

# Austrian mobile eID and mobile eSignature

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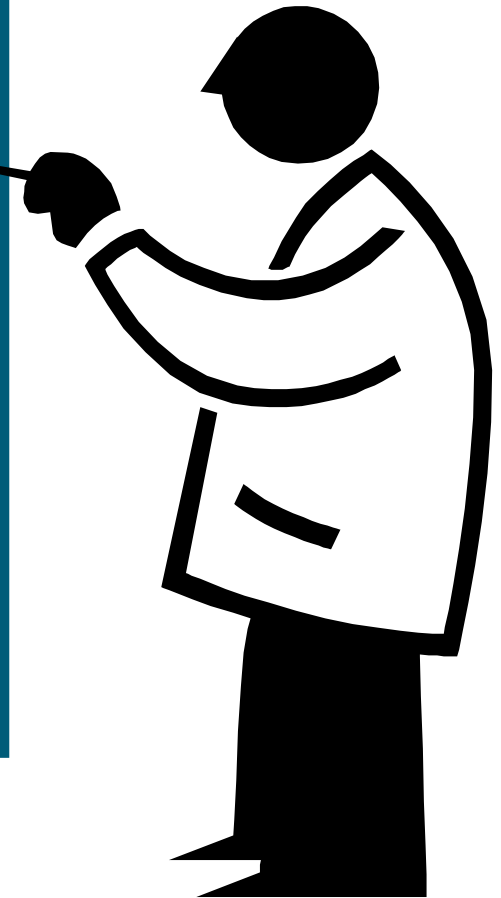
GANMI Meeting at ISSE  
Brussels, November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2017



# Contents

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- A-SIT's relation to mobile ID
- AT Mobile ID/signature - so far
- Next steps wrt. eIDAS



# About *A-SIT* and *A-SIT Plus*

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- *A-SIT* is a public funded non-profit association with
  - Federal Ministry of Finance,
  - Central Bank of Austria,
  - Federal Computing Centre, and
  - Graz University of Technologyas its member organisations; funded in 1999
- National competence center on information security, independent advise of the public sector
- *A-SIT Plus* is a subsidy owned by *A-SIT* that can also advice the private sector

# Role on eSignature and eID

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- Accredited Conformity Assessment Body
  - Assess eIDAS qualified trust service providers
- Notified body
  - Signature Directive art. 3(4) (SSCD certification)
  - eIDAS art. 30(1) (QSCD certification)
- eIDAS Expert Group & technical subgroups
- Specifications of the Austrian eID
  - no role in its operations

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# Austrian eID so far – key characteristics

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- Gvnmt. identity base (Population Register), but
  - open to public and private sector credential providers
  - open to public and private sector relying parties
  - LoA “high” (eIDAS definition)
- Voluntary system
  - Citizen may activate credentials she has (health insurance card, (bank cards), mobile phone, CA’s smart cards)
- Free of charge for
  - relying parties (both private sector and public sector)
  - citizens (health insurance card or mobile phone)

# Austrian Citizen Card - an Overview

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- Launched 2003, mass-rollouts from 2005
- Defines functions, not the technology
  - Identification, *sector-specific to enhance privacy*
  - Qualified signatures, *for written form*
  - Electronic mandates, *representation*
- Technology-neutral approach allowed for different implementations
  - Smartcards **and mobile** from 2005
  - Foreign eID recognised from 2008

# The technologies

## Smartcard



Bank cards  
*from 2005; ceased*



Health insurance card  
*since 2005*



Profession cards,  
service cards, ...  
*e.g. notaries, lawyers,  
ministries, ...*

