

IDEMIA, a global leader in Augmented Identity, announced today that it is collaborating with Microsoft to support its new Microsoft Azure Active Directory (Azure AD) verifiable credentials identity solution, now in public preview. Azure AD verifiable credentials enable organizations to confirm information about individuals, such as their education, professional or citizenship certifications, without collecting or storing their personal data.

Verifiable credentials can replace all kinds of hard-copy identity credentials such as physical badges, loyalty cards, and government-issued paper documents. This digital representation of an identity or credential allows individuals to take full ownership over that personal information, which is stored on a digital wallet and accessed with a mobile device.

Within verifiable credentials, IDEMIA's identity verification tools match the data against the system of records to provide an authoritative proof of identity for an individual. Because the digital information is verified by IDEMIA, the individual is protected by layers of security, and verification will take only minutes instead of days or weeks. IDEMIA is launching the service in the U.S. with plans to expand to additional markets.

Mobile ID solutions such as Verifiable Credentials are the single most important security innovation since locking your front door. This technology that Microsoft is now supporting in Azure Active Directory increases access to personal information while improving the security of their identity against theft, making it easier and faster for governments and organizations to verify identities and credentials.

Matt Thompson, senior vice president, Civil Identity, at IDEMIA North America

Verifiable credentials will revolutionize the way we grant access to information. Organizations will be able to verify identity information quickly with solutions like IDEMIA, while individuals will be able to own and control their credentials.

Sue Bohn, Partner Director Program Management, Identity Division at Microsoft Corp.

Verifiable credentials are based on an open standard developed in the world wide web consortium (W3C) known as **Verifiable Credentials Data Model 1.0**. A verifiable credential that is represented as a JSON Web Token (JWT) has an expected structure. This standard makes it easy for credentials to be 'portable' across organizational boundaries. For example, a credential issued by a university can be verified by any employer, bank, or any other organization that accepts the same verifiable credential standard.

About us - IDEMIA, the global leader in Augmented Identity, provides a trusted environment enabling citizens and consumers alike to perform their daily critical activities (such as pay, connect, and travel), in the physical as well as digital space.

Securing our identity has become mission critical in the world we live in today. By standing for Augmented Identity, an identity that ensures privacy and trust and guarantees secure, authenticated, and verifiable transactions, we reinvent the way we think, produce, use, and protect one of our greatest assets – our identity – whether for individuals or for objects, whenever and wherever security matters. We provide Augmented Identity for international clients from Financial, Telecom, Identity, Public Security, and IoT sectors.

For further information, go to www.idemia.com and follow @IdemiaGroup on Twitter.