Identity Trends in Catalonia
To exist and develop, information society needs a minimum level of “security” and “trust”.

e-Administration need anchors with the real world, including at least:

- “Electronic identity”,
- “Electronic capability to act”, and
- “Electronic signature” to provide “electronic evidence”.
EU-wide strategic issue

- One of the five (5) points of the action plan: “access authenticated, convenient, secure and interoperable to public services”.
- Interoperable identity management is seen as a key and critical tool for electronic administration, along with electronic signature interoperability, document authentication and the electronic archive.
– Public administration sector
  – Citizens identification
    – Transform the traditional National identity cards, Resident identification number, Passport and other identity documents into digital certificates for electronic signatures.
    – Initially, we issued IDs and passwords, based on the regional health card number. Some municipalities also issued their own IDs.
    – Issue general purpose X.509 certificates to citizens (software based and USB-based). Project idCAT.
– Public administration sector

  – Companies identification

    – Deploy mechanisms to allow companies to identity themselves: Statutes, notary deeds, public registry consultation.
    – Accept digital certificates issued to companies by chambers of commerce, professional associations and financial institutions.
    – We have developed a Semantic Validation Authority, including a federated service provider to accept password-based systems.
    – Now we’re working in a platform to manage capabilities.
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– Financial sector
  – Issuance of IDs and passwords. No open federation, although some projects have shared identity.
  – Use of a second authentication factor (coordinates card) to reduce identity theft.
  – Use of electronic signature when mandated by Law for certain contracts (initiatives are not mature).
  – Future adoption of the X.509 certificate, especially in the case of electronic National ID card.
Industry and commerce

- Low level authentication for customers. High level password-based authentication for internal purposes.
- Adoption of low level signature-based authentication for specific use cases: electronic invoicing or electronic voting.
- Waiting the developments around the public ID X.509 certificates, which they’ll be mandated to use.
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- Health sector
  - Low to medium level of authentication, always password-based.
  - Not yet moving to electronic health card, but using general purpose certificates.
  - Adoption of electronic signature in the cases mandated by Law. First case: e-Prescripción. Movement to Shared Health Record (public).
  - Adoption of ID federation schemas in the e-Prescription project.
Conclusions

- Widely usage of X.509 certificates as authentication method in public sector, and in private sector when mandated.
- Governmental policy is to foster digital certificates, although many applications use passwords for public employees identification.
- First initiatives on federated identity management (e-Prescription, CATCert’s VA, PASSI)
- Need to determine the joint use cases of identity management and electronic signature.
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