





## **PRESS NOTE**

## Planet Cash: Europe's first biometric ATM shared network launched in Poland based on successful collaboration between ITCARD and Hitachi

Warsaw, 14 May 2014

ITCARD S.A. – one of the leading providers of banking services in Poland announces the launch of the first biometric ATM shared network in Europe, called Planet Cash. By the end of this year the company will have implemented a network of around 2000 biometric ATMs using Finger Vein technology. This innovative biometric solution has been provided by a leading technology company – Hitachi Europe Ltd. a subsidiary of Hitachi, Ltd. (TSE: 6501).

Planet Cash is the second biggest ATM shared network in Poland, owned by ITCARD S.A. Currently Planet Cash has more than 500 ATMs already installed. This year, Planet Cash will install an additional 1500 ATMs (from Wincor Nixdorf and Diebold) which will give the company an 11% share of the Polish ATM market. Planet Cash ATMs will be situated in the most convenient locations across the country, including retailer chains such as Biedronka, Carrefour and Intermarché as well as in the central areas of the main Polish cities. The operator also already has ATMs located in the branches of a number of banks including Bank BGŻ.

A minimum of 1730 Planet Cash ATMs will be equipped with Finger Vein readers during the year 2014 which will allow customers to withdraw cash and perform other operations (balance check, immediate money transfer etc.) by their finger, without use of the card and PIN. The company motto of the implementation is: "Cash within your finger".

"Finger Vein is a key technology in our company's strategy. We've already been using this technology for ATMs in the cooperative banking sector. Once again, ITCARD is making a revolution in the market by launching the first biometric shared network in Europe which can be used by all banking customers" - said Jarosław Chrzanowski, CEO at ITCARD S.A.

In March 2014, ITCARD signed an agreement with Hitachi Europe Ltd. for the implementation of Finger Vein in 1730 Planet Cash ATMs. After the launch of the Planet Cash shared network, biometric services can be provided to all banks in Poland. Currently, a number of top commercial banks are very interested in joining the biometric scheme.

ITCARD is a leading provider of banking services in Poland. The company is processing more than 12 million card transactions per month and has outsourced more than 3500 ATMs. It provides services to both the cooperative and the commercial banking sectors. ITCARD is the first company in the world to have implemented a biometric host system, allowing the different banks connected to the scheme to manage biometric transactions between themselves. Currently ITCARD is providing biometric services based on Hitachi's Finger Vein solution to more than 20 cooperative banks.







"ITCARD is a strategic partner who has cooperated with us since 2010. The Planet Cash project is the biggest step so far for ATMs in Europe that utilises Finger Vein technology to create a new standard for secure, quick and convenient banking transactions for society" - said Tadeusz Woszczyński, Regional Manager for the Central Eastern Europe in the Information Systems Group of Hitachi Europe Ltd.

Finger Vein technology is a privacy compliant biometric solution, developed by Hitachi in Japan and used for the provision of secure ATM services in the Japanese banking sector. Since 2009, this technology has been introduced successfully to both the Polish and Turkish banking sectors. Getin Bank in Poland is using the technology to authenticate operations and sign documents in their new branches (Getin UP) and VTMs (Getin Point). Finger Vein is also used in branches of Bank BPH S.A. for customer identification and authorisation of transactions. Top cooperative Banks including Podkarpacki Bank Spółdzielczy, Krakowski Bank Spółdzielczy (from July 2014), Bank Polskiej Spółdzielczości, Bank Spółdzielczy w Kielcach and Powiślański Bank Spółdzielczy are using this technology for the authentication of ATM transactions and the withdrawals of social benefits from ATMs. Finger Vein solutions are used on around 3000 ATMs of Turkiye IS Bankasi A.S., the biggest commercial bank in Turkey. Discussions are starting regarding the linking of the Planet Cash biometric ATM network in Poland with the Turkiye IS Bankasi biometric network in Turkey to create the world's first international network of biometric ATMs.

The Planet Cash project is an example of Hitachi's focus on Social Innovation Business, with the aim of delivering innovations by providing solutions that combine products, services and highly sophisticated IT in order to improve society.

## **ABOUT ITCARD S.A.**

ITCARD is the second largest operator of ATMs in Poland. The company specializes in service authorization of the transactions in ATMs, non-cash transactions in POS payment terminals and issuing payment cards with the logo of VISA and Mastercard.

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