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PRESS RELEASE

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In Spain, activity registration of EU healthcare professionals is now facilitated by the e-SENS Business Lifecycle pilot

Healthcare professionals from EU countries can now offer professional services and apply for work contracts in Spain thanks to a seamless online registration process accessible through the Spanish Point of Single Contact (www.eugo.es).

This online process now allows doctors and other healthcare professionals to apply for a medical licence to practice in Spain without submitting the original documentation that certifies their professional standing.

When designing the process, the Spanish Ministry of Finance and Public Administration (MINHAP-www.minhap.gob.es) and the General Board of Professional Associations of Doctor of Spain (OMC-www.cgcom.es) were determined to follow the 'once only principle' fostered by the European Commission. This means that medical qualifications, where previously recognized, are verified in an electronic database without need to access the original certificates, eliminating the administrative burden of supplying the same information more than once to public administrations.

The new electronic procedures aim to facilitate cross-border service provision, replace paper-based, manual administrative functions and tighten anti-fraud measures. The Spanish e-SENS pilot in the Business Lifecycle Domain is leading this change by successfully implementing features that make visible the following achievements:

1. Identification of the individual on the Spanish Point of Single Contact portal is performed using the "eID" solution of e-SENS which allows cross border recognition of EU citizens' national credentials for electronic identification.
2. The healthcare professional's reference for the Medical Certification is verified using the Spanish Data Intermediation Platform (DIP). The base registries can be easily accessed to check the recognition or homologation of medical qualification previously processed. This is a significant step forward as it allows assertions to be shared between systems instead of official documents travelling between administrations.





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3. The signing mechanism is implemented using national e-Signature software, part of Suite@Firma, which supports e-Signature standards of e-SENS. Suite@Firma infrastructure is currently able to validate digital certificates from Portugal, Austria, Belgium and Estonia. Following the new eIDAS regulation, it is planned to add most of the European Trusted Lists of supervised service providers issuing qualified certificates by the end of 2015.

The pilot launched by the Spanish e-SENS consortium is another example of a successful cross-border digital service within the Business Lifecycle domain of e-SENS.

A varied and diverse set of e-SENS pilots are working to expand existing functionality or introduce new online services in domains such as business, health, procurement and justice across EU member states. The eventual goal is to make these changes interoperable through the use of cross-domain IT 'building blocks'. The e-SENS project aims to provide an architectural framework of solutions, methodologies and standards that will enable interoperability and enhance the introduction of European Single Market.

Learn more about e-SENS: <http://www.esens.eu>

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