



Suruhanjaya Komunikasi dan Multimedia Malaysia
Off Persiaran Multimedia
63000 Cyberjaya
Selangor Darul Ehsan
Tel : +603 - 8688 8000
Fax : +603 - 8688 1000
www.mcmc.gov.my

Kenyataan Media

Press Release

For Immediate Release

THE MOBILE DIGITAL SIGNATURE SYMPOSIUM OPENS IN MALAYSIA FOR THE FIRST TIME

Cyberjaya, 3 June 2008 – The Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (SKMM) organized the first ever symposium on Mobile Digital Signature at its Headquarters in Cyberjaya today. Yang Berbahagia Tan Sri Dato' Sri Dr. Zeti Akhtar Aziz, Governor of Bank Negara Malaysia delivered the keynote address at the Opening Session, witnessed by Yang Berbahagia Datuk Dr Halim Shafie, Chairman of SKMM and more than 200 delegates from the banking and telecommunication industry are in attendance. The half day symposium carried the theme '**Building an Interoperable Platform with a Common Digital Identity for Secure Mobile Transactions in Malaysia**' with the aim to generate more understanding and build bridges among the relevant stakeholders in building an interoperable ecosystem for mobile banking and m-commerce.

The proliferation of mobile communications in developing countries has the potential to bring a wide range of financial services to an entirely new customer base. The first of its kind in Malaysia, the Symposium brings together stakeholders in the government services applications, financial institutions and communications companies to address the issues of security, confidentiality and integrity between contracting parties.

Mobile phones have become an indispensable feature of life in Malaysia as tools for communication, entertainment, and information retrieval. For thousands of Malaysians who have downloaded paid games and ring tones using mobile phones, the phones also serve as a de facto payment

mechanism. Because of their ubiquity, accessibility, and ever-increasing functionality, mobile phones promise to become a gateway to financial services far more complex than these small-scale payments. Internationally, consumers are already using their mobile phones to access bank accounts (known as mobile banking, or *mbanking*) and to load, transfer, and spend money (mobile payments, or *mpayments*).

The symposium which attracted many telecommunication industry participants will encourage mobile operators to work closely to evaluate, test and ensure the operational, commercial and technological viability of any proposed mobile banking and m-commerce solutions. Consumers and carriers both want the same thing: an open, standardized, secure but easy-to-use mobile banking and m-commerce experience for the physical goods marketplace. Among the building criteria will be the provision of an open standard, security, scalability, end-to-end solution and payment in multiple ways. By working together, and taking into account customer needs, industry partners will be able to develop a common nationwide mobile payment solution which will certainly leads the way in developing cutting edge technologies including wireless solutions for the mobile community. It is clear that security and traceability features in any transaction in the wired mobile platform are essential for an orderly market. Banks, credit card companies and mobile operators can work together in parallel standardization initiatives for mobile banking and m-commerce.

Improving collaboration and communication

The symposium aims to foster close collaboration between banks and mobile operators to build a secure and interoperable ecosystem for mobile financial services to grow in Malaysia. It brings together some local and international speakers to share their knowledge and expertise on key topics such as Mobile Signature, Mobile Payment and Mobile Banking. In addition, representatives from Bank Negara and SKMM also presented on the Payment Systems Act 2003 and the Digital Signature Act 1997, respectively.

Going forward towards a digitalized economy, digital signatures play a very important role in supporting electronic transactions because as with any transaction, it provides a fundamental feature, namely to make the transaction legally binding. Digital certificates issued to a reliably identified person not only allow customers to authenticate themselves to a service provider like a bank, thus securing the mobile transaction, but enables the delivery of new features and services like credit and loan applications.'

As convergence of technology pushes the convergence of services, more and more services will benefit from inter industry partnerships in planning and regulatory support. Hence, the symposium is a reflection of SKMM's continuing effort to address concerns from regulators and government agencies, banking and financial institutions, telecommunication service providers and indeed the public at large. Through such collaboration we hope that Malaysian citizens will reap the benefits of previously "immobile" services like signing documents, accessing government services and others, across all banks and all mobile operators.

-End-

Notes to Editor:

¹ If your organization wishes to include a quote from Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (SKMM) in an article or news item, kindly attribute the quote to our organization (SKMM) rather than an officer of the organization, unless a designated spokesperson from SKMM is specified in the Press Release or reply to Press.

About Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission (SKMM)

The primary role of SKMM is to implement and promote the Government's national policy objectives for the communications and multimedia sector. SKMM is also charged with overseeing the new regulatory framework for the converging industries of telecommunications, broadcasting and on-line activities, in accordance with the national policy objectives set out in the Communications and Multimedia Act 1998 (CMA), as well as postal services and digital certifications.

The CMA provides that SKMM undertakes a policy implementation role, while policy decision-making is vested with the Minister. The Minister may also give policy directions to the Commission.

For more information visit <http://www.skmm.gov.my>

For media clarification, please contact:

Zeti Marziana Muhamed
Director, Corporate Communications Department
Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission

Wan Seri Rahayu Wan Mohd Said
Corporate Communications Department
Malaysian Communications and Multimedia Commission

Tel: +603 8688 8000

Fax: +603 8688 1007

Email: ccd@cmc.gov.my