In the Spotlight

ID Technology Partners (IDTP)

A 2015 Smart Card Alliance Company of Excellence (COE) recipient, ID Technology Partners (IDTP), based in the Washington, DC metropolitan area, is a leading engineering and consulting firm specialized in the critical elements of identification systems. IDTP provides objective, unbiased support for ID system design, development, operation and deployment.

Please describe your company's business profile and its offerings

IDTP is a small business that can deliver unique support capabilities to large-scale ID initiatives, the access security marketplace, and related technology industries. Even as a small firm, the company boasts over 250 years of combined biometric technology staff experience, and is approaching 200 years of identification program and smart card technology staff experience. We have a national-level reputation in smart card credentialing and biometric identification disciplines with career-veteran experts recognized for real-world project experience, and extensive involvement in developing standards, compliance testing tools and industry best practices. Our clients include agencies of the U.S. government, Fortune 500 companies, and other commercial businesses.

What role does smart card technology play in your business?

The effective integration and application of smart card technology is a key element in our ID program support services.   For example, IDTP is involved in high visibility large-scale ID credentialing programs where we provide technical subject matter expertise in smart cards as well as interrelated technical areas that include biometrics, Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), and access control. We understand that a smart card-based credentialing program must focus on the organization's mission objective and business/functional requirements. We then recommend the best technical approach and ensure that the utility of card issuance and life-cycle management is taken into consideration. IDTP has hands-on knowledge of smart card technology including manufacturer's unique technologies, selection considerations, standards compliance, system design, CONOPS, program specs, application profiles, conformance analysis, operational and functional requirements, card and reader hardware specifications, integration strategies, conformance testing, program development, management and deployment. We

also address technology obsolescence and refresh in a program's design. Clients engage the services of IDTP to ensure the success of their smart card program. IDTP also holds a GSA Schedule contract.

What trends do you see developing in your market?
The increased focus on access security, both logical and physical, is driving the secure credentialing market. The Personal Identity Verification (PIV) standard for federal employees and contractors is finally resulting in wider operational use of PIV in the U.S. federal sector. This is driven both by policy directive as well as a result of a renewed focus on using smart cards for access to sensitive information systems. The latter focus follows the recent breach of sensitive personal data at the Office of Personnel Management. We also see the potential for biometrics to be more widely accepted as an authentication factor in place of PIN or as a third authentication factor in combination with validation of the smart card certificate. Virtual credentials on mobile devices that are linked through PKI to the certificates on smart cards represents another trend that we are closely monitoring.

What things must you overcome to leverage those trends?
We will continue to be an active participant in standards organizations such as NIST, ANSI and ISO to offer our expertise in helping to make the operational use of advanced identification technologies relevant to the user experience and mission requirements. It makes no sense to stand up a technical standard that results in an implementation that does not provide the operational performance or user experience that is required.

Learn more by visiting http://www.idtp.com.