

# DATA AND COMMUNICATION SECURITY

**An Introduction to Ardaco**



# Leading security expert

For twenty years Ardaco has been at the forefront of developing information and communication technology to help organisations communicate securely and efficiently. A leader in the field, and dedicated to innovation, Ardaco has created communication platforms and secure document handling which place the customer in complete control.

Effective and simple to use throughout an organisation, our offering is based on three flagship products. Individually each enhance security, together they provide an impregnable, scalable and resilient communication and document protection solution.

In this brochure we outline our approach to the global threat to information security, our founding principles which ensure we always deliver to the unique needs of each customer along with information on our core products.

Modern communication methods have delivered flexibility and efficiency but they have also increased the risks of security breaches and the loss of commercially or politically sensitive data. Often it is only after a breach that the damaging implications of a relaxed approach to security are realised – by then it is too late. Sometimes the breaches lie undiscovered and the erosion of confidentiality happens over a long period of time resulting in significant loss of intellectual property and competitive advantage.

Established in 2001 and headquartered in the EU Ardaco has always placed technical expertise at the heart of its offering. Developing and patenting technology which is used the world over by corporations, governments, military and emergency services and with official recognition by entities such as NATO as a certified provider of secure communication solutions.



A globally preferred and certified supplier.

# Key principles

Our specialisation and commitment to research and development ensures that we can deliver the most effective solutions which are both reliable and easy to use. Security with the added benefit of powerful business tools which improve productivity.

We provide a customer centric service where the solutions match the exact requirements of the situation and provide flexibility. As your needs change we scale accordingly. From a turn-key system to fully customizable options which reflect your organisational needs.

We operate globally, support all mobile platforms to all international standards and wide-scale implementation happens in hours not weeks or months.

Our ISO 9001:2008 certification and regular auditing ensures that we achieve and maintain rigorous standards of both quality and reliability. Dedicated teams are available 24/7 to answer your questions and provide assistance.

Before we assist you with your security we ensure that our security is at the highest standards. Our staff and any external support that can or may come into contact with customer data or our secure systems are security cleared to the highest levels, including NATO security clearances.

Our record is based on certified and proven security, no incident or breaches in the company's history and trusted by governments and businesses in an ever growing list of over twenty countries.



*"At Ardaco we are committed to do everything to strengthen the weakest security link and eliminate risk."*

**Tomas Kucharik, CEO**

We are dedicated to ensuring that our clients can always communicate securely no matter where they are located.

# Strong foundations

Ardaco was founded in 2001 by a dedicated team of technical specialists who, over the coming years, pioneered and patented new technologies including Electronic Paper Protection (PDMark®), Qualified Electronic Signature Solutions (QSign™) and a secure voice communication system for smartphones, Silentel®.

Recognising the ever increasing transmission of data beyond voice using mobile devices Ardaco, in 2010, created a new IP based product called Silentel®.

Silentel provides voice and data communication and messaging which delivers superior security with automatic two factor authentication for files and messages. Transmissions are fully encrypted and data is NOT even stored on the device.

In 2010 Ardaco, following further development, pioneered a secure messaging system for use by military, police and crisis management organisations. Delivering efficient, effective and secure communications in a manner which supports a more economical platform solution.

Ardaco is a member of the SCIP – Standard Communication Interface Protocol – community and takes an active role in the International Interoperability Control Working Group, helping define secure electronic communication architecture globally.

Our NATO approval ensures we can meet and exceed the formal compliance requirements for almost any global government entity.

**Annual cost to the global economy from cybercrime is \$400 Billion<sup>1</sup>**

Ardaco was the first company worldwide to offer secure communication on Android mobile devices in 2011.





Our systems are used throughout the world by industry, the financial sector, legal practices, national and local governments, military and emergency services and deliver end to end security no matter where the user is located.

Ardaco solutions are uniquely scalable – from two users to thousands. Combined with an ease

of implementation and operability the result is a system which is appropriate for any organisation.

We work closely with your internal teams to understand your exact requirements, delivering a transparent solution and implementation plan which is based on over two decades of proven delivery.

**The average time to discover a malicious cybercrime is 170 days<sup>2</sup>**

Silentel is the only worldwide proven and certified solution that ensures complete secure mobile communication on all mobile platforms – iOS, Android, BlackBerry and Windows.

