

BANRISUL adopts VASCO's authentication solution for e-banking

Banrisul is a multiple-service bank controlled by the state of Rio Grande do Sul and is one of the three most profitable of the 20 largest Brazilian banks. With a history that goes back almost a century, Banrisul – Banco do Estado do Rio Grande do Sul - is firmly investing in the computerization of its services, willing to bring its banking services into their customers' homes, hotel rooms and offices hereby offering them unrivalled convenience and accessibility to fulfill their banking needs.

As one of the most profitable banks in Brazil, Banrisul is focusing on maintaining its leadership position in Rio Grande do Sul. Besides its extensive presence throughout the state, the bank has an ability to expand the participation in its current client base by increasing the services used by its customers. By providing its customers with an authentication solution, Banrisul offers them the possibility to access the bank's online services in total security, anywhere at any time.

Banrisul wanted to adopt a solution that was simple to use and had the possibility of unifying strong authentication to digital certification subscription and encryption services. This is one of the reasons, Banrisul chose for VASCO's DIGIPASS 905 solution. DIGIPASS 905 integrates DIGIPASS security with card reader functionalities, offering Banrisul's customers secure access to its Home and Office Internet banking services using authentication based on digital certificates stored on smart cards.

Banrisul is the first state bank in Brazil to employ the leading DIGIPASS brand on the market to offer its customers maximum security to conduct their banking transactions.

"This solution is far superior to other authentication means with the two factors or the adoption of one-time password as this adds benefits originating from the use of digital certification technology", says Jorge Krug, Superintendent for the IT Security Unit at Banrisul.

TWO-FACTOR AUTHENTICATION BASED ON MULTI-APPLICATION SMART CARDS

DIGIPASS 905 is a card reader that is very simple and convenient to use. Due to the USB connection - which most users are familiar with- and its adherence to the CCID (Chip/Smart Card Interface devices) standard, the installation process is immensely simplified. The device is automatically recognized by Windows 2000, XP, Vista, Server 2003 and Linux operating systems, requiring no driver installation at all. Two LEDs located in the front of the device – which only weighs 243 grams – inform the user about its operational status.

Furthermore, DIGIPASS 905 contemplates the use of multi-application smart cards, allowing it to be used for many other purposes in additions to those associated with digital certification technology. Customers can store digital certificates on the smart cards, such as ICP-Brasil (e-CPF and e-CNPJ) certificates.

"The adoption of a two-factor authentication solution based on digital certification as well as smart cards provides a significantly greater level of security, more so than traditional authentication based on the use of static passwords", says Jorge Krug. "Consequently, the risk associated with banking operations accomplished via the Internet is severely reduced."

INCREASED CUSTOMERS' TRUST THANKS TO STRONG AUTHENTICATION

The solution's user profile developed by VASCO is very varied and reaches a number of different sectors as it involves all of Banrisul's clients - an estimated customer base of three million -including private individuals as well as companies who access the Home and Office Banking services through the Internet.

"For Banrisul's clients the solution represents a simple and extremely secure manner of accessing our Internet Banking services. This greater security is directly reflected by increased trust in the channels offered by the bank", said Jorge Krug.

"Our proposal is to add value to the bank's customer relations by launching products and services with a technological innovation, aligned to the modern security of information practices".

According to Jorge, the use of Internet to conduct banking transactions has been met with some reservations and concerns regarding the security of the process. "By employing authentication solutions that become ever more secure,



Banrisul is trying to reverse this perspective by offering its customers the most modern technology available in this field”, he concluded.

SWIFT DEPLOYMENT PROCESS

DIGIPASS 905 was submitted to a homologation process at the Banrisul laboratories during which its suitability to various uses were proven. From the applications point of view, communication with the reader is facilitated by the fact that the products complies with the PC/SC standard. From the start of the DIGIPASS 905 homologation process up to its release it took only two weeks. The distribution process of the readers to the Bank’s clients has already started and will be accomplished by the end of next year.

Objective

Provide a secure authentication solution for Banrisul’s online banking services.

Challenge

The authentication solution must be simple to use and must have the possibility of unifying strong authentication to digital certification subscription and encryption services.

Solution

DIGIPASS 905 integrates DIGIPASS security and card reader functionalities, giving Banrisul’s customers secured access to e-banking services using authentication based on digital certificates stored on smart cards.



Jorge Krug , Superintendent IT Security Unit



Banrisul

About Banrisul

Founded on September 12th 1928, Banrisul (Banco do Estado do Rio Grande do Sul) has more than 9,000 employees and offers a wide variety of financial products and services, including credit cards, insurance, providence funds, consortium groups as well as the administration of third party groups. Its credit operations cover private individuals and companies as well as property and rural financing.

About VASCO

VASCO is a leading supplier of strong authentication and e-signature solutions and services specializing in Internet Security applications and transactions. VASCO has positioned itself as global software company for Internet Security and designs, develops, markets and supports patented DIGIPASS®, DIGIPASS PLUS®, VACMAN®, IDENTIKEY® and aXsGUARD® authentication products. VASCO’s prime markets are the financial sector, enterprise security, e-commerce and e-government.

www.vasco.com

BRUSSELS (Europe)
 phone: +32 2 609 97 00
 email: info-europe@vasco.com

BOSTON (North America)
 phone: +1 508 366 3400
 email: info-usa@vasco.com

SYDNEY (Pacific)
 phone: +61 2 8061 3700
 email: info-australia@vasco.com

SINGAPORE (Asia)
 phone: +65 6323 0906
 email: info-asia@vasco.com