## Mobile



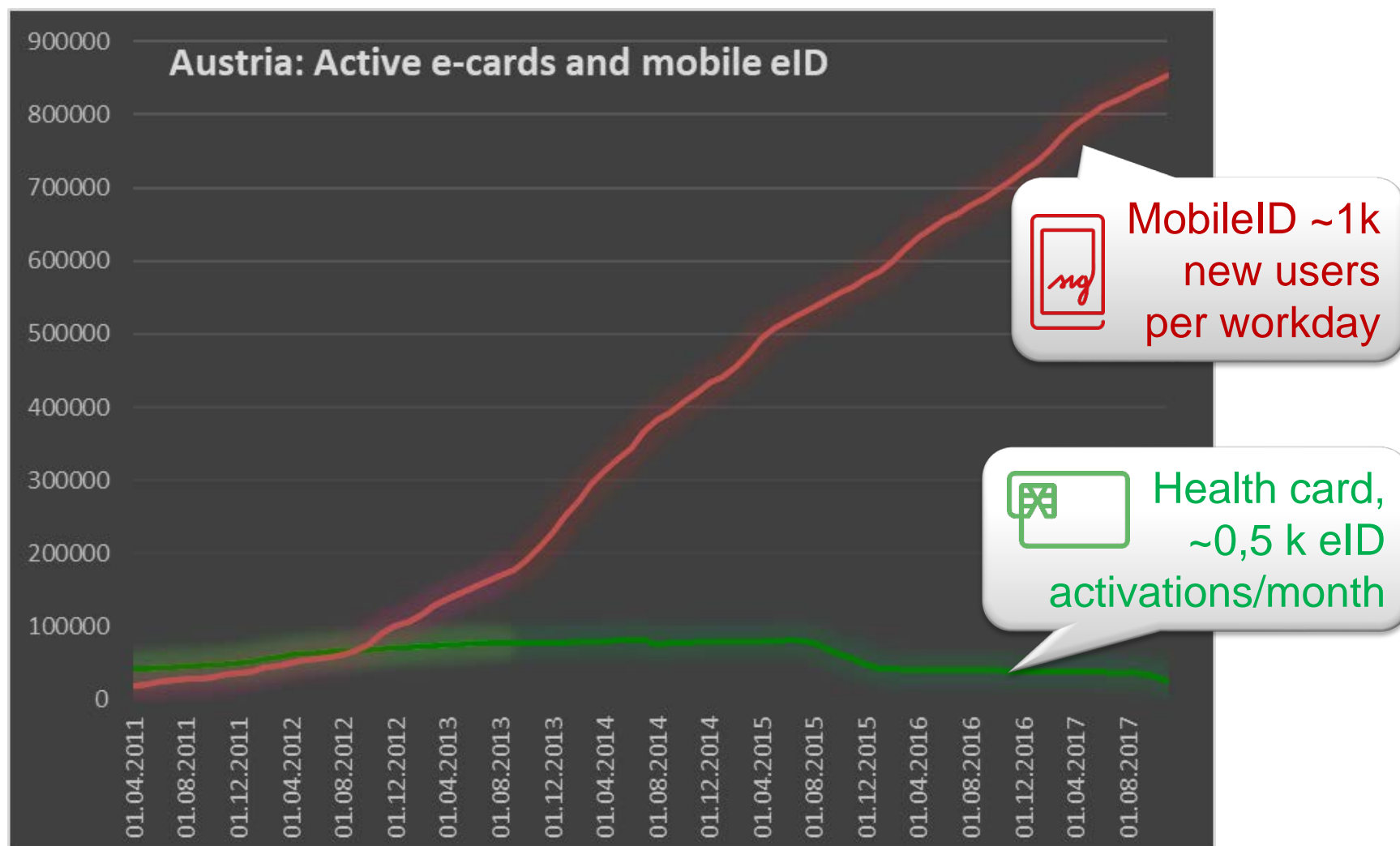
A1 signature  
service by a MNO  
*from 2005; ceased in 2008  
limited success*



Mobile phone signature  
*Launched end 2009 through  
the LSP STORK  
Contracted by gvmnt. to a  
private sector QTSP  
Success? Well, let's see ...*