# Innovation and expertise

As the use of mobile technology grew Ardaco recognised that the mobile component of communication represented one of the biggest threats to data security, not just from interception of data but also from physical loss of a device. Our research and developments teams spent time looking at both the technological solutions and the behavioural ones too. That means ease of use and delivering benefits to the user above and beyond the primary goal.

Our experts are drawn from all over the world and ensure that Ardaco is a lead innovator in the field of information and communication technology and information security. Our work on a number of European Union projects contributing to increased understanding and effectiveness throughout the industry.

These technological and research cooperation projects and structures include EPoSS ETP, ARTEMISIA JTI, SECRIком, FREESIC and REDIRNET.

Ardaco works across borders  
and draws expertise  
from around the world.





### **SECRICOM – Seamless Communication for Crisis Management**

Ardaco was the technical coordinator and integrator of thirteen partners tasked with resolving the emerging needs of first responder communication in EU countries across borders. Secricom provides end-to-end encryption, ‘push to talk’ groups with full interoperability within the first responder communication systems and the ability to use mainstream mobile devices for emergency communications.



### **FREESIC – Free Secure Interoperable Communications**

FREESIC was a collaborative research project which was tasked with finding a solution that allows highly secure and cost effective interoperability between communication infrastructures throughout Europe. Ardaco project coordinated nine partners, looking at the non-technical challenges identified in the SECRICOM project and established a decentralized interoperability platform.



### **REDIRNET – Emergency Responder Data Interoperability Network**

REDIRNET, a collaborative research project, led by Ardaco and involving 8 partners, provides a decentralized framework for interoperability of first responders’ systems based on a public meta-data gateway controlled by the agencies themselves via a REDIRNET socio-professional web. The project provides a unique communication solution to exchange and share information via voice, data, images, video, CCTV and remote sensors.



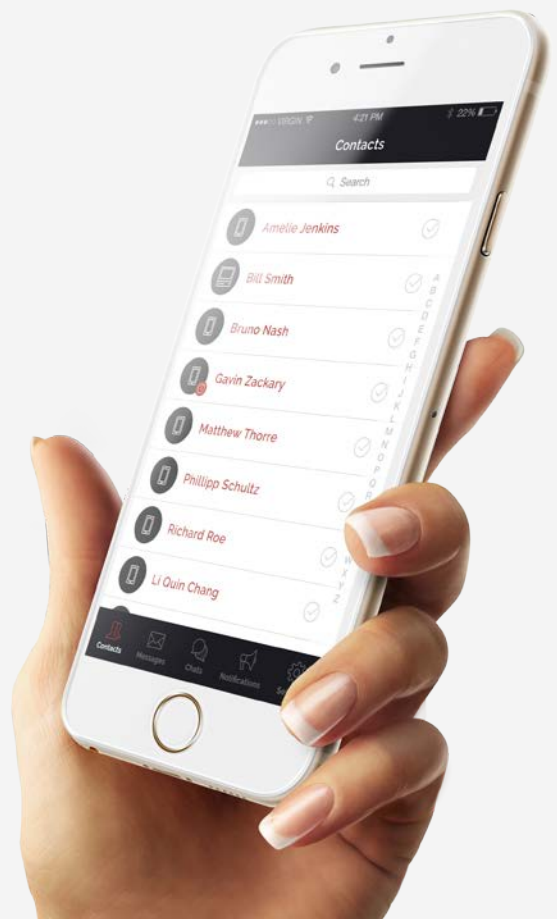
- **Proven military grade end to end communication security.**
- **The only certified cross platform solution – total flexibility.**
- **Easy and efficient to deploy and operate from a few to thousands of users.**
- **Allows effective business communication which is secure and free from clutter.**

At the heart of the Ardaco offering is Silentel, our comprehensive mobile communication security solution based around a secure server located with you or with Ardaco.

Silentel is fast to implement by all of your selected users (a very user friendly download from apps stores onto their device of choice) and then the ability to talk, message, chat and group chat, send images, documents and any other files securely.

Additionally your Silentel contact list is held 'off device' and is only available when Silentel is running, loaded and password accessed.

Silentel has NATO approval and is certified by a growing number of National Security Agencies within NATO countries.





