

PRESS RELEASE

From the European Association for Biometrics

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Bernard Didier elected as the first Honorary Member of the European Association for Biometrics



On 12 February 2014 the General Assembly of the European Association for Biometrics unanimously elected Dr. Bernard Didier as the first Honorary Member of The Association.

Mr. Didier, who recently retired from his lengthy and highly successful employment with Morpho (Safran), has significantly contributed to the development of biometrics in Europe and globally. Under his leadership Morpho, which Mr. Didier founded in 1982, has grown to one of the undisputed market leaders in the global market of biometrics and identity. He not only promoted the continuous innovation in biometric technologies, but he also has contributed to the adoption of responsible practices in the use of biometrics by actively supporting Privacy by Design and sophisticated encryption technologies. About the proliferation of biometrics Mr. Didier said the following:

“Like any technology, the use of biometrics is not intrinsically good or bad; the real challenge is to strike a balance between freedom and security. It’s the role of governments and personal rights organizations to set up regulations allowing governments and business to use this technology correctly.”

In Europe Mr. Didier has consistently made sure Morpho participated and invested in European research on the development and deployment of biometric technologies and applications. With that, and with his consistent support of the EAB, Mr. Didier has significantly contributed to the growth of biometrics in Europe.

Bernard Didier, intervening at many conferences, radio and television broadcasts on biometrics and security, is internationally recognized as one of the leaders in the field of biometrics and received at the time of the 5th international ID WORLD congress, organized in Milan on November 28, 2006, the ID Trail Blazer Award during the evening of the ID People Awards - the Oscars of the auto ID industry –. In 2010 Bernard DIDIER received the badges of Chevalier of the Legion of Honour. That year he also was a Marius-Lavet prize-winner.

Alexander Nouak, Chair of the EAB says:

“We are happy and honored that Mr. Didier accepted our nomination to become the EAB’s first Honorary Member. For us it is an important encouragement to proceed with building a strong and competitive biometrics industry in Europe, taking into account that this technology should be deployed at a responsible manner. The EAB, now counting almost 130 members within its short existence, can only hope that more honorary members of the level of Mr. Didier can be added to our Hall of Fame.”

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