**Bavarian Innovation Award 2016 for SkIDentity as start of digitalization initiative “BayernID”**

 **[Michelau, November 22nd 2016] After numerous international awards last year and the successful completion of relevant certification procedures, ecsec GmbH was distinguished last night for "SkIDentity – Mobile eID as a Service" with the renowned Bavarian Innovation Award 2016. The award, which was handed over by the Bavarian Minister of Economic Affairs, Ilse Aigner, together with the President of the Bavarian Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Dr. Eberhard Sasse, and the President of the Bavarian Chamber of Crafts, Georg Schlagbauer, marks the start of the "BayernID" initiative – the digitization campaign of the Bavarian economy based on trustworthy identities.**

**Bavarian Innovation Award 2016 for “SkIDentity – Mobile eID as a Service”**

Bavaria's Minister of Economic Affairs, Ilse Aigner, together with the President of the Bavarian Chamber of Commerce and Industry, Dr. Eberhard Sasse, and the President of the Bavarian Chamber of Crafts Georg Schlagbauer, yesterday awarded the Bavarian Innovation Award 2016, in a solemn setting in the dignified hall of the German Museum in Munich. Among a total of 187 nominated companies, ecsec GmbH has been awarded for its "SkIDentity – Mobile eID as a Service" offering. *"I congratulate the company ecsec GmbH on the award of the Bavarian Innovation Award 2016. By transforming electronic identity documents eID into secure and mobile ‘Cloud Identities’, which can easily be used in any cloud and web application for privacy friendly authentication, ecsec has made an important contribution to a secure and user-friendly networked world. It is also an essential prerequisite for a successful digitalization of the economy and society”*, commented Ilse Aigner, Bavaria's Minister of Economic Affairs.

**Secure electronic identities for successful digitalization of the economy**

The "[Cyber Security Strategy for Germany 2016](http://www.bmi.bund.de/DE/Themen/Sicherheit/IT-Cybersicherheit/Cybersicherheitsstrategie/cybersicherheitsstrategie_node.html)", recently presented by the Federal Minister of the Interior, foresees the provision and use of secure electronic identities as an important basis for the sustained successful digitalization of the economy: *"The electronic identification documents with online identification function are a key element with which the Federal German Government already provides a highly secure and privacy friendly identification option for the internet. The goal is to establish the online identity function, and the secure identities derived from it, as a standard identification tool for sensitive services, and to promote comparable secure solutions in the economy as well."*

The distinguished SkIDentity Service supports, among other identification means the German electronic identity card (Personalausweis), the Austrian social security card (e-card), the Estonian identity card and e-Residency ID, as well as various signature and banking cards for the secure implementation of electronic business processes. The certificate for the SkIDentity Service according to the "Trusted Cloud Data Protection Profile for Cloud Services" ([TCDP](https://www.skidentity.de/TCDP)) with the highest protection class III issued by the certification body of TÜV Informationstechnik GmbH (TÜViT) and the certification of the "Secure Cloud Infrastructure (SkIDentity)” according to ISO 27001 based on IT-Baseline Protection by the Federal Office for Information Security ([BSI-IGZ-250](https://www.skidentity.de/BSI-IGZ-250)), proof that even the highest standards with respect to privacy and data security are fulfilled within the SkIDentity Service.

**„BayernID“ – the integrated digitalization initiative for the Bavarian economy**

The electronic ID card has been successfully used in Bavaria for the digitization of [administrative processes](http://www.freistaat.bayern/) for quite some time now. Since 1st of July 2016, the [eIDAS](https://eid.as/)-regulation on electronic identification and trust services for electronic transactions in the European Single Market has been fully applicable. In addition, the Free State of Bavaria promotes the secure digitalization of business processes in small and medium-sized Bavarian companies with the "[Digitalbonus.Bayern](http://www.digitalbonus.bayern/)" program.

