (DDK). Application software and hardware developers will also benefit from a common set of biometric operating system interfaces. This technology initiative will ultimately provide users with biometric security and allow industry interoperability between various biometric hardware software application developers.

"Microsoft and AuthenTec are working together to offer the first biometrically-enabled operating system providing convenient and secure user authentication for Windows users," said Michael Stephenson, Lead Product Manager for Microsoft Windows Server. "The integration of biometrics with Windows will extend the authentication beyond what you know or what you have to who you are."

"This agreement represents the native integration of biometrics directly into the operating system versus simply being ported to it. We believe our agreement with Microsoft validates our TruePrint technology and ongoing commitment to provide the best and most convenient security solutions on the market," said Scott Moody, president and CEO of AuthenTec. "This collaborative effort will accelerate the acceptance and application of biometrics in computing."

AuthenTec's patented TruePrint technology reads beyond the surface layer of the skin to the live layer where the true fingerprint resides. Unlike surface-based optical, thermal, and DC capacitive technologies, TruePrint is not affected by common skin surface conditions such as dry, worn, callused, oily, or dirty skin which can affect the sensor's ability to acquire accurate fingerprint images. AuthenTec also offers a highly reliable security architecture starting from the anti-spoofing capabilities of TruePrint technology and supported by template encryption and digital signatures throughout the matching process. Uniquely, TruePrint is the only fingerprint technology capable of capturing virtually anyone's fingerprint.

About AuthenTec, Inc.

AuthenTec is a leading semiconductor company providing advanced biometric fingerprint sensors to the PC, wireless, PDA, access control and automotive markets. AuthenTec's FingerLoc and EntrePad product families utilize the Company's patented TruePrint technology, the first technology capable of imaging everyone under virtually any condition. AuthenTec's award-winning products are the choice of leading industry hardware and software providers, ensuring compatibility across multiple platforms and applications. Based in Melbourne, Florida, AuthenTec's global network of partners, solution providers and customers include Texas Instruments, Microsoft, IBM, Targus, Delphi, Acer, Samsung, Synaptics, Asus, Harris Corporation and SCM Microsystems. For more information about AuthenTec, visit <http://www.authentec.com> or call 321/308-1300.

All trademarks or registered trademarks are the property of the respective holders.

SOURCE: AuthenTec, Inc.

AuthenTec, Inc., Melbourne
Colette Cote, 321/308-1320
colette.cote@authentec.com
or
Zero to Five
Nicole Poisson, 412/441-2408
npoisson@zer0to5ive.com

<http://www.businesswire.com>

Today's News On The Net - Business wire's full file on the Internet
with Hyperlinks to your home page.

SAMPLE