

**ABC**  
**Austrian Blockchain Center**

Programme: COMET – Competence Centers for Excellent Technologies

Programme line: COMET-Centre (K1)

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# DIGITAL IDENTITY FOR COMPANIES



## VID-CARD: DIGITAL IDENTITIES WITH BLOCKCHAIN

BLOCKCHAINS ENABLE DECENTRALIZED MANAGEMENT OF DIGITAL IDENTIFICATION DATA. RESEARCH AT ABC SHOWS ITS APPLICABILITY FOR COMPANIES.

Blockchain technology can not only be applied as foundation for cryptocurrencies like bitcoin, but also for a variety of additional applications where different actors want to interact without being dependent on a central entity. A blockchain ensures forgery-proof recording of transmitted data, thus creating trust among all participants. One of these applications is the management of digital identities, which correspond to purely digital identity documents that may, e.g., be managed and verified using a mobile app. In this case, the identity data is not stored on a central server, but rather decentrally by the users themselves. This enables them to retain full control of their own private data. However, due to the usage of suitable cryptographic methods, verifiers can still determine whether the given identity data is valid and originates from an authorized issuer. Instead of having to

memorize passwords for accounts at different administrative bodies or companies, a single digital key is sufficient for managing all identity data of a person.

“VID International” is a startup from Innsbruck with an office in Vienna that has been intensively researching the topics of blockchain and digital identities for several years. A joint research project of ABC Research, VID and the research institute RIAT has looked into questions regarding the technical feasibility and the practicability of blockchain-based identity solutions. The main topics were the analysis of suitable software architectures and blockchain platforms, as well as the conception of innovative user interfaces for mobile identity apps. Intuitively designed menu items and interaction processes shall introduce the novel concept of self-managed identity to the users in a comprehensible way. Based on this research, VID

## SUCCESS STORY

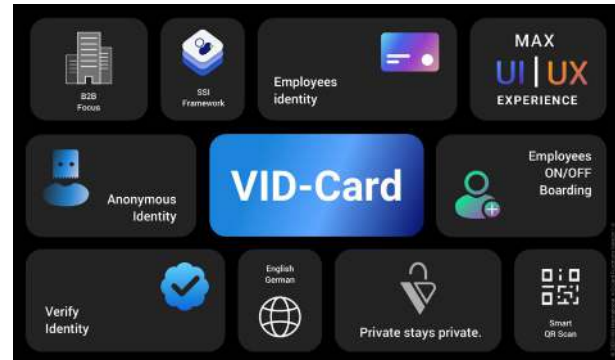
has developed a prototype for the mobile app “VID-Card”, which realizes digital employee ID cards and automatized processes for companies. In different variants of the app, a total of four distinct blockchains have been integrated in order to assess their suitability for the selected scenario.

### Impact and effects

In today’s world, digital identities become more and more relevant as an important tool for individual-related applications (like “know your customer” checks for online banking or COVID-19 contact tracing). The suggested approach ensures security and privacy for all concerned parties, which effectively prevents identity theft and other forms of abuse.

The conducted research at the Austrian Blockchain Center is an important step towards the establishment of digital identities in the B2B area. VID supports companies with the development of identity solutions. “The research expertise of the Austrian Blockchain Center and its scientific partner RIAT enables us to create the digital identity of the future,” says Daniel Gosterxeier, founder and CEO of VID International.

Currently, VID is looking for pilot customers for the application of the developed software.



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### Project coordination (Story)

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### Project partner

- VID International, Austria
- RIAT - Research Institute for Arts and Technology, Austria

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