# Austria: Card vs mobile ID active users



# AT Mobile Signature: The Basics

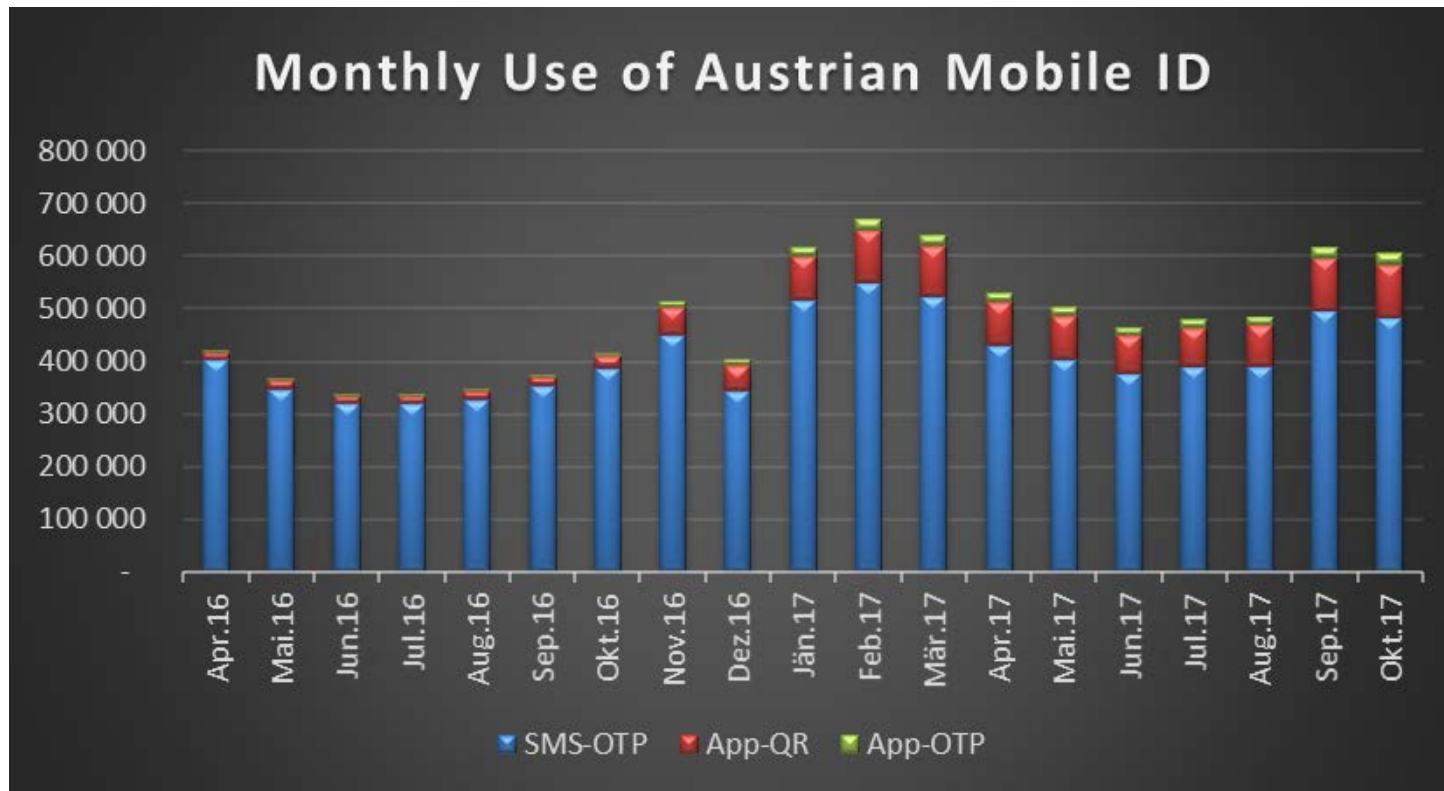
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- Follows a server-based approach
  - Crypto-keys kept at a central server (HSM)
    - No changes in mobile phone or SIM
  - 2-factor authent. (knowledge and possession)
    - SMS-OTP or QR-Code (Smartphone App)
- Qualified Signature-Creation Device (QSCD)
  - Certified by notified body (*Signature-Directive / eIDAS*)
- Service operated by a trust service provider for qualified certificates

# Some 300+ applications

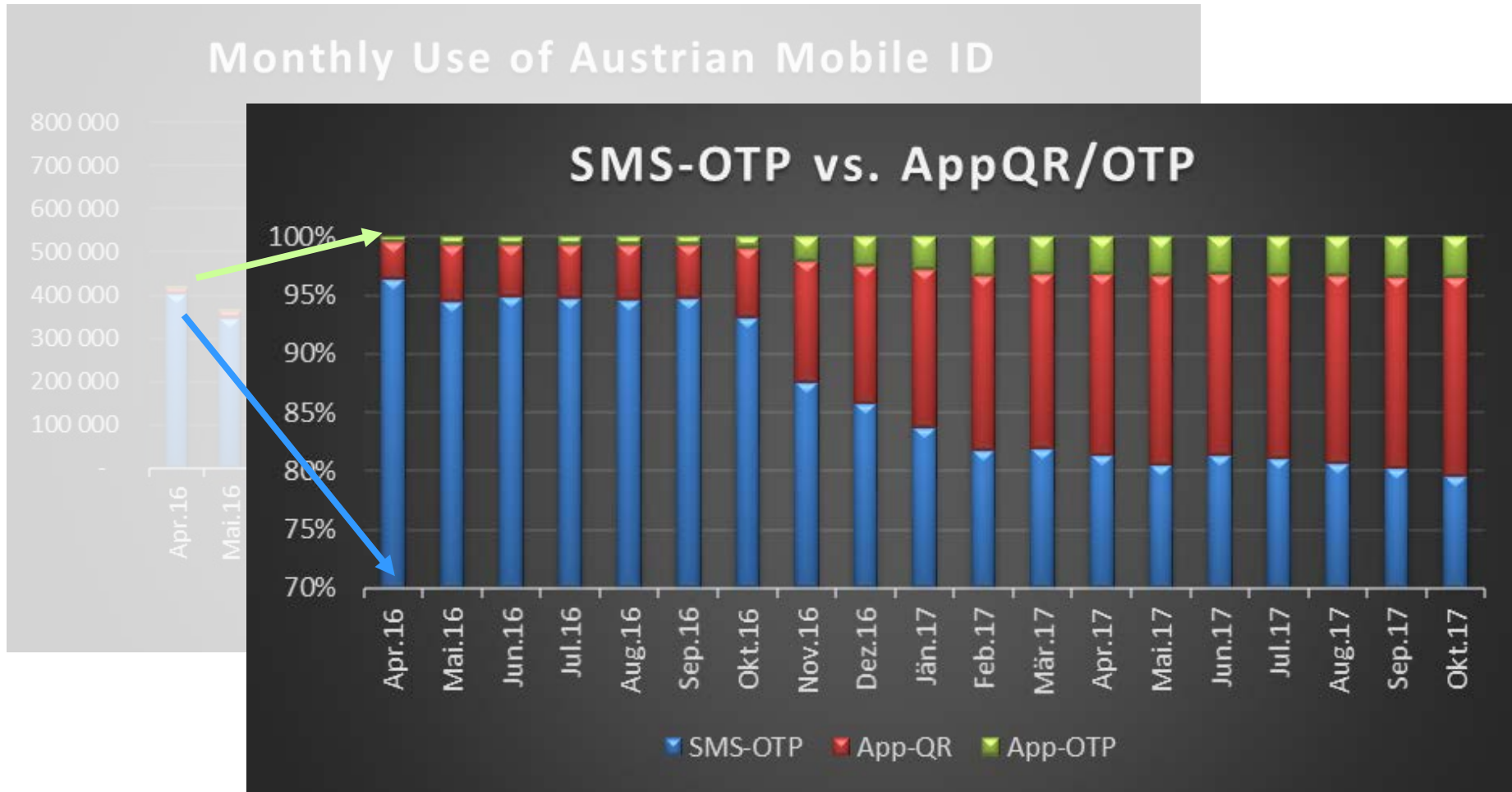
The screenshot shows the Austrian Business Service Portal (USP) website. The browser address bar displays <https://www.usp.gv.at/Portal.Node/u>. The page features a navigation menu with categories like 'Formulare', 'Gesetzliche Neuerungen', 'Alle Themen', and 'Lexikon'. A search bar is located below the navigation. The main content area includes a section titled 'Über das Unternehmensserviceportal – USP' with a sub-section 'News / Newsletter' featuring a headline about the 'Stärkung des österreichischen Wohnbaus'. A sidebar on the left lists various business topics such as 'Gründung', 'Steuern & Finanzen', and 'Mitarbeiter'. The top right corner contains links for 'Anmelden', 'Registrieren', 'RSS-Feeds', and 'Gebärdensprache'.

