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1. Press release

New quantum cryptography link encryptor unveiled at Infosecurity Europe in London

id Quantique will unveil tomorrow at Infosecurity Europe in London its new quantum cryptography link encryptor. This product, called Vectis, combines a quantum cryptography system to perform secure key distribution and an encryption engine allowing to encrypt Ethernet traffic. It allows to secure communications between remote networks connected by an optical fiber up to a distance of 100 km.

Geneva, April 25th 2005 – id Quantique announces that the Vectis Link Encryptor, the company's second-generation Quantum Cryptography product, will be unveiled at the Infosecurity Europe show starting tomorrow in London. This milestone marks an aggressive move to grow its position as the leader in practical Quantum Cryptography systems. id Quantique already made headlines in 2001 when it introduced the first Quantum Key Distribution system. The Vectis Link Encryptor is a complete network-transparent cryptographic appliance. Thanks to its reliability and fully automated operation, the Vectis Link Encryptor features a low cost of ownership and excellent security-over-cost ratio. It allows to effectively raise, to an unprecedented level, the security of optical communications between remote sites. "This new cryptographic appliance combines ease of integration into existing networks and uncompromised security. It will allow us to target the most demanding security applications. Potential customers include financial services, service providers, R&D companies, government agencies, just to name a few", says Gregoire Ribordy, CEO of id Quantique.

The Vectis link encryptor is a hardware Quantum Cryptography appliance for point-to-point wire-speed link encryption. It combines Quantum Key Distribution (QKD) and Advanced Encryption Standard (AES) encryption engines in a stand-alone unit. Key management, with key-refresh rates up to 100 times per second, and encryption are automated and their proper functioning is monitored by a surveillance unit. Vectis is a Layer 2 network transparent encryption device that securely bridges two Fast Ethernet (IEEE 802.3u) networks with minimum impact on pre-existing architecture. By encrypting Ethernet traffic between two sites connected by a dedicated optical fiber, a pair of Vectis devices allows to implement future-proof links to carry critical information. Thanks to their submillisecond latency, they are compatible with the most demanding applications, such as VoIP. The Vectis Link Encryptor comes with off-line and SNMP management, a user-friendly touch panel display interface and an advanced tamper detection system.

The Achilles heel of existing cryptography solutions is the key exchange process. While conventional key distribution techniques rely on public key cryptography or manual exchange, and therefore offer only conditional security, the secrecy of keys distributed by quantum cryptography is guaranteed in an absolute fashion by quantum physics. Quantum Cryptography is a technology that exploits a fundamental principle of quantum physics - observation causes perturbation - to frequently exchange cryptographic keys between two remote parties over optical fiber networks with absolute security.

With the launch of the Vectis Link Encryptor, id Quantique confirms its strategic commitment to continued innovation in order to secure its position at the forefront of cutting-edge cryptography technology.



About id Quantique

id Quantique's focus is to provide innovative and cost-effective solutions by leveraging the tremendous capabilities offered by Quantum Photonics. The company designs and manufactures hardware products serving two main markets: network security and optical instrumentation.

id Quantique has a global leadership in shaping the evolution of network security. A recognized worldwide leader in the commercialization of Quantum Cryptography products, the company was first to bring this new technology to the market in 2001. Since then *id Quantique* has been at the forefront of the advancement of this technology, building a broad intellectual property portfolio, and is now ideally positioned to grab a significant share of this emerging market. The company is delivering cryptography products for uncompromised network security to service providers, enterprises and administrations. The company is one of the recipients of the 2001 European Innovation Award from the Wall Street Journal Europe, as well as of the 2002 and 2004 Swiss Technology Award, in recognition for its pioneering work in the field of Quantum Cryptography. *id Quantique* was a finalist of the European Information Security Awards 2004, in the category for "Excellence in R&D".

id Quantique also offers Quantum Random Number Generators that are deployed by cryptographic equipment (hardware secure modules, virtual private networks) manufacturers. These generators provide truly random numbers with best-in-class bit rates.

id Quantique's customer base in the United States, Canada, Europe, Asia-Pacific, Latin America and the Middle East benefit from the company's commitment to technology leadership, its culture of innovation, its product reliability, its attention to customer service and its independence.

id Quantique operates as a privately held company headquartered in Geneva, Switzerland. It has received the "CTI Startup Label" in 2004, confirming its growth potential, from the CTI-Startup initiative of the Swiss federal government. In early 2004, the company announced having raised one million Euros from i2i, a venture capital fund based in Luxemburg. A spin-off from the University of Geneva, the company has close ties with leading academic institutions and participates to several Swiss and European R&D programs, such as the Secoqc project.

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