

# Hands-on biometrics



## Biometrics Demo Center

At its Biometrics Center in Graz, Austria, Siemens IT Solutions and Services offers a unique demo center for its biometric products and solutions. In addition to supplying in-depth information on the Siemens biometrics portfolio, the demo center also provides opportunities to discuss the latest developments with experienced experts in the field.

**Biometrics. The Original.**

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Even though biometric solutions for improved security and ease-of-use are gaining more and more ground, many people still find it hard to picture what such solutions 'feel like' in real life. With its Biometrics Center, Siemens IT Solutions and Services can draw on vast experience with biometric applications in fields as varied as travel & transport, health care, financial & public sector, homeland security as well as gaming & leisure. Access control systems for buildings, personal identity documents, automobile personalization features, IT security, personalized tickets, airline check-in procedures – to name but a few of the solutions being used all over the globe based on products developed by the Siemens Biometrics Center in Graz, Austria.

**Since 2006, a new demo center allows every visitor to experience how biometrics work in real life – up close and personal.**

Already at the entrance to the offices and labs of the Biometrics Center, which houses the demo center, you will notice that "biometrics in practice" is not just a slogan here: a revolving door equipped with fingerprint sensor and face scan equipment linked to the Siemens SIPORT access control system will deny access to anybody who is not authorized. Once inside the high-tech lab, you will find yourself face to face with all the multifaceted aspects of biometrics.

**The biometric passport, for instance, no longer belongs to the realm of fiction:** All you have to do is sit down in front of a digital camera and have your face scanned and put a finger on the sensor. The procedure is fast and does not hurt a bit. The system detects when you have not placed your finger on the sensor correctly or are smiling too much. The counter-check follows suit immediately: Will the issued passport match the person who presents it? Another scan of your face and a brief check of your fingerprint – and it's either "off you go" or "unauthorized access attempt". During the live demonstrations, technology experts have the answers to even the most difficult questions relating to the underlying biometric product, the Homeland Security Suite.

**The next presentation set showcases the ID Center, already a "classic" from the Biometrics Center's portfolio.**

The standard use case here is protecting IT networks against unauthorized access. Passwords are a thing of the past: a biometric characteristic like a fingerprint will do just as well – or even better, granted that it is more secure, more comfortable and convenient to use, and more economical. Precise control of who can use which IT service is provided. Take a hospital, for example: While the administrative staff is allowed access only to business-relevant patient data, physicians can also use applications containing all the key medical data they need. Another set-up demonstrates what passenger airline check-in procedures might look like in the future. A fingerprint encoded as bar code on the boarding pass ensures that the right persons will board the plane.

**The probably most innovative application of biometrics on show at the demo center is the so-called smart matcher.** This product combines chip card technology with biometrics: The chip stores not only the biometric reference characteristic, but the chip's processor will, when the card is used, also match the respective biometric identification against the one encoded on the chip card. As a closed system without any database or server in the background, this type of biometric smart card meets the most stringent security and privacy requirements.

Last, but not least, you will arrive at the **Embedded Biometrics presentation.** Here, you can learn how biometric characteristics help to identify the driver of a car, instantly adjusting seat, rear mirror, steering wheel, and radio channels to meet individual preferences. An access system model shows how placing your finger on a sensor installed in front of a locked door will open the door as if by magic. And, incidentally, you will find out that an independent study rated the biometrics software developed by Siemens IT Solutions and Services as the most powerful one when it comes to identifying fingerprint patterns: processing speed is high and perfectly balanced across all sensors, and it excels also in distinguishing between similar fingerprints.

Would you like to visit the Biometrics demo center? Please register at the address shown below:

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