

Israeli Government Standard (GS) for the Implementation of National ID-Documents based on PKI Smart Cards (SC)

Chapter 0 – Introduction

Israeli Government Standard (GS) for the Implementation of National ID-Documents based on PKI Smart Cards (SC)

0. **Chapter 0 – Introduction**

0.1 **Background**

0.1.1 The uniqueness of the smart card is in that it contains an electronic chip, capable of memory storage and processing data. Usage of the smart card will enable the issuance of national identification documents with advanced capabilities. National documents based on smart cards could be used as a platform for a variety of services and functions. These national documents will be used for the identification and authentication of their holders, and may testify on the legal status of the document holder and on his/hers alleged rights and/or obligations.

0.1.2 The usage of smart cards demands the existence of conforming infrastructure, of devices for reading data from cards and writing on them. Also, measures of data security need to be in place, in order to achieve the full benefits from the usage of the cards, on the one hand, while preventing possible damages to the Government and to the public, on the other hand.

0.1.3 This Government Standard (GS) is based on International Standards and on Israeli Standards (IS), called hereinafter the “Basic Standards” (BS), as a reference. In addition to referencing, the GS narrows the alternatives, which exist in the BS. This is done in order to create a frame for interoperability between all the government issued smart cards, and to enable reading the data, which will be on those cards to whoever will be allowed, on the basis of conformance to the GS.

0.1.4 The GS is incorporated in the concept of developing a Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) in Israel (called “TAMAR” in Hebrew). The GS supplies the means for the identification and authentication of Citizens to the

Government, of Government Employees themselves, and Business organs to the Government, plus the ability to create Digital Signatures.

0.2 **Objectives**

0.2.1 The objectives of the GS are:

0.2.1.1 To create a unified standard that will be mandatory for Government Ministries and related Agencies and organs, and that will guide other national agencies, in order to issue and to use national documents based on smart cards.

0.2.1.2 To create national level unification, issuing smart card based documents, building conforming infrastructure and creating operational interoperability between different agencies and different applications.

0.2.2 To increase the level of service to Citizens and to Residents in Israel, and to Visitors to Israel, by Government ministries and related agencies, while becoming more efficient in their administrative operations.

0.3 **Methodology and Structure of the Document**

0.3.1 Chapter 0 – Introduction, and its annexes, defines the formal requirements relating to the frame of establishing the GS, it's contents, its update and procedures for exceptions.

0.3.2 Chapter 1 – GS for SC, defines the technical requirements for documents based on the smart card and its interfaces with the applications and Reading/Writing Equipment.

0.3.3 Chapter 2 – GS for PKI, defines the technical standards for integrating the smart cards into a PKI framework.

0.4 Reference to Basic Standards

0.4.1 Applicable Basic Standards: The International and the Israeli Standards listed in Annex 0.4, in their most updated version, are applicable as far as this GS is concerned.

0.4.2 Usage of Non-Final Versions of Basic Standards: In cases where the Basic Standard was not formally and finally approved and published, the most updated non-final version, known at that point of time, will be the applicable standard, as explained above.

0.4.3 Methods of Reference to the Basic Standards

0.4.3.1 The reference is done according to the different sections of the Basic Standard document.

0.4.3.2 Where necessary, there is a separation between contact smart card standards and contactless smart card standards.

0.4.3.3 This GS document, can refer to a Basic Standard in one of the following ways:

0.4.3.3.1 Adoption of **all** the BS.

0.4.3.3.2 Adoption of **parts** (sections) of the BS, where specific sections may be defined as optional, or will be explicitly defined as not applicable in the GS.

0.4.3.3.3 In the case that there are several alternatives in the BS, only one of these alternatives will be selected,

in a manner that will ensure the compatibility and the interoperability between the applications. In the case that the alternatives do not contradict, but rather complete each other, it is possible for several alternatives to be selected.

0.4.3.3.4 In the case that a certain issue in the BS is left undefined, the GS will explicitly define that issue, or will delegate the authority to complete the definition onto each government agency, according to its functional needs and on condition that the definition does not limit compatibility and interoperability.

