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PRESS RELEASE - Mobile e-Registration, Attendance Tracking and Data Capture Solution

Following on from work for London Connects and several London boroughs, Smartran Ltd has developed a solution for reading smartcards that runs on a small, robust handheld card-reader. It is an affordable solution aimed at schools, leisure centres and youth services to allow easy registration, attendance tracking and data capture. The solution will be a key tool for organisations needing to increase uptake of activities and to reduce the opportunities for fraud, misreporting and non-attendance.

The solution is affordable, easy to set-up and does not require additional hardware or a complete overhaul of existing management systems or networks. In fact, the card-reader is more convenient and lighter than barcode scanners or swipe card readers. The card-readers can be connected to a PC, via USB adaptor or serial cable, to extract the stored data using the software supplied. The handheld device allows fast registration for an activity (e.g. soccer training, dance class, school trip), is capable of storing a number of transactions in its internal memory and can be used in sites with no or limited connectivity. The handheld is programmed to read data from standard Local Authority encoded Mifare cards issued by a service provider (e.g. a leisure centre, school or Council). The menu of activities on the handheld can be easily configured by the service providers for the relevant purpose (e.g. martial arts session, school trip or dance class).

One of the main benefits of using the handheld reader is that it unlocks the value of the smartcards, which are more secure and can hold more

information about the cardholder and entitlement than a barcode or magnetic stripe. It also allows administration and data capture to be automated, replacing the inefficient and error prone manual method of recording who has attended each session. Registration information can be extracted from the device quickly and easily onto a simple spreadsheet or uploaded to an existing management system for tracking activities. The efficiency and reliability of the data capture allows accurate reporting of participation statistics and/or production of auditable data for re-charging purposes.

The card-reader can automatically check for any cardholder entitlement (e.g. discount, free access to services) as this information will be stored on the card and read by the card-reader. There is the possibility via the service providers to add an e-voucher or reward scheme on the smartcards. For example, if a card-holder has an e-voucher or reward for a free session and wishes to claim it, the card-reader could automatically update the information stored on the card to say that the free session has now been claimed.

Smartran is offering this solution to increase the value and advantages of introducing a smartcard scheme. If you would like any more information regarding smartcard schemes, this solution and other smartcard applications please contact:

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Notes to Editor:

Smartran Limited provides solutions, independent consultancy and project management services. Smartran delivers exciting, innovative and effective solutions for multi-application smart card schemes and related retailing, cash collection, payment, e-commerce and settlement requirements. Smartran was

closely involved with the National Smart Card Project (NSCP) and the early starters using the NSCP starter kit. Smartran has assisted a wide range of organisations including projects for Lewisham Council, Chester City Council, Waltham Forest Council, DfT, ODPM and Bracknell Forest Council.

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