

# A national campus e-student card – Poland

||||| Convenient identification solutions for secure access to university premises and electronic internal information



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# A national campus e-student card

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## The context

In 2005 a new Polish law permitted the use of smart cards as an official student ID. This meant implementing new student ID for 448 universities/ high-schools in Poland.

## The challenges

The increased usage of electronic services together with the modernisation of IT infrastructure in Polish universities, meant that the future electronic campus card (Elektroniczna Legitymacja Studencka – ELS), needed to have strong secure authentication for identity credentials as well as provide physical access to the campus. Above all, to be accepted, there had to be clear benefits for the university administration (enhanced management) and to the bearer (increased services). Finally the campus card had to be flexible as each university or regional administration might wish to add specific applications.

## The solution

Gemalto worked closely with OPTeam, (local VAR partner), for this dynamic rollout. OPTeam developed a software application for the campus ID card management system using Gemalto smart cards. The campus card solution developed is multi-applicative and verifies student's identities, granting them access to university/high-school premises including libraries, dormitories and sports facilities.



## Applications

Not only does the card provide a highly secure authentication of students ID, but also meets several



other applications specified by Polish universities, not all yet fully deployed:

- **Electronic ticketing** (allowing e-ticket and discounts for public transportation in Polish cities)
- **Access control** (campus, library, dormitory, sports facilities...)
- Information Kiosk
- **E-Purse** (possibility to pay at university canteen/photocopy machines)
- **PKI authentication**

## Benefits for Universities and students:

- **Improved student population database management:**
  - Personal Data Protection
  - Student Record Life cycle
- **Simplicity & Security:** Makes life easier for both students and university personnel with easy access to several applications, whilst ensuring secure authentication and access control.
- **Convenience:** the card replaces many paper documents saving on time, providing speed and reliability.
- **Cost-effective:** the card streamlines administration services, liberating university resources.
- **Adaptable:** the card provides a base for a wide choice multi-applications/services allowing each university to profile the e-student card according to their needs and evolve as requirements change.

## The Results

Large-scale deployment started in 2007 and to date, Gemalto and OPTeam have delivered

1 million electronic student cards in Poland. More than 100 universities and high schools are issuing the e-student card, and more than 70 are using the OPTeam smart card solution.

## The Future

- **Expand application usage:** Most universities are expected to widen the range of applications available.
- **Multi-campus offering:** some universities are running projects involving several campuses and metropolitan features for a common applications platform
- **New features developed:**
  - e-purse for cafeteria or library's photocopy machine.
  - Digital signature enabling students to electronically sign documents.
  - Secure authentication to specific documents on the university network and to the information kiosk, providing details on courses held.

Given the numerous end-user benefits for both university administration and students of implementing multi-functional campus card systems, many universities are expected to issue new electronic student ID cards.

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**PARTNER NETWORK**

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OPTeam has been a VAR partner of Gemalto since 1999. OPTeam specializes in project management and implementation of smart card based systems, including; loyalty, campus and corporate card systems and payment acceptance solutions.