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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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**SMITHS HEIMANN BIOMETRICS AND ASSURETEC
SIGN MOU FOR NEXT-GENERATION I.D.-VALIDATION SYSTEMS**

Manchester, N.H. – January 25, 2005 – Smiths Heimann Biometrics GmbH (SHB), a company of the Detection Division of the British Smiths Group plc., and AssureTec Systems, Inc. (ATS) of Manchester, N.H., have signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU).

The MOU provides for the two companies to cooperatively develop and market advanced-technology products and solutions that will automatically validate a person's identity in a few seconds by authenticating ID documents.

SHB is a recognized leader in the area of high performance imaging technology for several applications in the emerging personal-identity market. These include forensic quality fingerprint and palm print capture equipment for civil and law enforcement use, as well as full-page passport readers with highly sophisticated security features.

ATS is a recognized leader in the document authentication market with its advanced document classification/identification software and related intellectual property. Its systems have been successfully deployed in programs operated by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security Transportation Security Administration and the U.S. Department of State. The Chilean government has also deployed the AssureTec system at the Santiago Airport for immigration management.

The combination of ATS's technologies and SHB's products will lead to next-generation solutions for identity checks at border crossings and transit points. This includes the use of new e-Passports with integrated RFID chips (as defined by ICAO).

"This MOU represents an exciting development in the ID-validation field," says Bruce Reeves, CEO of AssureTec Systems, Inc. "By combining our cutting-edge technologies with Smiths Heimann's deep market penetration, we will soon see extremely sophisticated I.D.-validation systems integrated into a variety of more traditional security devices."

About Smiths Heimann Biometrics GmbH

Smiths Heimann Biometrics GmbH (SHB) is a security technology company that focuses on opto-electronical devices e.g. for capturing fingerprints and palm prints (livescanners). The captured data is stored and transmitted to large databases (AFIS) where it is analyzed for the identification of criminals, background checks and data comparison. Currently more than 4,700 Live Scan units from SHB are in operation worldwide.

Document verification readers with smart authenticity check and integrated RFID functionality for ePassports extend the company's product portfolio.

Smiths Heimann Biometrics is part of the Detection Division of the British Smiths Group plc. Smiths Detection markets high quality security solutions for the detection of explosives, chemical and biological agents as well as weapons and contraband, using trace detection and x-ray technology by Smiths Heimann.

For more detailed information about Smiths Heimann Biometrics, please refer to the following website: www.shb-jena.com.

About AssureTec Systems

AssureTec Systems develops real-time identity-management security solutions for border management, transportation security and commercial markets -- while managing and protecting personal privacy in the process. Its products, which include the AssureID™ system, reduce identity fraud through automated-I.D. classification, rules-based biometrics, document-authentication tools and keyless-entry data interfaces. The company is based in Manchester, N.H. For more information, visit: www.assuretec.com.

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