

Digital Identity Forum, London, 2007



A blueprint for electronic identity as a public utility

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Typical government requirements

- Bear down on crime, illegal immigration, terrorism
- Prevent people who are not entitled from accessing services
- Facilitate “joined up” government
- Commercial service to big business

Potential public reaction

- “They” treat me as a potential criminal
- “They” will track me wherever I go and whatever I do

The government is predicting that some 15m people will revolt against Tony Blair’s controversial ID card scheme by refusing to produce the new cards or provide personal data on demand.

The Sunday Times, London, 8th April 2007

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Previous UK ID card



To use Acts of Parliament, passed for particular purposes during war, in times when the war is past, ... tends to turn law-abiding subjects into lawbreakers, which is a most undesirable state of affairs. Further, in this country we have always prided ourselves on the good feeling that exists between the police and the public and such action tends to make the people resentful of the acts of the police and inclines them to obstruct the police instead of to assist them.

Lord Chief Justice Goddard, Willcock v. Muckle, 1951

Private identity initiatives

- Public Key Infrastructure
 - victim of dot com bust
- Federated identity
 - MS Live ID, Liberty Alliance
 - beneath critical mass
- Common issues
 - fragmented
 - complicated

Potential business reaction

- We're happy already
- You want money?
- How much liability will you shoulder?

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A step back



- We “do” identity in the real world every day



Some design objectives

- Based on reciprocity
- Subject in control
 - Privacy
- ...and able to meet legitimate needs of the state

Reciprocity

- Person <-> person
- Person <-> business
 - Phone verification
- Person <-> government
 - Right of entry

Design features

- Central register
- 'Blinding' service
- User tokens
- Bells and whistles

Central register

- Unique number
- Biometrics
- THAT'S IT!
 - Sole purpose is to ensure unique identities



Blinding service

■ Sector-specific identity

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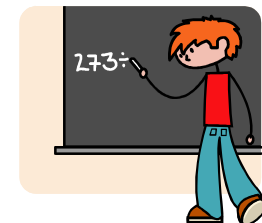
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Relative values

- Down with big brother!

- Up with little sister!



Token requirements

- No need to leave holder's possession
- Keyboard and display
- Rich communications capability
- Not an extra thing to carry/forget

The humble telephone



- NFC chip
- SMS
- Bluetooth
- Voice
- 3G

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Basic transaction

- Tap phones
- Details displayed
- Verified identity
- Add to phone book

Bells and whistles

- Selectable user identity profiles
 - Personal
 - Business
 - etc
- Portion of profile data held on line
 - url in local data set
 - User grants capability to 2nd party
 - Allows checking of officials' *bone fides*
- Simplicity is key

Summary

- No-one has done e-ID comprehensively
- It should deliver everyday benefits
 - ...and support government agendas
 - ...while protecting privacy
- Built from simple components
- Convenient and safe

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