District of Columbia Awards Thales Contract for Secure Driver’s Licenses Designed to Thwart Fake ID Makers

- DC residents continue to benefit from driver licenses and identification cards with enhanced security features that comply with the 2005 Real ID Act requirements for protecting personal data.
- This is the second, consecutive seven-year contract for Thales to provide the District of Columbia Department of Motor Vehicles (DC DMV) with nearly 200,000 secure driver’s licenses and ID cards each year.
- This new contract award continues a partnership between DC DMV and Thales, ultimately benefiting District residents with some of the most secure driver licenses and ID cards in the nation.

Thales was recently awarded a new contract to provide the District of Columbia Department of Motor Vehicles (DC DMV) with secure driver licenses and identification (ID) cards that feature new, high-tech safeguards to make them extremely difficult to counterfeit.

The new DC driver licenses and ID cards will have high quality laser-engraved photos locked within a polycarbonate card body, and Thales will add new security features to better protect the personal data of District residents. Attesting to the District’s commitment to thwart counterfeit attempts and provide...
strong credential security for their citizens, they will be the first in the U.S. to include Dynaprint, a Thales proprietary high-resolution, fine-line printing technique generating superior quality security images, along with laser-engraved security images within the card body called Multiple Laser Images, or MLIs. Both of these security features are viewable as the card is tilted in different angles. These optically variable images are favoured by law enforcement and the TSA for being easy to recognize yet extremely difficult to replicate.

“Thales looks forward to our continued partnership with DC, leveraging our key strengths and technologies to bring innovative solutions to ensure the safety and security of DC residents’ credentials,” said Tony Lo Brutto, Vice President for the Thales Identity and Biometric Solutions in North America.

Thales will also upgrade its enrollment system for DC DMV to include advancements in photo, signature and image verification to streamline the driver’s license and ID card application process for a smoother customer experience.

“DC DMV is excited to partner once again with Thales for another seven-year contract term,” said Gabriel Robinson, Director of DC Department of Motor Vehicles (DC DMV). “Thales’ expertise with document security along with innovative features helps us continue Mayor Bowser’s mission to provide quality service to the residents of DC, while ensuring protection of their personal information and identities.”

By awarding Thales this second, seven-year contract, DC will continue to offer some of the most secure driver licenses and ID cards in the nation. The District is one of 12 jurisdictions in North America currently using premium, laser-engraved polycarbonate cards from Thales, which provide unparalleled security and durability for longer renewal cycles. Other jurisdictions that have made this transition to polycarbonate cards with Thales include Alaska, Colorado, Georgia, Maryland, Texas, Wyoming, and the Canadian provinces of New Brunswick, Newfoundland/Labrador, Nova Scotia, Prince Edward Island, and Quebec.

About Thales

Thales (Euronext Paris: HO) is a global high technology leader investing in digital and “deep tech” innovations –connectivity, big data, artificial intelligence, cybersecurity and quantum technology – to build a future we can all trust, which is vital to the development of our societies. The company provides solutions, services and products that help its customers –businesses, organisations and states – in the defense, aeronautics, space, transportation and digital identity and security markets to fulfil their critical missions, by placing humans at the heart of the decision-making process.

With 83,000 employees in 68 countries, Thales generated sales of €19 billion in 2019 (on a basis including Gemalto over 12 months).

About Thales in the USA

In the United States, Thales has conducted significant research and development, manufacturing, and service capabilities for more than 100 years. Today, Thales is present in 22 states, operating 46 different facilities and employing nearly 5,000 people. Working closely with U.S. customers and
local partners, Thales is able to meet the most complex requirements for every operating environment.