

## **A new vision shines in Abu Dhabi as Wise Media's sixth EMEA summit achieves its participation and thought leadership goals**

### **Future Cities EMEA final report**

*Abu Dhabi and Milan, February 24, 2013* - Wise Media organized its sixth EMEA Summit on security, mobility and traceability on February 11-12, 2013, bringing together a world-class array of today's leaders and decision makers driving change in both the public and the private sector. The Summit, held under the patronage of the UAE Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Interior and with the endorsement of the European Commission, examined the critical impact of investments in security, mobility and traceability systems and highlighted their importance in the context of sustainable global, regional and urban development. The Summit focused on strategies and solutions for urban security, city mobility and modern delivery models for services to the population. It looked at their role in light of on the overarching objectives of stability, infrastructure development and the strengthening of rule of law and human rights, while examining new avenues of economic development. These included technology-supported opportunities for increased automation, transparency, accountability and security of transactions. The Summit focused on the multiple drivers of innovation and on how sustainable growth is increasingly pursued through the modernization of ICT infrastructures and identification schemes in particular.

Wise Media's EMEA Summit, whose activities extended over two days, brought together leading experts from all continents, with speakers from 33 countries actively engaged in the effort to build a common vision and offer a platform for high-profile networking and cross-fertilization, in view of the design and deployment of innovative projects. The Summit was hosted once again by the prestigious and highly influential government organization, the Emirates Center for Strategic Studies and Research (ECSSR).

Abu Dhabi Police endorsed the inaugural launch of the Future Cities EMEA conference on the occasion of the Summit. As annual international gathering and new regional appointment of the Sustainability Summit, Future Cities EMEA went live with a remarkable success, shedding light on the issues and opportunities faced by today's leaders of urban development. Wise Media's event, supported for the sixth consecutive year by the Emirates Identity Authority as official local endorser of the ID WORLD Abu Dhabi 2013 conference held on the occasion of the Summit, was once again attended by over 500 participants. The Summit has now established its position as a cornerstone, must-attend appointment for government representatives and all players involved in government sector-related innovation, including the Postal and Healthcare sectors. Quality of attendance and debate surpassed expectations, matched by the outstanding satisfaction of participating organizations involved as sponsors, exhibitors and conference delegations.

Highlights of the event included:

- **Patronage and opening address from UAE Deputy Prime Minister**
- **Meeting of ministers and initiatives for special delegations**
- **525 delegates from 43 countries**
- **eGovernment trends illustrated by United Nations' Inter-Regional Advisor**
- **Security Technologies presented by FBI's Executive Assistant Director**
- **Smart Urban Development discussed by Protection Secretary of Mexico City**
- **Urban Security remarks by the Lead, Global Network on Safer Cities of UN Habitat**
- **ID WORLD Abu Dhabi conference endorsed by Emirates Identity Authority**
- **Postal Innovation track attended by largest delegation to date**
- **Vision shared by Heads of public authorities and world-class luminaries**
- **Major ICT-driven innovation projects world-wide disclosed**



*Wise Media's sixth EMEA Summit saw the participation of ministerial level government representatives from different continents and the active involvement of EU Commission and UN representatives throughout the two days.*



“Wise Media’s sixth EMEA Summit has proven to offer a unique backdrop to Future Cities EMEA in two important respects,” says Sophie B. de la Giroday, Host of the Summit and President of Wise Media. “First, it has prompted an interdisciplinary examination by leading technology experts, end-users, as well as policy makers and analysts, of the relationship between digitalization, statistically secure identity schemes and sustainable economic growth, tracing the progress from technology development to infrastructure development to sustainable economic growth. Second, the Summit has taken place at a time when policies affecting long-term management of migration flows, as well as urban development, are being discussed and developed.”

The Summit began with a plenary conference session on Global Trends on the morning of February 11. At this opening session, high-ranking public sector officials from the United Nations, the FBI, as well as State Secretary-level government speakers from emerging countries discussed how present investments in digitalization, automation and identity technology in particular affect the security, job creation, employment and economic growth of nations and urban aggregates alike. The Summit was designed to examine the impact of the digital revolution and illustrated the modernization trends within national and local security and mobility’s schemes, as well as within delivery service models. It analyzed the role of ICT infrastructures as sustainable economic growth is pursued through the creation of globe-spanning Trust Models, as these are in fact most affected in the era of digitalization and cross-border trade and travel.

The Summit's plenary session was followed by two days of workshops and interactive debate on Services to the Citizens, Delivery Models, Border Control, Managing Global Migration, Track and Trace Systems, Retail and eCommerce, Smarter and Safer Cities, Mobile Payments, Secure Authentication, Transparent Supply Chains, Healthcare Innovation, Postal Innovation, as well as Secure Transactions and necessary innovations for achieving a secure and sustainable digital economy.



