

# TK News

## Press release

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The electronic health card is taking an online hurdle

**Aachen/Hamburg, 9 July 2007.** It is something you cannot see, feel or touch, but the electronic health card would be nothing without what is known as the "master insurance data service". Today in Aachen, the die was cast: a system that will in future make all changes to the data of those insured possible online, the heart of tomorrow's electronic world of healthcare. The Federal health minister, Ulla Schmidt, personally made sure on the spot today that the online updating of the cards at the *Techniker Krankenkasse* (TK) was already working under laboratory conditions. "I am pleased that the essential foundations have laid here in Aachen for the next step in an networked healthcare system," she stated, "and I would like to see it tried out soon in the test regions under live conditions."

In future, when an address changes or when a patient registers in a healthcare programme of his health insurance fund, the new system will ensure that the data is transferred quickly and securely from the various distinct computer systems - from the health insurer to the doctor or hospital. Complex encryption and special secure data lines prevent unauthorised persons from being able to access the data.

"The preparation of actual data of insured persons is a key task for the introduction of the electronic health cards for each and every health insurance scheme. Without the online link-up, this would have meant that the cards still had to be swapped for every change," explained Prof. Norbert Klusen, chairman of the board of Techniker

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Krankenkasse, at the presentation of the programme. He emphasised that TK would be able to rely on the know-how and on the Worldline eGK KAMS solution of the company Atos Worldline in security management, although the data on those insured would continue to remain in TK.

Atos Worldline (4,000 employees) had their bid for the required solution and trust centre activities accepted by TK (6.1 million people insured) in May after a European tender procedure. "We are pleased to be able to utilise our many years of international experience in the banking sector for the German health services in Aachen as well now," stated Erik Munk Koefoed, Atos Worldline General Manager for Germany, during the minister's visit.