**SkIDentity offers “**[**eID.gratis**](https://eID.gratis)**!”**

**[Michelau, August 10th 2018] The countdown to the start of the EU-wide recognition of electronic identification means (eID) is entering its hot phase. From September 29th 2018 on, in exactly 50 days, the German eID card (Personalausweis), which has been notified on level of assurance "high" last year, will be recognized electronically in all EU Member States. To facilitate the eID usage across Europe, SkIDentity now offers “**[**eID.gratis**](https://eid.gratis)**!”.**

**EU-wide recognition of the German eID card starts on September 29th 2018**

The “[eIDAS Regulation](https://eid.as/)“ establishes a uniform framework for the cross-border use and mutual recognition of electronic identification means in Europe. Since the notification of the German eID card was successfully completed at the highest possible level of assurance ("high") in September 2017, the eID function of the German eID card and the German electronic residence permit will be recognized throughout Europe for electronic identification in digital administrative procedures from September 29th 2018 onwards.

**SkIDentity offers “eID.gratis!” – Promotion until Christmas 2018**

To facilitate the widespread use of electronic identity means across Europe, the eID experts from ecsec have now "preponed Christmas into August" and offer via their SkIDentity service

[https://**eID.gratis**](https://eID.gratis)!

Service providers which book the [award winning](https://www.skidentity.de/en/features/excellent) and [certified](https://www.skidentity.de/en/features/features-detailed/#certified) SkIDentity service until **Christmas 2018**, will be able to use the electronic identification function of the German eID card and further eID documents from Belgium, Estonia, Georgia, Luxembourg, Portugal and Serbia for **half a year for free** in their online services.

In addition to reliable identification at the highest level of assurance, the electronic identity card also enables [strong authentication](https://2fa.jetzt/) and secure generation of privacy-friendly [pseudonyms](http://data.europa.eu/eli/reg/2016/679/oj) and [electronic signatures](https://www.ecsec.de/en/aktuelles/detailansicht/date/2018/03/22/ecsec-enables-german-eid-card-for-electronic-signatures/).

*"Electronic identity cards are a highly interesting option for providers who want to support strong, privacy-friendly authentication and electronic signatures in their online services"*, adds Dr. Detlef Hühnlein, Managing Director of ecsec GmbH. *"With ’*[*eID.gratis*](https://eid.gratis)*!’ it is now a breeze to turn online services into 'Smart Services'"*.

**About SkIDentity**

The SkIDentity Service has been developed since 2012 with the support of the Federal Ministry of Economics and Energy (BMWi) within the “Trusted Cloud” initiative, the European Commission and the Bavarian Ministry of Finance by an interdisciplinary team, which is coordinated by ecsec GmbH and comprises experts from ENX Association, Fraunhofer institutes for industrial engineering (IAO) and computer graphics (IGD), OpenLimit SignCubes GmbH, Ruhr University of Bochum, University of Passau, Urospace GmbH and Versicherungswirtschaftlicher Datendienst GmbH. In addition the SkIDentity team is supported by major associations and federations such as the Federal Association for Information Technology, Telecommunications and New Media (Bundesverband Informationswirtschaft, Telekommunikation und neue Medien e.V., BITKOM), the German EuroCloud association (EuroCloud Deutschland\_eco e.V.), the ProSTEP iViP association and TeleTrusT – IT Security Association Germany and well known enterprises such as DATEV eG, easy Login GmbH, media transfer AG, noris network AG, SAP AG, SiXFORM GmbH, Giesecke & Devrient GmbH and selected chambers of industry and commerce.

[**https://www.skidentity.com**](https://www.skidentity.com/)

**About ecsec GmbH**

ecsec is a specialized vendor of innovative solutions in the sector of security in the information and communication technology, security management, smart card technology, identity management, web security and electronic signature technology. Based on experiences from several consulting projects with international reach ecsec GmbH counts to the leading providers in this sector and supports well known customers within the conception and implementation of tailor-made solutions. Due to the observance of current results of science and technology and current and future international standards, an excellent consulting quality and sustainable customer prosperity are guaranteed.

[https://www.ecsec.de](https://www.ecsec.de/)

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