

Shimon Systems™ Puts Its Thumb On Better Biometric Fingerprint Applications

San Jose, CA, February 6, 2007 --

Bio-NetGuard™ WiFi Access Control Device Leads Company's Drive to Develop Next Generation of Fingerprint Authentication Products and Technologies

For a while, biometric fingerprint technology seemed to have lost its touch. Announced with great fanfare in the late 1990's as the answer for all kinds of security needs, fingerprint readers quickly became mired in questions about cost, reliability and perceived Big Brotherism. Since that time, however, the technology has matured. Fingerprint capture devices today are far less expensive and more able to overcome challenges like dirty or calloused fingers. What's more, standards and practices have been developed that separate identification from authentication. Instead of identifying the unique individual, fingerprint readers are now overwhelmingly used to simply confirm that a person's fingerprint matches their previous print stored in the system's closed database.

Shimon Systems has seized the opportunities presented by this coming-of-age of fingerprint biometrics to develop a new breed of products and applications. Shimon (the Japanese word for "fingerprint") Systems creates end-to-end fingerprint biometrics solutions based on patent-pending client and server software, combined with peripheral devices supplied by approved vendors. Founded in late 2003 by four technology veterans, the company not only develops its own imaginative products, but also licenses its solutions to OEMs like Silex America and SutiSoft, who market various devices based on Shimon Systems' technologies.

Among Shimon Systems' first products is Bio-NetGuard™, a small, self-contained unit that secures local WiFi networks through fingerprint identification. Businesses have increasingly come to realize that their local wireless data networks can be compromised by hackers and others within range of the WiFi access point. Bio-NetGuard, barely larger than a deck of playing cards, connects to the WiFi networks' Internet router, then leverages fingerprint readers that are incorporated into laptops or attached to PCs in order to provide rock solid access control.

"Bio-NetGuard increases both security and convenience for WiFi network users," said Dr. Baldev Krishan, president and CEO of Shimon Systems and founder of several successful high-tech companies in the past. "Unlike passwords that can be easily stolen or given to others, fingerprints are unique, non-transferable and always present. Fingerprints also eliminate the nuisance of remembering passwords—as most employees know, passwords must change frequently to maintain security. Bio-NetGuard is the only truly reliable way to secure a WiFi network because it authenticates the user, instead of the equipment."

Bio-NetGuard, which can scale to accommodate anywhere from ten to hundreds of users, has won praise as a unique and elegant solution to a difficult problem. The device was featured at DEMO 2006, one of the most respected of all new product showcases in the United States. Only 70 products are invited to debut at DEMO, a private expo for corporate investors, retailers and the media. Bio-NetGuard also was awarded an INNY Award for innovation from The Tech Museum of Innovation in San Jose, California, placing the product on display in the museum's EnCounters exhibit.

Also included in Shimon Systems' offerings is Password Freedom™ a highly encrypted, Web-based service that hosts fingerprint data at 24-hour co-location facility for purposes of secure authentication and authorization. Ideal for financial institutions, healthcare facilities, pharmaceutical companies and other enterprises where secure employee and/or user access is critical, Password Freedom converts fingerprints into anonymous, unique data files.

Like the fingerprints themselves, no two Password Freedom data files are identical—yet personal identities are completely removed from the authorization process. In addition to eliminating the need for passwords (multifactor fingerprint-and-password verification is supported if desired), Password Freedom ensures that data cannot be hacked, altered, infected or stolen.

To develop and market its biometric fingerprint technologies, Shimon Systems has partnered with the global leaders in fingerprint systems—NEC, Fujitsu Microelectronics and Texas Instruments. For more information about Shimon Systems and its comprehensive fingerprint authentication solutions, visit www.shimonsystems.com.

About Shimon Systems, Inc.

Shimon Systems leads the next generation of secure access authentication by providing complete biometric end-to-end solutions for various markets. The company offers hardware and software solutions for both client- and server-side applications, and can customize biometric authentication solutions to meet any market or end-user need. Shimon Systems' flagship device is Bio-NetGuard™, a fingerprint-based access control device for WiFi LANs; it also offers Password Freedom™, a highly-secure hosted biometric authentication database service for healthcare, financial, legal, pharmaceutical and other critical risk environments. Shimon Systems, founded and run by entrepreneurs with successful high-tech management experience, has a software development facility in India and sales/support office in Japan. The company is privately funded. For additional information, call 408-232-4700 or visit www.shimonsystems.com.