0.4.3.3.5 In certain BS, certain elaboration and specific definitions were necessary, for example, the list of common data items for the Israeli Government requirements.

0.4.4 Availability of BS

0.4.4.1 Each government agency should verify that all the BS, on which the GS is based upon, would be available for its use.

0.4.4.2 The government agency should demand from a supplier bidding for a tender, that he will declare that all the mandatory standards are available for him, and that it

is his responsibility to ensure receiving updates to the BS on a regular basis.

0.5 **Terms in use and Definitions**

0.5.1 As part of the GS, different terms and definitions are used. Some of the definitions are based on the BS or on common industry definitions, while some definitions are specific for the GS.

0.5.2 Terms in use and definitions regarding Smart Cards are listed in Annex 0.5.1.

0.5.3 Terms in use and definitions regarding PKI are listed in Annex 0.5.2.

0.6 **Scope**

0.6.1 To remove any doubt, this GS is bound by all the relevant legislation of the State of Israel, specifically the legislation relating to privacy issues.

0.6.2 This GS deals with ID-documents based on Smart Cards in national applications. These documents will be implemented in the frame of contacts between the Government and the Citizens, between the Government and different incorporations of organs (“business”), and also in intra - government applications, specifically the Computerized ID cards for Access and Identification in Government Ministries (called in Hebrew “TAMUZ”).

0.7 **Government Ministries and Agencies where the GS is Mandatory**

0.7.1 This GS is mandatory in all Government Ministries and affiliated agencies.

0.7.2 This GS will serve as a guideline to Government owned companies and to other national agencies.

0.7.3 Each issuance of ID-documents based on SC in a government application will be done according to this GS. The GS will be attached as an Annex to a tender published by the issuing ministry/agency. Conforming to the GS as a whole will be regarded as a “threshold mandatory condition” in the tender. Notwithstanding that, in the GS there are some optional sections, that are not mandatory, and conforming to them, accordingly, those elements will be optional.

0.8 **Validity**

The GS in its first version, was approved by the General Accountant in the Ministry of Finance, Mr. Nir Gilad, and is valid starting September 2000.

0.9 **Regulations for Changing and Updating The GS**

The senior deputy to the General Accountant, Mr. Itzhak Cohen that holds the position of chairman to the Central Committee for Computers and Technology Tenders (CCCTT) is responsible for the GS, its contents, its update and the monitoring on its implementation. Any suggestion for an update in the GS should be addressed to him.

0.10 **Requests for Exceptions from the GS**

0.10.1 Approval for exceptions from the GS will be granted by the CCCTT.

0.10.2 A government agency that intends to issue ID-documents based on SC in an application that is in the scope of the GS, and that according to its considerations there are important reasons that necessitate an exception from the GS definitions, will apply to the CCCTT. The request will be made using the form presented below, that will detail the request essence, the exception needed and possible implications on other government applications.

0.10.3 The CCCTT will evaluate the request and will inform the requestor on its decision whether to accept or reject the application, in all or in part, within 30 days from the request date.

0.10.4 Application Form

To
Mr. Itzhak Cohen
Senior Deputy to the General Accountant and chairman of the CCCTT

Re: Request for Exception from the GS

1. **Description of the Exception Needed** (Please indicate the relevant GS version, chapter and section. Please detail the considerations and reasons for request):

2. **Implications of Compatibility on other Government applications** (Please list possible implications, or incompatibility created, and other cross-implications):

Sincerely Yours,

<Name>

<Position>

<Agency>

<Date>

CC: General Director, Ministry of...
General Accountant, Ministry of...
Senior Deputy Director for Administration,
Ministry of...

Response

I hereby approve / disapproves the requested exception. The reasons for the decision are listed in the attached Annex.

Sincerely Yours,

Itzhak Cohen
Senior Deputy to the General Accountant
And chairman of the CCCTT
Ministry of Finance