Sealys eDriver Licenses for Monterrey drivers

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> The Context
The capital city of the northeastern Mexican state of Nuevo León, Monterrey is the third most populated metropolitan area in Mexico. Known as the ‘City of the Mountains’, Monterrey has a population of 1.13 million and in 2005, had 840,000 active driver licenses in circulation for some 1.5 million vehicles when a state law was passed for the introduction of a new eDriver license scheme.

> The Challenge
Since the late 1990s, the number of vehicles on the roads of Monterrey has more than doubled and identity theft is rife. Where previous licenses offered limited security features and were extremely vulnerable to fraud, the Instituto de Control Vehicular (ICV), a decentralized public body and part of the local government of the state of Nuevo León, required a new scheme that would radically overhaul the existing system.

The new scheme had to offer a safe and secure way to facilitate administration whilst reducing fraud and providing a reliable platform to share relative information securely between government departments.

> The Solution
The solution includes Sealys eDriver License, the Gemalto smart card platform that securely stores the driver’s information, and a sophisticated card body with specific security features that makes it difficult to copy and counterfeit. Gemalto partnered with Cosmocolor, the prime contractor, who handles the enrolment process and provides onsite personalization of the solution.

The driving license is a microprocessor-based ID document that entitles a specific person to drive a certain category of vehicle. The microprocessor securely stores a picture of the holder, his/her blood type, and the drivers’ credentials to enable digital signature. The microprocessor also contains the history of drivers’ fines, allowing the transit authorities to easily monitor drivers’ behavior on the roads and could, in the future, be used for insurance companies to calculate policy costs. Fingerprint and facial picture of the driver are encoded in the card body.

Driver enrolment and card personalization is done on the spot when a citizen applies for a new license. The data is immediately sent through a secure communication network to a central database for verification and storage.

> The Result
For citizens
Monterrey citizens now have the peace of mind that a secure eDocument brings. The potential for identity theft has been radically reduced, and the cards can also be used as a trusted form of ID with banks and other establishments. The card also opens up the potential for future eCard schemes in the future like healthcare which will serve to make the Monterrey citizen experience safer, simpler and more secure.

For the state
The Nuevo León state now enjoys a fast, secure and user-friendly scheme for driver registration which reduces fraud and radically reduces administration costs and acts as a reliable ID document. The cards also store the history of drivers’ fines for traffic violations which will allow the authorities to monitor driver behavior and could, in future, be used by insurance companies to calculate policy costs.

Over the next three years Gemalto is supplying some 900,000 driver licenses to the ICV which will pave the way for future eGovernment schemes that will further simplify administration and reduce fraud.