

Health care organizations worldwide are implementing smart health cards supporting a wide variety of features and applications. Smart health cards can improve the security and privacy of patient information, provide the secure carrier for portable medical records, reduce healthcare fraud, support new processes for portable medical records, provide secure access to emergency medical information, enable compliance with government initiatives and mandates, and provide the platform to implement other applications as needed by the healthcare organization.

The Smart Card Alliance Healthcare Council brings together payers, providers, and technologists to promote the adoption of smart cards in U.S. healthcare organizations and within the national health IT infrastructure. The Healthcare Council provides a forum where all stakeholders can collaborate to educate the market on the how smart cards can be used and to work on issues inhibiting the industry.

Healthcare Council Activities

Healthcare Council activities stimulate the understanding, adoption and widespread acceptance of single and multi-application smart card technology for healthcare applications. The Healthcare Council's activities include:

- Providing educational resources for healthcare organizations, consumers, government organizations and members to foster deployment of smart cards in the healthcare marketplace;
- Identifying the challenges and opportunities in the emerging healthcare marketplace for applications that can be supported by smart card technology;
- Promoting the development and use of standards for healthcare applications.

Council Resources

- A Healthcare CFO's Guide to Smart Card Technology and Applications
- Comments to HHS and ONC: Stage 2 Meaningful Use; Two-Factor Authentication for PHRs
- Complementary Smart Card Guidance for the WEDI Health Identification Card Implementation Guide
- Effective Healthcare Identity Management: A Necessary First Step for Improving U.S. Healthcare Information Systems, in collaboration with the Identity Council.
- Getting to Meaningful Use and Beyond: How Smart Card Technology Can Support Meaningful Use of Electronic Health Records
- Healthcare Identity Management: The Foundation for a Secure and Trusted National Health Information Network, in collaboration with the Identity Council



- Healthcare Identity Management LinkedIn Group
- Healthcare ID Resources
- HIPAA Compliance and Smart Cards: Solutions to Privacy and Security Requirements, Smart Card Alliance Healthcare Council white paper
- Identity Management in Healthcare webinar
- Implementation profiles of healthcare organizations using smart cards
- Medical Identity Theft in Healthcare
- Protecting Your Health Information: Raising Public Awareness of the Privacy and Security Challenges of Healthcare Information Management, briefing held in collaboration with the Identity Council and Secure ID Coalition
- Response to NISTIR 7497, Draft Security Architecture Design Process for Health Information Exchanges (HIEs)
- Smart Card Applications in the U.S. Healthcare Industry, Smart Card Alliance Healthcare Council white paper
- Smart Cards in U.S. Healthcare: Benefits for Patients, Providers and Payers, Smart Card Alliance Healthcare Council white paper
- Smart Card Technology in Healthcare: Frequently Asked Questions
- Smart Health ID Cards: Challenges with Patient Identity Management and Authentication webinar

Member Comments

“The theme for the Healthcare Council is education and collaboration. We are seeing the number of smart card implementations in healthcare growing across the country and now is the time for us to provide a forum to share experiences, address pressing issues, and examine and learn about the role smart cards are playing in healthcare today and the important role they can play in the future. Patient identification, security and privacy, data exchange and consumer empowerment are some of the areas smart cards can greatly improve. We hope to educate our healthcare leaders and vendor community about the advantages of smart cards.”

—Paul Contino, former Vice President of Information Technology,
Mount Sinai Medical Center

“We at LifeMed/SMART have been tremendously pleased with our participation with the Smart Card Alliance. Not only are we getting front-line information as to the other goings-on around the globe, we are able to help shape policy that will not only forward our industry, but establish the foundation for years to come. We could not be more pleased with the Smart Card Alliance - it has been the best investment we have made as a company!”

—Dale Grogan, Director of Smart Card Initiatives, LifeMed Card, Inc.
and Council Vice Chair

“The Smart Card Alliance’s Healthcare Council is focused on improving the security and privacy issues facing the U.S. healthcare system as we move our antiquated paper-based systems into the electronic world. Through educational initiatives and collaboration, Council members are focused on increasing the adoption of secure and standards-based smart card technology in the U.S. healthcare system. Gemalto is pleased with the opportunity to actively participate on the Healthcare Council and help drive adoption of this technology.”

—Michael Magrath, Director, Business Development -
Government & Healthcare, Gemalto and Council Chair

“The interest in smart card technology in the healthcare industry continues to grow as hospitals, insurance companies and providers, including state and federal agencies for Medicare/Medicaid, are turning to the Alliance for unbiased, educated information to make knowledgeable decisions. Oberthur Technologies is proud to be part of an organization that places a focus on educating all members of the value chain on the importance of the security that smart cards can provide through identity validation, personal health record protection, elimination of fraudulent activity, and the recognition of provider/patient authenticity. Involvement in the Alliance is a win-win for all involved and the smart card industry.”

—Gurpreet Manes, Technical Marketing Manager - Health Markets, Oberthur
Technologies of America Corp.

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.

Council Officers

Chair: Michael Magrath, Gemalto
Vice chair: Dale Grogan, LifeMed Card, Inc. /
SMART Association
Secretary: Anna Fernezian, CSC

Council Steering Committee

Anna Fernezian, CSC
Dale Grogan, LifeMed / SMART Association
Michael Magrath, Gemalto
Gurpreet Manes, Oberthur Technologies
Bob Merkert, SCM Microsystems
Matthew Neuman, Giesecke & Devrient

Council Members

ABnote Group
Accenture
Bell Identification B.V.
Booz Allen Hamilton
CardLogix
CSC
Dale Laszig
Datacard Group
Defense Manpower Data Center (DMDC)
Deloitte
Diebold
Fiserv
Gemalto
Giesecke & Devrient
Honeywell
HP
Lenel Systems International
LifeMed Card, Inc.
MasterCard Worldwide
Northrop Grumman Corporation
Oberthur Technologies
OTI America
PPG Industries, Inc.
SAIC
SCM Microsystems
ST Microelectronics
Thales e-Security
VeriFone
Watchdata Technologies
XTec, Inc.