



## Press Release

### Phase-Out of Mifare® Classic media from the ITSO Environment

4 November 2008

ITSO has made a decision to phase out Mifare® Classic 1k and 4k customer media from the ITSO environment. This precautionary decision is in response to the theoretical risk posed by Mifare® Classic security issues, despite posing no immediate threat to the ITSO environment.

This pro-active phasing out of a customer media platform from ITSO is a long term process and the first part of this requires members to stop issuing Mifare® Classic customer media by 31st December 2009. The second phase of the process will be when ITSO removes support for Mifare® Classic from the ITSO Specification. This will occur once the last ITSO Mifare® Classic card has either expired or been withdrawn; the latest date being 31st December 2016.

This announcement has no impact upon the functionality or validity of Mifare® Classic media currently in circulation within ITSO schemes across the UK. Merely, this phase-out of the Mifare® Classic media over the coming seven years takes into account the lifespan of current cards to allow transition of ITSO schemes to alternative media types at the natural expiry of the media. There is no need for Mifare® Classic media currently in circulation to be recalled or withdrawn.

As ITSO is a multi-platform Specification and environment, it offers its members a range of alternative Customer Media types for future card issue. This means that users of the ITSO Specification can migrate to another platform whilst still remaining compliant to the Specification.

For further information please consult the additional documents currently available to all on the ITSO website at <http://www.itso.org.uk/page207/lang1/Home/Itso-Press-Releases> or contact Valentina Barker, ITSO Marketing and Communications Manager at [marketing@itso.org.uk](mailto:marketing@itso.org.uk).

#### **Notes to Editors:**

**About ITSO Limited.** ITSO Limited is a non-for-profit membership organisation supported by the UK Department for Transport that has created a common specification at both the card and application level, to facilitate the use of interoperable smart cards in transport and other areas.

ITSO facilitates “smart” functionality of the concessionary travel schemes in Scotland, Wales and England; ITSO-compliant ticketing has been made a requirement for a number of rail franchises. ITSO standard is potentially suitable for other applications of smartcards, for example, citizens’ applications, car parking, loyalty schemes and other.

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