



PRESS RELEASE

SPF Finances selects I.R.I.S. for its document scanning and archiving project

Louvain-la-Neuve, 17.11.08 - *I.R.I.S., a listed company (EURONEXT Brussels: IRI) specialising in Intelligent Document Recognition (IDR), Electronic Document Management (EDM, Optical Character Recognition (OCR), and Complex IT Infrastructure (ICT) today announces that it has been selected by SPF Finances, the Belgian Public Federal Finance Administration, to be responsible for the Administration's document scanning and archiving project.*

After a public call for tenders issued on 21 December 2007, SPF Finances selected I.R.I.S. to develop its "Corporate Scanning System" (CSS). The objective of this new project is to enhance the Scanfin system used for electronic processing of individuals' tax declarations, a system that was previously implemented by I.R.I.S. The CSS application will introduce a number of new functions and services from June 2009, the scheduled date for its operational launch.

On completion, the project will provide SPF Finances with a common scanning and archiving platform for all types of document such as tax declarations, registration leases, taxpayer master data files, etc.). In addition, I.R.I.S. will be maintaining the CSS application until 2012. SPF will subsequently have an opportunity to extend this agreement for a further three years.

Louis Collet, SPF Finances IT Director explains: *"The CSS project will implement a generic, transverse solution, that will enrich the ICT infrastructure at SPF Finances and will be used for all COPERFIN project applications which require digital capture of documents"*.

Pierre De Muelenaere, President and CEO of I.R.I.S. comments: *"I.R.I.S. has offered SPF Finances an innovative solution by customizing our document recognition and capture platform (IRIS Powerscan™ + IRIS Capture™ Pro for Forms, + IRIS Pdf™ Server) to meet their requirements. The documents, which will be partly processed in colour, will be compressed at the end of the workflow chain by the new iHQC™ document compression technology developed by I.R.I.S. This patented technology provides an extremely high degree of compression (the files are up to 400 times smaller than the uncompressed digital documents) with a result that is clearly superior to standard colour or black and white compression techniques"*.

Etienne Van de Kerckhove, co-CEO of I.R.I.S., adds: *"The scanning capabilities that are already in place at Scanfin's Namur and de Gand scanning centres will be strengthened with the introduction of new very efficient scanners. New functions will also be implemented (colour document scanning, mail room, etc.). IRIS Virtual Desktop (IVD) thin-client terminals ("switch" type machines, connected to the central server and to which the monitors, keyboards and mice are attached) will also make it possible to remove PCs from these centres, and provide a number of benefits for SPF Finances in terms of energy and space savings, reduced costs, etc."*

About the Corporate Scanning System (CSS) project

The architecture of the solution to be developed will be based on centralized servers in the SPF Finances data centre on an Atlas platform, which has been adopted as the standard for all of the Administration's IT projects (EMC archiving, DB2 database, Filenet P8 document management, etc.). Furthermore, the CSS project will adhere to the adopted IT standards (D&RMC for document storage, SUPDEV for the development environment, etc.). Some services will be hosted on virtual servers so as to reduce the number of physical servers required and to optimise the IT hardware resources required by SPF Finances.

Jean-Marc Herr, General Manager of the I.R.I.S. DCPM (Document, Content & Process Management) business unit, which is running the project, comments: *"The I.R.I.S. solution (based on IRIS Powerscan™, IRIS Capture™ Pro and IRIS Pdf™ Server) will be used for recognition of the content of both handwritten and printed documents, in addition to sorting of the various types of documents processed by means of an automated identification process (banking details document for a mortgage application, proof of a gift, income statement, etc.). Within the CSS system, identification will be carried out in a flexible, efficient and reliable way. The system architecture will consist of two separate processing workflows, for structured documents such as tax declaration forms on the one hand, and for unstructured documents such as master files and correspondence on the other hand. The processed results in the form of images and data from these two processing flows, will be sent to the SPF Finances client applications and to the document archiving system by advanced workflow management, control and reporting (ScanX) modules. The electronic documents will be archived so that they can be accessed by taxation departments for on demand enquiries using their workstation browser."*

About IRIS Powerscan™

IRIS Powerscan™ is a scanning and indexing platform incorporating a number of functions, in addition to being both fast and robust. It has been designed to support the most powerful scanners on the market (Canon, Kodak, Bell&Howell, Fujitsu, etc.) under the most demanding production conditions. [More information](#)

About IRIS Capture™ Pro for Forms

IRIS Capture™ Pro for Forms has an advanced recognition function for semi-structured forms (free-forms, etc.), and the capability to read and classify unstructured documents. Different modules are supplied, and these can be combined to perform the main tasks required from a modern Intelligent Document Recognition system (form, free-form, invoice, classification, etc.). [More information](#)

About IRISPdf™ Server

IRISPdf™ Server is a software product providing the capability to convert documents 24/24 and can be installed on very powerful servers. Its main functions are OCR text recognition, document compression and automatic generation of a wide range of document formats including PDF, PDF-A, XPS, ODT, OpenXML, Word, etc. [More information](#)

About iHQC™

iHQC™ is an I.R.I.S.-developed compression technology, which is capable of achieving exceptional compression rates and document legibility. This technology offers huge benefits in most electronic document management and document processing applications. Compressed documents are presented in PDF, PDF-A or XPS format and can be easily read on any platform (PC, MacOS, Linux, etc.) using standard (Adobe) display tools. [More information](#)

About IRIS Virtual Desktop

IRIS Virtual Desktop is an innovative IT approach for workstations. Office automation is one of the most costly aspects of the IT infrastructure and creates some significant challenges for business continuity (security, backups, application migration, network loading, etc.). Virtualisation of desktops consists of transferring the complexity from users to the central systems. Among the benefits of this approach, we can state that the TCO (Total Cost of Ownership) of the global IT infrastructure is substantially reduced; IT resources are consolidated in the central IT department, an area where they are better managed and where there is greater control and better support for applications. [More information](#)

About I.R.I.S.- www.irislink.com

*The **mission of I.R.I.S.** is to increase the productivity and knowledge of its customers by helping them to manage their documents, data and information more effectively.*

***I.R.I.S. Products & Technologies** develops technologies and products in the field of Intelligent Document Recognition and markets its portfolio of products on a global scale through solid partnerships.*

***I.R.I.S. Professional Solutions** enables companies and public authorities to find innovative expertise and high-tech solutions for the efficient management of documents, information flows and IT infrastructures, through a single company.*

In 2007, I.R.I.S. Group achieved sales of 95,062,297 euros.

I.R.I.S. has more than 550 employees based in Louvain-la-Neuve and Vilvoorde (Belgium), Orly (France), Windhof (Luxembourg), Amstelveen and Maastricht (Netherlands), Aachen (Germany), Delray Beach (Florida, USA), Hong Kong (China) and Oslo (Norway).

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