



## NETC@RDS for EHIC

### Demonstrators of smart-cards and network solution for European Health Insurance Card electronification

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From the 1st June 2004, European citizens who are traveling within the European Economic Area, (i.e. the European Union, Norway, Iceland and Liechtenstein) and Switzerland, for private or professional reasons will be given a **European Health Insurance Card**, which will simplify the procedure when receiving medical assistance during their stay in a Member State. The **EHIC** will progressively replace the paper E-forms (the E-111 form being the first to be replaced followed by E110, E119, E128). At first stage, as intermediate solution before card electronification, **eye-readable card** will be distributed to members of the insured population. At second stage, **by year 2008**, micro-processor smart cards will progressively replace the eye-readable cards with one side for national/regional purpose and the other side for the European usage.

In this framework the NETC@RDS initiative was launched through a four steps project (initial market validation, full market validation, initial deployment, full deployment) with the aim of **establishing new improved health care administration services for mobile citizens across the E.U.**

The NETC@RDS project aims to set up a wide trans-European network of e-services for mobile citizens. More specifically, it aims to improve inter-State health care access procedure simplification at best quality of service.

The project is co-funded by the **eTEN Programme of the European Union** and involves 19 partners

belonging to **10 Member States** (Austria, Czech Republic, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Italy, Slovakia and Slovenia). Partners are non-profit organization acting as government bodies or public authorities operating on behalf of central or local governments in the e-Health domain. More specifically: Regional Health Authorities; national and regional health insurance providers; IT organizations (health insurance card issuers, health telematics associations, research agencies, university departments); Healthcare providers (hospitals); Member State liason offices in charge for interstate health costs clearing/billing procedures.

The NETC@RDS business idea relies upon an architecture based on a common health care until workstation capable of securely reading different foreign smart cards and downloading data from a foreign database, through national portals interconnected by a secure extranet. The interoperability function is therefore located at the level of this workstation which will behave differently according to the requirements of the foreign card and database.

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