*Special initiatives engaged key delegations participating in Wise Media's sixth Summit in Abu Dhabi.*

Among the key speakers and government representatives contributing to the debate at ID WORLD Abu Dhabi 2013: Dr. Ali Al Khouri, General Director - Emirates Identity Authority, U.A.E., delivering the opening address for H.H. Sheikh Saif Bin Zayed Al Nahyan, Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of the Interior - U.A.E.; Stefano Manservigi, Director General Home Affairs - European Commission; Steven M. Martinez, Executive Assistant Director, Science & Technology Branch - FBI, USA; Richard Kerby, Inter-Regional Adviser - United Nations; Juma Assiago, Urban Safety Expert & Lead, Global Network on Safer Cities - UN-Habitat, Kenya; Vanja Vukic, Secretary of State - Ministry of Interior, Serbia; Kameran Abdulrahman, Director General - Ministry of Interior, Kurdistan Regional Government; Fausto Lugo Garcia, Civil Protection Secretary - Mexico City Government; Malcolm Tarbitt, Director Security & Risk Advisory - International Centre for Sport Security (ICSS), Qatar; Ashok Pal Singh, Deputy DG - Unique Identification Authority, India; Erkki Koort, Deputy Secretary General for Internal Security Policy Ministry of the Interior, Estonia; Ruth Annus, Head of Migration and Border Policy Department - Ministry of the Interior, Estonia; Dr. Khalid Al-Tawil, Executive Advisor - Ministry of Interior, Saudi Arabia; Shane Brown, Acting Executive Director Safety and Security - Nelson Mandela Metropolitan Municipality, South Africa; Alessandro Musumeci, Group CIO - Italian State Railways; Elena D'Angelo, Project Officer - United Nations Interregional Crime and Justice Research Institute, Italy.

Key sessions saw the active involvement of Sinisa Macan, Director General - Agency for Identification Documents, Registers and Data Exchange, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Dr. William Ahadzie, CEO - National Identification Authority, Ghana; Ayesha Al Rayesi, Executive Director of Central Operations Sector Emirates Identity Authority, UAE; Ralph Markert, Assistant Director, International Partnerships & Development Directorate - Interpol; Roman Vanek, Chief Division ID Documents - Federal Office of Police, Switzerland; Lt. Col. Abdullah Mohammed Al Jabri, Director General of Information Technology - Royal Oman Police; Milica Arbutina, Head of Office - Poste Srpske, Bosnia and Herzegovina; Eng. Majed Mohammed Bin Anzzan, General Manager - E- Mall; Younouss Djibrine, Secretary General - Pan African Postal Union, Tanzania; Mario Chartouny, CTO - Liban Post; Dr. Ahmed Kada, Director of Internationals Affairs - Morocco Post; Feliksas Dobrovolskis, Director General - The Communications Regulatory Authority, Republic of Lithuania; Dr. Oliver Harrison, Head of Strategy - Health Authority of Abu Dhabi, UAE; Emmanuel Ogungbe, IT Director - National Identity Management Commission, Nigeria.



At its sixth edition in 2013, the event went live as the EMEA summit for a global community of key decision makers from both the public and private sectors, which for more than ten years has investigated the opportunities and the impact of innovation based on advanced information and communications technologies – and identification – in all public and private sectors. Next appointments for this community include Wise Media's third Americas Summit in Rio de Janeiro (Brazil) on September 26-27, and in Frankfurt (Germany) on November 5-7.



*Left: Future Cities EMEA's Ribbon Cutting ceremony, while (right) a very successful exhibition granting a live experience of technologies to the Summit's participants.*

The continued success of Wise Media's Summit is based on its unique formula of high-profile visionary statements and technology updates challenged in a public debate, offering an exclusive mix of presentations where existing and emerging identification programs provide the background to broader discussions about the world's future infrastructures for citizen-centric services, as well as secure transactions, mobility and supply chains. Over two days, the Summit gave stakeholders across the entire ICT value chain a deeper insight into strategic, technical and operational issues surrounding automatic identification adoption and implementation.

The Conference Proceedings with speaker profiles and conference materials, as well as video materials can be requested contacting the Organizers at [conference@idworldonline.com](mailto:conference@idworldonline.com).

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#### **About Future Cities EMEA**

**Future Cities EMEA saw UN representatives, delegates of National and Local Government organizations from different continents, as well as Policing, Transportation and Sports authorities from around the world convene for two days in Abu Dhabi. The regional congress was created by the Sustainability Summit's Future Cities working group and was held for the first time in February 2013 as a new dedicated regional appointment. Future Cities EMEA was attended by 525 delegates from 43 countries, addressing the drivers of urban development and planning. The inaugural edition of the EMEA congress will be followed later in the year by another cardinal event going live in Rio de Janeiro on September 26-27 (Future Cities Americas) held for the second time. Since 2010, the Future Cities Working Group engages an international community of decision makers representing local administrations, regional and national government authorities as well as international organizations driving urban development. The Future Cities community meets together with leading security and ICT expert to discuss strategies, policies and innovative solutions for the sustainable evolution of our modern metropolises. The focus of this year's debate is on key instruments available to build modern ICT infrastructures in support of the secure and efficient functionality of urban areas and citizen-centric services. The goal is to create urban facilities that improve quality of life for citizens, while supporting service delivery and security schemes put in place by public authorities. For further information please visit: [www.sustainability2015.com](http://www.sustainability2015.com)**

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