# ... actual usage



6,5 mio. uses over last 12 months (Nov.2016-Oct.2017)

# Zooming into SMS vs. Smartphone App



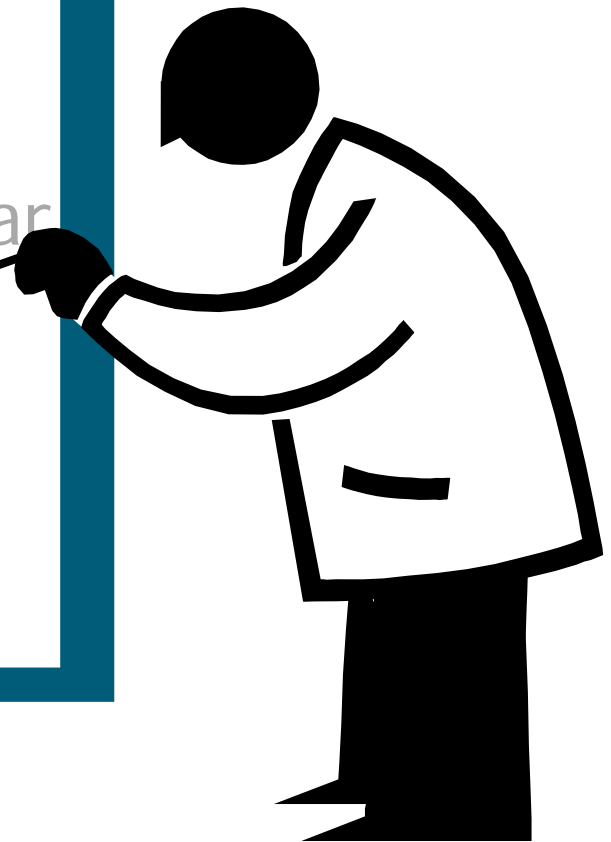
# Lessons learned

- Smartcard eID
  - Satisfactory business users take-up
  - But quite limited take-up by citizens
- Mobile signat. clear preference by citizens
  - 2014/15/16: 15/10/24 times higher mobile ID activation to health card activation
    - Under comparable conditions like free of charge
- Ease of use and easy activation essential



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# Next steps

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- E-ID related laws amended due eIDAS
  - Name change „Citizen Card“ => “E-ID”
  - Architecture changes with
    - Move from „middleware“ to „central deployment“
    - Reinforcement of remote-signature concept
  - Changes in registration and issuance
- eIDAS notification at LoA high in progress



Thank You  
for Listening!



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