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Secretariat: Steve Brunt Consultancy [s.i.brunt@ieee.org](mailto:s.i.brunt@ieee.org) for BSI

**Title : Re Magstripe calibration service**

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**Requested action :** for discussion at next WG1 meeting

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**From:** Evans, Jean-Louis [JEvans@tuvps.co.uk]  
**Sent:** 27 September 2007 13:06  
**To:** steve.brunt@physics.org  
**Subject:** RE: Magstripe Calibration service  
Dear Mr Brunt

I am following up on my previous e-mail to confirm our proposal to take over the Magstripe calibration service.

Our proposal would be based on using one of the commercial testing tools currently available from such manufacturers as Barnes International, as this would ensure ongoing support for the equipment and ensure continuity of the service. In our view, this is a better solution than taking over PTB's existing calibration equipment, which could not be supported adequately by those who originally designed the equipment.

We acknowledge that some comparative testing between the existing equipment used by PTB and by the commercially available test equipment may be required first to satisfy the committee of the accuracy and repeatability of the commercial solution. Based on our analysis of the stated tolerances of the two alternative solutions, however, the commercial equipment should provide similar if not better accuracy than the existing "gold standard". As we would only intend using the commercial equipment to provide a calibration service for magstripe test tool users worldwide, this should imply a very low usage of the equipment and make it unlikely that the equipment would lose its ability to produce repeatable results parts through wear and tear for many years.

If the committee were to consider this commercial solution, and were to consider other laboratories that TÜV Product Service in offering such a service, I should like to stress the importance in establishing a sustainable commercial service of choosing a company such as TÜV SUD, with an international brand that stands for certainty and reliability. The TÜV SUD brand is recognizable worldwide, particularly so in the Far East where many card manufacturing facilities are already located. In the card field, TÜV Product Service is already a well-established name, with EMVCo laboratories in the UK and Japan. From technical perspective, we have sufficient breadth of engineering knowledge in our UK laboratory to carry out a sustainable commercial service for the magnetic stripe card industry.

I should appreciate your confirmation that you have received this short proposal and should be happy to expand on it if you feel that this would be useful for your working group.

Regards

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**From:** Evans, Jean-Louis  
**Sent:** 10 September 2007 17:33  
**To:** 'steve.brunt@physics.org'  
**Subject:** Magstripe Calibration service

Dear Mr Brunt

Following our discussions last week, I should like to formally express our interest to ISO/IEC JTC1/SC17WG1 in taking over the calibration service that PTB is currently providing to test tool manufacturers of magnetic stripe cards and to magnetic stripe card manufacturers.

TÜV Product Service is part of the TÜV SÜD group, headquartered in Munich, which acts as a trusted, independent tester and certifier of products and services worldwide. You will find more details of the TÜV SÜD group's activities on the following website [http://www.tuev-sued.de/home\\_en](http://www.tuev-sued.de/home_en).

I represent one of TÜV SÜD's UK subsidiaries, TÜV Product Service Ltd, which has been active for 10 years testing bank card terminals, starting with Mondex, and more recently as an EMVCo sponsored laboratory, which regularly tests CHIP and PIN terminals. Our main UK laboratory is based in Fareham, where we carry out certification and testing of a wide range of products, particularly in the areas of Electromagnetic compatibility, Radio, Safety, and Environmental simulation. For more information, see our website [www.tuvps.co.uk](http://www.tuvps.co.uk).

We believe that our core competences in electro-technical testing and certification would place us in a good position to run the existing calibration service operated by PTP, and to maintain the integrity of the standard. As an illustration of our wide range of competences, BABT, British Approval Board for Telecommunications, is also part of TÜV Product Service in the UK, and is the leading certification body of mobile phones worldwide, whilst our sister company TÜV NEL (ex-National Engineering laboratory) manages the National Measurement System Flow Programme.

As you will appreciate, if we were to take over the current service, we would wish to do so on a commercial basis, although we also recognize that your working group may wish to place safeguards to protect the industry's interests, because we would become a de facto monopoly supplier of this essential service. We would welcome the opportunity to explore with you and your colleagues on the working group a basis for establishing a sustainable service.

Regards

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