bioscrypt

news release | communiqué

Bioscrypt Announces Complete Performance Results in Latest International Biometric Group (IBG) Comparative Study

Bioscrypt demonstrates the least amount of degradation over time and the ability to enroll everyone

Toronto, ON (January 14, 2003) – Bioscrypt Inc. (TSX: BYT), the world's leading supplier of commercial fingerprint biometric systems said today that it was pleased with its overall performance in Round Four IBG testing.

During the IBG test, Bioscrypt had no false acceptances and no failures to enroll at its normal (medium) security setting. In fact, Bioscrypt was the only fingerprint vendor to enroll every single user in its system at the first enrollment session. Other fingerprint vendors required up to three enrollment sessions to enroll users, and many systems, despite such concerted efforts, were still unable to enroll around 1% or more of the users. To put this in perspective, for a company of five hundred employees, this is the difference between all employees being able to use the biometric system and five or more employees not being able to benefit from the higher security.

"Of course, Bioscrypt includes enrollment capability in analysis of its results," stated Pierre Donaldson, President and CEO of Bioscrypt Inc. "It is commonly accepted that any discussion of biometric performance that does not also include a statement of the failures to enroll is misleading. The performance of a biometric system is a moot point for those users that were not able to enroll", he added.

Bioscrypt also achieved a 0% False Acceptance rate at the medium security setting, as compared to a higher false acceptance rate from a leading multi-biometrics security technology company, further demonstrating that Bioscrypt's pattern-based algorithm provides a higher degree of security than minutiae based algorithms.

Key measurements of the study included "Failure to Enroll", the rate of failure of the biometric system to create a proper enrolment template for an end-user; "False Acceptance Rate" (FAR), generally stated as a percentage, at which impostors are erroneously accepted as authentic enrolled persons by a biometric system; and the "False Rejection Rate" (FRR), generally stated as a percentage, at which authentic, enrolled persons are rejected as unrecognized by a biometric system.

The IBG study also evaluated the performance of fingerprint systems over an extended period of time. While all systems showed some degradation, Bioscrypt's algorithm exhibited the smallest amount of degradation during this evaluation. Specifically, Bioscrypt's False Rejection Rate (FRR) degraded by less than a factor of two over time, while in comparison all other fingerprint solutions exhibited a factor of three or more increase in their error rates. The difference in performance between these well known minutiae-based solutions and Bioscrypt's algorithm clearly demonstrates that a pattern-based system is more effective than minutiae based systems at maintaining accuracy over an extended period of time, an important fact in real world applications.

Bioscrypt's patented algorithm is based on fingerprint ridge pattern recognition, a novel technique pioneered by Bioscrypt specifically for commercial applications. Most competitors use minutiae-based algorithms, which compare a small number of isolated points where fingerprint ridgelines intersect, end or split. The minutia approach was originally tailored for large database searches where a human operator would make the final decision. For this reason, minutiae-based systems typically rely on large and expensive high-resolution sensors which provide numerous and well defined minutiae points. The Bioscrypt algorithm utilizes more of the available information and, therefore, is better able to adapt to fluctuations in the fingerprint over time while maintaining superior accuracy. In particular, the Bioscrypt approach is well suited to the growing trend of smaller sensors and those that utilize a "swipe" technique to capture the fingerprint image.

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IBG's comparative studies are acknowledged as a reference for providing a quick assessment of the performance to potential buyers of biometric security solutions. However, due to the limited number of samples available, statistically significant results below 1% require larger data sets (see, for example, *Best Practices in Testing and Reporting Performance of Biometric Devices*, by A. J. Mansfield and J. L. Wayman, http://www.cesg.gov.uk/technology/biometrics/media/Best%20Practice.pdf) such as those used in the FVC2002 competition (http://bias.csr.unibo.it/fvc2002). Bioscrypt encourages all interested parties to review those results in addition to the IBG results.

About Bioscrypt Inc.

Bioscrypt Inc. is a leading provider of advanced fingerprint technology. The company's solutions combine the convenience of touch with the high security of fingerprint-based biometrics for simple and secure access to facilities, equipment and information. Under the "Bioscrypt on Board™" brand, the company offers packaged products, OEM components and software licensing to leading security solution manufacturers and integrators worldwide for physical, wireless and network security applications. Among the many cutting-edge companies and partners using Bioscrypt technology are the U.S. Army, NASA, Continental Airlines, Intel, Atmel, HID Corporation, Honeywell and Northern Computers. Bioscrypt's patented technology is interoperable with leading fingerprint sensors and is both platform and operating system independent. Bioscrypt is traded on the Toronto Stock Exchange under the symbol BYT. For more information, visit the Bioscrypt Web site at www.bioscrypt.com.

About IBG

International Biometric Group is the leading biometric integration and consulting firm, addressing the identification and authentication needs of mid-to-large-size organizations since 1996. IBG works on behalf of both private and government clients to evaluate, design, and integrate biometric solutions for public sector programs, network security, point-of-sale applications, Internet applications, physical access and time-and-attendance systems. Learn more at http://www.biometricgroup.com.

Forward-looking (safe harbour) statement

Statements made in this news release that relate to future plans, events or performances are forward-looking statements. Any statement containing words such as "believes", "plans", "expects" or "intends" and other statements which are not historical facts contained in this release are forward-looking, and these statements involve risks and uncertainties and are based on current expectations. Consequently, actual results could differ materially from the expectations expressed in these forward-looking statements.

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