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Press release

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## Gimv plans to invest in buy-and-build strategy of French INSIDE Contactless

Gimv plans to invest EUR 11,2 million in a series-D financing of its French portfolio company INSIDE Contactless, a leader in contactless secure transaction chips solutions. The series-D financing will be provided by the existing INSIDE shareholders, led by Gimv and Sofinnova Partners. Moreover, this capital round will be joined by French sovereign wealth fund Fonds Stratégique d'Investissement (FSI). This financing will allow INSIDE Contactless to finance the takeover of the Secure Microcontroller Solutions (SMS) business of Nasdaq-listed Atmel Corporation (NASDAQ: ATML). The combination of both businesses has the potential of being a game-changing event in the smart card industry.

INSIDE Contactless ([www.insidecontactless.com](http://www.insidecontactless.com)) was founded in 1995. Its innovative contactless and Near Field Communication (NFC) solutions are transforming how the world conducts transactions and information exchange. Today, consumers are using contactless smart cards for payments, transit, secure access, and identification applications in hundreds of thousands of locations worldwide. INSIDE leads this market with 400 million contactless platforms worldwide delivered. The company is headquartered in Aix-en-Provence (France), and has offices in Paris, Shanghai, Singapore, Warsaw, Seoul, Bangkok and San Francisco.

Today INSIDE Contactless signed a binding offer to purchase the Secure Microcontroller Solutions (SMS) business of Atmel Corporation, based in Rousset (France) and East Kilbride (UK). Both partners' businesses are complimentary in terms of products, technologies, customer bases and operations. Moreover, the combined entity would create a leading pure-play fabless semiconductor company that is singularly focuses on smart, secure products and connectivity technology for secure transaction devices. The financing is subject to the realisation of the above-mentioned transaction, which is expected to close in the third quarter of 2010, subject to certain closing conditions.

Gimv is a shareholder in the company since 1998. Other investors in the company include Alta Berkeley, EuroUS Ventures, GGV Capital, Assa Abloy, Motorola, Nokia Growth Partners, Qualcomm, Samsung Venture Investment, Siparex, Sofinnova Partners, Vertex Venture Capital and Visa.

No additional financial information on this transaction will be disclosed. More information the company concerned can be found in the attached press release or on INSIDE Contactless' website.

Annex: Press release INSIDE Contactless



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Gimv is a European investment company with nearly 30 years of experience in private equity and venture capital. The company is listed on NYSE Euronext Brussels and currently manages around EUR 1.8 billion of assets (including third party funds).

Gimv undertakes buyouts and provides growth capital to established companies. Local teams in Belgium, France, The Netherlands and Germany concentrate on these activities. Gimv-XL provides growth financing to larger growth companies in Flanders. Gimv makes venture capital investments in high tech sectors through its specialist teams in Life Sciences, Technology and Cleantech.

Its DG Infra+ fund also focuses on infrastructure projects in the Benelux. Gimv is also active in Central and Eastern Europe through several funds and joint ventures.

For more information about Gimv, please visit our website: [www.gimv.com](http://www.gimv.com).

**INSIDE CONTACTLESS PROPOSES TO BUY ATMEL'S SECURE  
MICROCONTROLLER SOLUTIONS BUSINESS**

**AIX-EN-PROVENCE, France, May 4, 2010** – INSIDE Contactless, a leading provider of contactless secure transaction chip technologies, today announced it has entered into an agreement to purchase for cash consideration Atmel's Secure Microcontroller Solutions (SMS) business. The transaction will be financed by the existing INSIDE investors led by Gimv and Sofinnova Partners, along with the French sovereign wealth fund, Fonds Stratégique d'Investissement (FSI). Atmel also will make an investment in INSIDE.

“Atmel's Secure Microcontroller Solutions business offers INSIDE the opportunity to acquire unique people, skills and technologies to reinforce our leadership in the smart card and secure transaction devices market,” said Rémy de Tonnac, chief executive officer for INSIDE Contactless. “Combining these businesses has the potential to be a game-changing event in the smart card industry. It will create a pure-play fabless semiconductor leader singularly focused on the secure transactions market.”

According to de Tonnac, this combination will put INSIDE in a leading position to meet the growing global demand for solutions in the payments markets, the emerging NFC mobile commerce market and the electronic identification market.

“INSIDE Contactless is a global leader in contactless technologies and NFC, and the acquisition of Atmel's SMS business unit will enable the company to strengthen its position in its current markets, and accelerate its presence in new, fast-growing areas,” said Jérôme Gallot, FSI's director. “FSI is pleased to join INSIDE's current investors to enable this important acquisition.”

After completion of the information and consultation process with its Works Council, in accordance with French law, Atmel will seek authorization from its board of directors to enter into the purchase agreement with INSIDE, with the transaction expected to close in the third quarter of 2010, subject to certain closing conditions.

“The SMS product portfolio and market focus is highly complementary to INSIDE Contactless' current business,” said Steven Laub, Atmel's president and chief executive officer, “and this deal should be beneficial to both the SMS employees and customers.”

The resulting organization will be the largest fabless semiconductor company in France, and one of the largest in Europe.

### **About Atmel**

Atmel is a worldwide leader in the design and manufacture of microcontrollers, capacitive sensing, advanced logic, mixed-signal, nonvolatile memory and radio frequency (RF) components. Leveraging one of the industry's broadest intellectual property (IP) technology portfolios, Atmel provides the electronics industry with complete system solutions focused on industrial, consumer, security, communications, computing and automotive markets. For more information please visit [www.atmel.com](http://www.atmel.com).

### **About INSIDE Contactless**

INSIDE Contactless leads the market in contactless secure transaction chips solutions. The company has delivered 400 million contactless platforms worldwide, and its contactless payment and Near Field Communication (NFC) solutions power the next generation of payment, transit, identity and access control applications. INSIDE's work in contactless standards and its 69 families of patents, including essential NFC patents, play a leading role in establishing industry direction. INSIDE is headquartered in Aix-en-Provence, France, with offices in Paris, Shanghai, Singapore, Warsaw, Seoul, Bangkok and San Francisco. For more information, please visit [www.insidecontactless.com](http://www.insidecontactless.com).

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