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The University of Arizona CatCard roars once again

The University of Arizona (UA) is aiming to move ahead of the field once again with the addition of more space and wider student applications on their student and staff multi-application card – the smart card based CatCard.

The decision to expand their CatCard program is in keeping with a 5 year check plan to implement new technologies and provide the best level of service to the card and campus community. The card upgrade now allows Arizona the option of implementing new applications as the need arises, without having to recall or reissue new cards. Among applications being considered is Web Revalue to facilitate card reloading over the web, and SmartCity® Acquirer which would allow the CatCard to be used outside of the traditional campus setting, across Tuscan and surrounding districts. Using Web Revalue, Parents could reload student cards from any location, across the US or even abroad, using the Web to reload value to specific purses for use only in food outlets or book stores. UA is also keenly examining the incorporation of Biometrics for door access or for controlling access to PCs, networks and applications.

For the CatCard team, the decision to build on the SmartCity® platform and create the basis for further expansion was a key strategic one. “The SmartCity® backbone, database and capabilities are really good, mature and well tested. It has lots of potential to help us remain proactive and continue to serve our campus community” says Diane Tatterfield, Card Services Manager for the UA CatCard program. “We have the ability to expand our scheme as we need to and we have top level support from the SmartCentric team at all times. They provide a personalized, thorough and timely service and a seamless integration with other suppliers.”

The CEO of SmartCentric, Kieran Timmins, commented “Our relationship with the CatCard team is one of an ongoing partnership, where both sides can work together to ensure that the goals of the Card team and campus community are met today and in the future. The key for us is the ability to expand the program as needs change and to be flexible. We are committed to working together with UA throughout the life of their card program.”

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About SmartCentric Technologies International Limited

SmartCentric Technologies International is a specialist technology company focused on secure payments and transactions and multi-application smart card systems. SmartCentric's flagship product, SmartCity®, was originally developed by the SmartCentric team in the early 1990's. SmartCity® is a Multi-Application Smart Card based system which has many wide-ranging uses, such as stored value, loyalty, gift cards, logical access, physical access, biometrics, car parking and ticketing. SmartCity® is based on international standards and works with top industry partners to ensure unique, top class solutions.

SmartCity® has been used in over 90 sites worldwide with over 5 million cards issued in sites as diverse as colleges, government offices, military establishments, banks, towns, shopping areas and stadiums.