Against this background, leading Bavarian technology providers, consulting companies and digitalization experts from selected chambers of industry and commerce have joined forces in order to create the "BayernID" package (<http://BayernID.de>), which is an integrated service package for the intelligent digitalization of business processes in Bavarian companies. This package includes expert and non-committal advice on general digitalization measures and aspects of IT security, demonstrates the opportunities inherent in the eIDAS regulation and provides trusted identities, as well as other cloud and trust services, at preferential terms. In addition to ecsec GmbH, which has been awarded with the "Bavarian Innovation Award 2016", the "BayernID" initiative is supported by the internationally leading technology group Giesecke & Devrient GmbH, the Fraunhofer Institute for Industrial Engineering (IAO), SiXFORM GmbH, Urospace GmbH, the buergerservice.org association, which is especially active in Bavaria to promote the use of the German eID card, the IT-Cluster association for Upper Franconia, the Institute of Information Systems at Hof University, the Munich-based provider of the iDGARD-Service Uniscon GmbH as well as the chambers for industry and commerce for Würzburg-Schweinfurt and Bayreuth. Furthermore the initiative is open for further partners who want to contribute to the digitalization of the Bavarian economy.

The "Video Ident Service" from Giesecke & Devrient, which can be used to open a bank
account, activate a prepaid SIM card, or identify an insured person in the health care system without a card reader, is a component of "BayernID". In the same way, the check of the driving license, which is necessary for car-sharing systems, can now be carried out online. "We are pleased to be able to contribute to the successful digitalization of the Bavarian economy with our user-friendly security technologies within the ‘BayernID’ initiative," commented Frank Nordmann, responsible for Public Sector at Giesecke & Devrient. "The verification of the identity and the associated document is optionally carried out in the browser or even mobile in a smartphone app, whereby an electronic check of the various security features integrated into the identification document and a matching of the user information always takes place."

The Munich-based non-profit association buergerservice.org e.V. supports the "BayernID" initiative with the [SID-Box](http://www.buergerservice.org/projekte/sid-box/) (Secure Identity-Box) developed by the association. With the aid of the SID-Box, a citizen terminal (digital service point) can be produced with the least effort, for the direct use of the online ID function of the German eID. Companies, institutions and authorities are thus in a position to provide access to the German eID card to all persons in their environment (employees, customers, members, etc.) in a very simple way. The first digital service points are currently being set up in co-operation between municipalities, chambers of industry and commerce and the buergerservice.org association in the city of Ansbach and in the district of Würzburg.

**About SkIDentity**

The SkIDentity Service has been developed since 2012 with the support of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy (BMWi) within the “Trusted Cloud” initiative, the European Commission and the Bavarian Ministry of Finance by an interdisciplinary team, which is coordinated by ecsec GmbH and comprises experts from ENX Association, Fraunhofer institutes for industrial engineering (IAO) and computer graphics (IGD), OpenLimit SignCubes GmbH, Ruhr University of Bochum, University of Passau, Urospace GmbH and Versicherungswirtschaftlicher Datendienst GmbH. In addition the SkIDentity team is supported by major associations and federations such as the Federal Association for Information Technology, Telecommunications and New Media (Bundesverband Informationswirtschaft, Telekommunikation und neue Medien e.V., BITKOM), the German EuroCloud association (EuroCloud Deutschland\_eco e.V.), the ProSTEP iViP association and TeleTrusT – IT Security Association Germany and well known enterprises such as DATEV eG, easy Login GmbH, media transfer AG, noris network AG, SAP AG, SiXFORM GmbH, Giesecke & Devrient GmbH and selected chambers of industry and commerce.

<http://www.skidentity.com>

**About the Bavarian Innovation Award**

The Bavarian Innovation Award has been awarded since 2012 by the Bavarian Ministry of Economic Affairs together with the Bavarian Chamber of Industry and Commerce and the Bavarian Chamber of Crafts for Bavarian companies whose innovative products or technology-oriented services have already been successfully implemented in the market or whose market success is foreseeable.

<https://www.innovationspreis-bayern.de/>

**About ecsec GmbH**

ecsec GmbH is a specialised provider of innovative solutions in the areas of IT security, smart card technology, identity management and electronic signatures. Based on the long lasting experiences gathered in various smart card projects with international reach ecsec belongs to the leading providers in this area and supports well-known customers during the conception and realisation of tailor-made solutions. Considering the relevant state of science and technology and actual and future international standards, an excellent consulting quality and sustainable customer success is guaranteed.

<https://www.ecsec.de>

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