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MACHINE READABLE CARDS - HEALTHCARE APPLICATIONS - LOGICAL ORGANISATION OF DATA ON HEALTHCARE PROFESSIONAL CARDS

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Machine readable cards - Healthcare applications - Logical organisation of data on healthcare professional cards

This CEN Report was approved by CEN on 25 November 2000. It has been drawn up by the Technical Committee CEN/TC 224.

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Foreword

This document has been prepared by CEN /TC 224, "Machine readable cards, related device interfaces and operations".

This CEN Report is published to provide availability of the work undertaken by CEN/TC 224 during the years 1992-1997 which was aiming to produce a European standard entitled "Machine readable cards – Healthcare applications – Logical data structures and concepts for different card technologies for use by patients in health applications". CEN/TC 224 has decided to close its own work towards completing this standards work being convinced that the work effort should be concentrated and will be better continued in ISO/TC 251 "Health informatics".

The scope of the work presented herein was intended to provide solutions for IC-cards only. However, many of the data structures have a generic approach facilitating the integration of card applications with various health related applications using databases and network communication in addition to the information stored on cards. However, the security functions crucial for implementation of health professional cards were not addressed in this work. After the completion of the work presented here, several standards initiatives have addressed such security requirements and should be taken into account in providing a stable standard for such applications. One available result is the European prestandard ENV 13729 "Health informatics – Secure user identification for healthcare strong authentication using microprocessor cards". Other important developments are the European Electronic Signature Standardization initiative and the ISO/IECJTC 1/SC 17 work on ISO/IEC 18027 "Identification cards – Cryptographic token information application".

The work of CEN/TC 224 started in parallel with CEN/TC 251, to a large extent with the same experts. CEN/TC 251 received a mandate from EU and EFTA and developed the ENV 12018 entitled "Medical informatics – Identification, administrative, and common clinical data structure for Intermittently Connected Devices used in healthcare (including machine readable cards)" which was adopted in 1997. This standard is currently undergoing a major revision in preparation for being transferred to a European Standard.

This CEN Report is partly based on ENV 12018 and contains parts of this standard. The reason for including those initially was that as it had not been finalized, it could not safely be referenced.

This CEN Report is proposed to ISO/TC 215 and it is expected that the basic ideas and many details will be able to provide the basis for one or very likely several International Standards on this topic.

It is important to understand that the specification provided in this CEN Report although expressed as normative requirements, is not a European Standard.