



PRESS RELEASE

## Covadis launches a smart, biometric, data-protection reader

Geneva-based Covadis SA today launched its latest smart reader combining biometrics, encryption and a chip card. The new Auriga™ reader validates employees, controls access to commercial, financial or government computer resources and identifies people wishing to enter sensitive buildings and laboratories.

Designed to check PKI (public key infrastructure) certificates for document signatures, authentication and verification, Auriga™ can store up to 50,000 fingerprint patterns and compare 20,000 fingerprints a second. It is thus particularly suitable for government applications and identity documents.

Auriga™ offers the ideal environment for the acquisition and processing of biometric data used both in Match-On-Card (MoC) and Match-On-Device (MoD) technology. Unlike conventional readers, Auriga™ is an intelligent device that carries out the most sensitive operations within the reader and thus out of reach of malicious software that can infect the host computer.

Another advantage of Auriga™ is its compatibility with most smart cards and the standard fingerprint models. The system is also flexible, with most of the algorithms and programs adaptable to particular requirements.

“Following a spate of data thefts, security has become the priority for IT users,” says Marcelo Corrêa, CEO of Covadis. “Our new reader provides total security in the acquisition

and verification of fingerprints, both for the application and for the user, whose fingerprint never leaves the reader. This is a major guarantee for the user because security and the protection of his biometric data go hand in hand. Furthermore the market is becoming aware that our solutions are among the most advanced in this field and offer the maximum protection.”

### **About Covadis SA**

Covadis SA is a Geneva-based Swiss company that provides advanced solutions for identification and authentication needs. The compact systems integrating cryptography, smart cards and biometric data are totally effective and easy to use.

Covadis has become a key player in electronic security and data protection through its development of identification and validation technologies. Covadis systems have notably secured electronic banking transactions in France for several years. They are proof against any spy software or virus and will defeat the most skilled hacker.

For the past decade, Covadis has designed solutions based on chip cards — a secure, flexible and effective technology. The latest generation of high-speed and high-capacity cards incorporates biometric data as the decisive identifier of an individual. They therefore offer guaranteed protection on a wide range of applications.

### **Contacts**

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