

## Press release

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### Egyptian Center of Excellence for e-Signature and Information Security Kicks off

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During the opening ceremony of Gitex Dubai, HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum, Vice President and Prime Minister of the UAE and Ruler of Dubai, visited the Egyptian pavilion.

HH Sheikh Mohammed bin Rashid Al Maktoum listened to Mr. Yasser El- Kady presenting the various IT products and solutions offered by the 70 Egyptian companies participating in this event.

During the exhibition, the launching of the Egyptian Center of Excellence for e-Signature and Information Security was announced. The center is the first of its kind in the Middle East and North Africa.

Its main mandate is to offer services of building infrastructures centers for e-signature and its applications over different operating systems. The center also aims to achieve the coherence, integration between software, the equipment of Public Key Infrastructure (PKI), and systems ensuring information confidentiality.

The newly established center, also described as a unique entity, is dedicated to catch up with latest progression in the IT boom and the unrecorded challenges facing both public and private sectors.

This is through offering e-signature services in spotted regions. On top of these regions is the Arab Gulf area, where confidentiality of information is highly required. Offering these services is also useful to achieve maximum benefits from the interconnection and integration of software.



The Egyptian Center of Excellence for e-Signature is not just achieving a quantum leap in the performance and services of public and business sector, but is also a strong base enrooting a transformational leap in the way of dealing with vital sectors affecting the daily lives of citizens.

The Center provides professional services based on international standards depending on the elite of Egyptian specialized expertise.

This group of experts is one of the key competitive advantages of the Egyptian Center of Excellence for e-Signature.

Egyptian qualified and certified experts are considered as the backbone of the center in offering best consultancy and designing services, implementing the public key infrastructure for government bodies as well as the private sector, the information security management systems, training and technical support.

The Center, also, exclusively enjoys a number of competitive advantages enabling it to offer high quality and efficient services in both Arabic and English languages.

This Center is populated by high calibers; this is why they were able to build up a strong authority of e-Signature in the Arab Republic of Egypt. The Experts at the center are specialized in management engineering and certified by Microsoft, SANS organization in the field of combating cybercrime, controlling defense systems, securing wireless networks and many other fields. They are also certified by other prominent institutions, such as Oracle and OCP for maintaining Oracle databases.

ITIDA's CEO, Mr. Yasser El-Kady informed that the new center is a new boost to the ICT sector in Egypt, representing an advanced source of knowledge that ITIDA is keen to share with the Gulf region. The Center helps build up and support the digital identity

and implement national projects based on PKI, he added.

He also expressed his pride of the Egyptian Center of Excellence for e-Signature and Information Security and honored both its calibers, and the finished projects and others that are still in progress.

The achievements of the Center of Excellence in the region are not limited to the implementation, the management and the supervision on the Root CA infrastructure operating system. On the contrary, the Center is also in charge of shaping the technical specifications, supervising the implementation of the project of the first Smart Token in the Arab World and North Africa.

Moreover, the center has been in charge of revising the technical aspects of the PKI for the companies offering e-signature services in Egypt.

As for the capacity building activities, the Center offers several training programs and seminars for various bodies working in e-Signature, information security, and provided applications for different sectors, such as the stock market, as the center was able to design software integrating the stock market applications on computers, mobile phones working on different operators.

Launching the Egyptian Center of Excellence for e-Signature comes within the framework of ITIDA's participation in Gitex Dubai, during the period of 9-13 of October 2011 at Dubai World Trade Center. Around 70 Egyptian ICT companies are participating at the event which is considered as one of the leading and largest exhibitions specialized in IT worldwide.

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**About ITIDA:**

The Information Technology Industry Development Agency (ITIDA) is a governmental entity affiliated to Egypt's Ministry of Communications and Information Technology. It is responsible for growing and developing Egypt's position as a leading global outsourcing location by attracting foreign direct investment to the industry and maximizing the exports of IT services and applications.

Located in the heart of the modern business environment at Smart Village, the six hundred acre business park on the outskirts of Cairo, ITIDA is a self-sustainable entity that drives the IT industry in Egypt and raises awareness among the Egyptian people of the benefits and use of ICT to advance socio-economic welfare of the whole community.