The Smart Card Alliance Identity Council is focused on promoting the need for technologies and usage solutions regarding human identity information to address the challenges of securing identity information and reducing identity fraud, and to help organizations realize the benefits that secure identity information delivers. The Council engages a broad set of participants and takes an industry perspective, bringing careful thought, joint planning, and multiple organization resources to bear on addressing the challenges of securing identity information for proper use.

Identity Council Activities

The Council works on projects to raise awareness of the issues that organizations and the public face in implementing and using identity systems and to promote the use of the appropriate technologies to solve these issues. Council activities include:

- Developing white papers and briefings on key identity topics to provide educational resources to the industry.
- Developing industry positions on key identity issues and offering perspectives on solutions.
- Maintaining an active, public voice on identity topics, promoting the positive aspects of identity technology solutions and responding to reports that contain misinformation about identity technology.

Council Resources

Events

- PIV-I Credentialing Workshop: Strategies for the Implementation of PIV-I Secure Identity Credentials, 9th Annual Smart Cards in Government Conference

Position Papers

- Assurance Levels Overview and Recommendations
- The Consequences to Citizen Privacy and National Security in Adopting RFID Technology for Border Crossing Identity Documents
- Department of Homeland Security and State Pilots for Enhanced Driver’s Licenses: Concerns about Privacy, Security and Operational Impact of Technology Selection
- Effective Healthcare Identity Management: A Necessary First Step for Improving U.S. Healthcare Information Systems, in collaboration with the Healthcare Council
- Healthcare Identity Management: The Foundation for a Secure and Trusted National Health Information Network, in collaboration with the Healthcare Council
- Identifiers and Authentication - Smart Credential Choices to Protect Digital Identity
- Privacy, Identity, and the Use of RFID and RF-Enabled Smart Card Technology
- Statement on ePassport Security
- Smart Card Technology: The Right Choice for REAL ID
- Technology Usage in U.S. Electronic Passports Versus Passport Cards and EDLs

White Papers

- Best Practices for the Use of RF-Enabled Technology in Identity Management
- Emergency Response Official Credentials: An Approach to Attain Trust in Credentials across Multiple Jurisdictions for Disaster Recovery
- ePassport Frequently Asked Questions
- EPC Gen 2 RFID Tags vs. Contactless Smart Cards: Frequently Asked Questions
- Federal Identity, Credential and Access Management (FICAM) Roadmap
- Identity and Smart Card Technology and Application Glossary
- Identity Management Systems, Smart Cards and Privacy
- Interoperable Identity Credentials for the Air Transport Industry
- Logical Access Security: The Role of Smart Cards in Strong Authentication
- Privacy and Secure Identification Systems: The Role of Smart Cards as a Privacy-Enabling Technology
- RF-Enabled Applications and Technology: Comparing and Contrasting RFID and RF-Enabled Smart Cards
- Secure Identification Systems: Building a Chain of Trust
- Securing Identity and Enabling Employment Verification: How Do Immigration Reform and Citizen Identification Align?
- Smart Cards and Biometrics in a Privacy-Sensitive Secure Personal Identification System
- Smart Card Technology in Healthcare: Frequently Asked Questions, in collaboration with the Healthcare Council
- Top 10 Hot Identity Topics
- Using FIPS 201 and the PIV Card for the Corporate Enterprise

The Identity Council also submitted comments on draft NIST specifications and the draft National Strategy for Trusted Identities in Cyberspace (NSTIC) and collaborated with the Healthcare and Physical Access Councils on white papers on medical identity theft and PIV interoperable cards for non-federal issuers.
Member Comments

“The Alliance is a wonderful place to meet and exchange ideas with industry professionals having similar interests. The public output from the councils provides benefit to all members and the industry at large, but there is another whole layer of opportunity that comes with council participation. It is here that small groups with a more narrow focus regularly exchange ideas and strategies to expand the awareness and understanding of smart card technology and applications.”

—Linda Brown, Business Development Manager, Infineon Technologies

“The Smart Card Alliance believes that identity is a cornerstone of the 21st century economy. The evolution of e-commerce, the mobile workforce, effective logical and physical security and many facets of our lives all depend on our ability to assert our identity in an efficient, safe and widely-accepted manner. The Smart Card Alliance and the Identity Council represent an opportunity to collaborate with end-user, consultant, vendor and government organization leaders. It creates the rare and invigorating opportunity to do well by your enterprise by engaging in important issues of the day.”