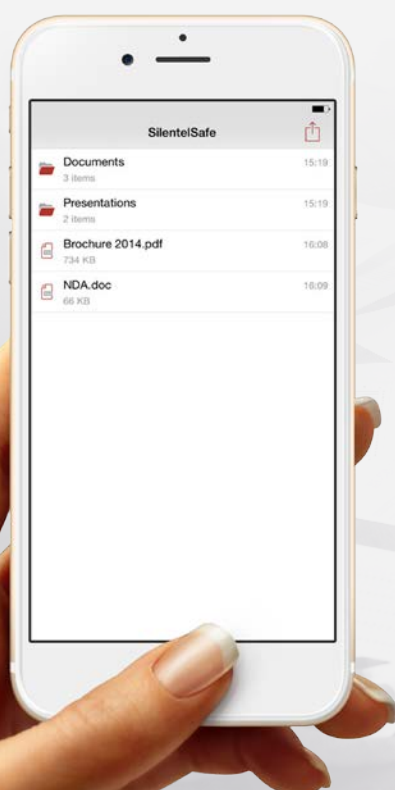
# SilentelSafe

- **All of your sensitive documents securely stored on your device or computer.**
- **Import files and documents from third party applications into SilentelSafe.**
- **Share securely your sensitive documents with others using Silentel.**

Conscious that there may be the occasional need for storing sensitive documents 'on-device' Ardaco has developed SilentelSafe a companion product to Silentel which allows the user to ensure items saved are encrypted and able to be accessed only by them.

SilentelSafe operates on your mobile device or computer and encrypts any document, image library, message that you wish to be stored securely using military-grade AES-256 encryption.

If someone copies encrypted documents from your mobile device and tries to guess your password they will never succeed. Your documents can be decrypted only on your device and only using your password.



Cyber espionage is normal business practice in some parts of the world with systematic wiretapping.<sup>3</sup>



- **100% reliability.**
- **Total integrity of the document contents.**
- **High authenticity of the document with electronic signature integration.**
- **Document can become physically damaged but contents are still protected.**
- **Confidential information can be stored within the document.**

PDMark technology was created by Ardaco in recognition of the continued importance of paper documentation. The coexistence of paper and electronic documents dictated a new approach with the need to guard against the possibility of forgeries and the altering of contents.

The technology embeds digital information on the physical paper as well as the original content. This ensures the integrity of the document which is stored both electronically and on paper with the ability to reproduce a verifiable copy should one be needed. It is the only solution where the digital information is present as a background print without the need for separate markings such as barcodes.

The need for physical paper when backed by the reassurance of PDMark does not mean compromising efficiency or security.

PDMark is an ideal solution for offline verification and allows long term archiving. Physical paper is still the only long term proven solution used worldwide. Combined with QSign for all handling including creating, signing, archiving of contracts PDMark represents a perfect process for banks and governments. Used in a South American country it completely eliminated falsification of birth certificates.



- **Efficient and cost effective solution.**
- **Highest standards of authentication and integrity.**
- **Ability to create legally binding documents over distance.**
- **Accepted by governments.**
- **Unambiguous identity of the electronic service user ensures full legal acceptance equivalent to physical paper formats.**

QSign is Ardaco's unique product portfolio which will allow an organisation to achieve the highest standards of electronic signature processing. Designed and built to the highest levels of certification it is the number one signature system in Slovakia, used by a number of large banks and is fully compliant with European Union legislation.

Unlike individual e-signature products offered by other companies Ardaco delivers a complete solution for e-signature implementation including central electronic registry, long term preservation of electronic documents and training modules.

Countries with the highest levels of cybercrime relative to GDP are the Netherlands and Germany.<sup>4</sup>



[www.ardaco.com](http://www.ardaco.com)

# A complete solution

Ardaco provides the most comprehensive and technologically superior secure communication and data solutions. Addressing the exact needs of an organisation, delivering effective and proven safeguards against the growing cyber threat.

We have customers and partners in over 50 countries worldwide, including Europe, the Middle East, Asia, Africa and North & South

America ranging from new enterprises to national governments.

If you have concerns about your security requirements and would like to find out in more detail about how Ardaco can help please contact us. We promise discretion and solutions which protect your privacy and enhance your ability to do business.

(1) (3) (4) Economic Impact of Cyber Crime - Center for Strategic & International Studies June 2014.

(2) 2014 Global Report on the Cost of Cyber Crime - Ponemon Institute.