

Teeny CodeMeter hardware offers even more possibilities for vendors

Software protection at CeBIT 2010: Wibu-Systems develops CmCard/ μ SD for mobile phones

Karlsruhe – The latest survey (January 2010) conducted by the German BITKOM association defines the most important IT trends for 2010 in categories like Cloud Computing, mobile Internet or IT security. Wibu-Systems AG, one of the leading suppliers of protection solutions for software, documents, access and media, has considered the survey and will be exhibiting products at CeBIT in Hall 11 Booth B43 that take advantage of these emerging trends. The company will provide information to visitors about license management as well display new hardware and complete security systems for protecting software. These new and exciting products will also create possibilities for securing hosted SaaS programs and even mobile applications.

Much smaller, but nevertheless secure, the new hardware has been engineered in the micro SD card form factor. The device can include mass storage style memory and incorporates the proven CodeMeter technology. The new device has been named CmCard/ μ SD.

Previously, conventional software protection hardware was only available in much larger sizes. The new CodeMeter hardware will have an immediate effect in the growing smartphone software market and for mobile Internet use. The company had to overcome some significant engineering challenges in designing the CmCard/ μ SD. For example; it was difficult to find a board manufacturing partner with technical expertise in miniature board fabrication. The overall design required a thickness of just 150 μ m, holes of 0.1 mm, circuit paths of 40 μ m width and different gilding on the plug contacts and the bondpads presented a technical challenge. Swissbit, a company specializing in manufacturing die stacks (these are different

semiconductor chips assembled on top of each other) has a presence in Germany and was selected as the manufacturing partner.

The new hardware helps application developers in many different ways. The device will provide security against tampering, reverse engineering and illegal use by encrypting mobile software code segments and taking advantage of CodeMeter's SmartCard technology, synchronous and asynchronous key exchange, AES level encryption, and ECC. The device will also make it possible for the application developer to increase sales by increasing the number of distribution channels and increasing licensing models like pay-per-use and software leasing. More importantly in our world of Internet applications the device will provide users with a highly secure, PKI based, login for hosted applications.

CmCard/ μ SD will be tested as part of the VitaBIT project. The project received development funding through SimoBit (part of the German BMWi). VitaBIT will provide secure smart phones for the mobile nursing service.

Oliver Winzenried, C.E.O. and co-founder of Wibu-Systems AG, is quite optimistic about the future of this little device and said, "Applications for smart phones will boom in the next couple of years. And with our micro SD card, software vendors can securely and flexibly protect their software programs, provide more security for their users, secure their data and enable a secure login for hosted applications. An added benefit for our customers: the CmCard/ μ SD can be used in conjunction with our existing CodeMeter hardware. Programs already protected with CodeMeter will be 100 % compatible with the new device and this compatibility is achieved without the need for making any changes to the code. I reckon we'll have a keen demand for our 'pipsqueak'."



Image 1: The pipsqueak CmCard/μSD, on the far right, is an alternative to the larger CodeMeter form factors.



Image 2: Outstanding achievement for production: the new CmCard/μSD, the latest CodeMeter hardware design, protects software and allows for the creation of different license models.

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WIBU-SYSTEMS AG was founded in 1989 by Oliver Winzenried and Marcellus Buchheit. The main focus is in the fields of Digital Rights Management, software protection, license management, document protection and access control. The company located in Karlsruhe has distributors all over the world, offices in Seattle, USA, as well as in Shanghai, China, and sales offices in Belgium, Great Britain, Portugal, Spain and the Netherlands.

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