—Sal D’Agostino, Principal, IDmachines LLC

“The Smart Card Alliance has done a tremendous amount of work in terms of raising awareness and stimulating thought leadership around smart card technology. Through the events and education programs, our employees and our clients are better connected to the latest information on issues surrounding smart cards.”

—Gordon Hannah, Principal, Deloitte Audit & Enterprise Risk Services

“The Smart Card Alliance is a key voice in helping to map the relevance and use of smart card technology in the Americas. Issues such as privacy, interoperability, verification, anti-counterfeiting and security are essential criteria when discussing credential issuance to society and must be taken with the utmost consideration. Oberthur looks to the Smart Card Alliance as a spokesperson for our community and a beacon for policymakers, industry leaders, academics and the general public for guidance on how to successfully apply such concepts into everyday practice.”

—Patrick W. Hearn, Vice President Government and Identification Markets - North/Central America, Oberthur Technologies

“The Smart Card Alliance continues to be a driving force in the high assurance identity and payments marketplace, and through its industry councils is helping address some of the key security and privacy issues in today’s dynamic world. The Identity Council, one of the Alliance’s most prolific, provides expert comment and advice on the pressing and emerging challenges of human identity in the 21st century, ranging from the security of border management to the privacy of electronic health records to the trustworthiness of Internet and mobile commerce. Come join us help shape the future of identity.”

—John McKeeon, Chief Architect, Trusted Identity Initiative, IBM

“For me, one of the most important benefits of the Smart Card Alliance has been for both the industry and key members of the user community to be able to speak to important issues of security and privacy with one voice. This has proven very effective in supporting the basic authentication capability of ePassport, and in educating policy makers and consumers about the differences between secure contactless technology and RFID. Of course the other benefit, as always, is the very active interaction with the user community and in particular those in the federal government. The Alliance has played an invaluable role in providing a vendor-agnostic place where industry and government decision makers can work out the practical issues towards creating interoperable and standards-based solutions for government applications.”

—Neville Pattinson, Vice President, Government Affairs and Standards, Gemalto

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About the Smart Card Alliance

The Smart Card Alliance is a not-for-profit, multi-industry association working to stimulate the understanding, adoption, use and widespread application of smart card technology. Through specific projects such as education programs, market research, advocacy, industry relations and open forums, the Alliance keeps its members connected to industry leaders and innovative thought. The Alliance is the single industry voice for smart cards, leading industry discussion on the impact and value of smart cards in the U.S. and Latin America. For more information please visit www.smartcardalliance.org.

The Smart Card Alliance Industry and Technology Councils are focused groups within the overall structure of the Alliance. Councils have been created to foster increased industry collaboration within a specified industry or market segment and produce tangible results, speeding smart card adoption and industry growth. Groups collaborate on specific deliverables, including reports, briefings and educational material. The Smart Card Alliance currently has five active Councils focusing on contactless and mobile payments, healthcare, identity, physical access and transportation industries. Council participation is open to any Smart Card Alliance member who wishes to contribute to the Council projects.

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Council Officers
Chair: Harold Kocken, Deloitte Audit and Enterprise Risk Services
Vice Chair: Neville Pattinson, Gemalto
Secretary: Salvatore D’Agostino, IDmachines

Council Steering Committee
Salvatore D’Agostino, IDmachines
Roland Fournier, L-1 Identity Solutions
Harold Kocken, Deloitte Audit and Enterprise Risk Services
LaChelle LeVan, Probaris
Bob Merkert, SCM Microsystems
Neville Pattinson, Gemalto
Steve Rogers, Intellisoft, Inc.
James Sheire, NXP Semiconductors
Chris Williams, SAIC

Council Members
Accenture
Athena Smartcard
Booz Allen Hamilton
CardLogix
Certipath LLC
Cogent Systems
Computer Sciences Corp. (CSC)
CPI Card Group
Cryptography Research, Inc.
Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC)
Deloitte
Diebold Security
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HID Global Corp.
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Identification Technology Partners, Inc.
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Infogard
Intellisoft, Inc.
L-1 Identity Solutions
LaserCard Corporation
Lenel Systems International
MAGICARD - Ultra Electronics
Multis National
Nagra ID Security
NXP Semiconductors
Oberthur Technologies
Organizational Change Future Workplace
Probaris, Inc.
SAIC
SCM Microsystems
Tyco - Software House
Unisys
U. S. Department of Defense/DMDC
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Visa Canada
Visa Inc.
XTe, Incorporated