FISCHER INTERNATIONAL IDENTITY TRANSITIONS COPPIN STATE UNIVERSITY TO CLOUD-BASED IDENTITY MANAGEMENT SERVICE

Cloud Enables University to Automate Student-and Employee-Lifecycle Management in Secure Environment at Lower Cost

Naples, FL (August 3, 2010) -- Fischer International Identity, a leader in the enterprise-class security software market, announced today the successful transition of Coppin State University's identity management (IdM) solution from an on-premise to a cloud-based Identity as a Service® (IaaS®) model.

Since deploying Fischer Identity Suite™ in 2005, Coppin State has relied on its on-premise solution to secure data and handle provisioning for its more than 5,000 students, faculty and staff. Faced with the challenge of protecting a steady increase of data with limited staff and resources, Coppin State opted for Fischer's cloud-based service to securely perform administration, maintenance and support tasks, as well as achieve cost savings in its IdM environment. In less than a month, Fischer transitioned the solution without any disruption to production capabilities or services.

"Identity management in a university setting is now part and parcel of enabling information and business processes to flow freely without sacrificing security and asset protection," said Andrew Sroka, CEO of Fischer International. "Fischer's work with Coppin State is an ideal example of how we can rapidly deploy identity management in a cloud computing environment allowing universities to operate in an open yet secure manner."

The immediate benefits of outsourcing identity management include quantifiable cost savings, increased focus on student- and staff-facing applications, improved visibility into identity practices and elimination of distraction caused by software upgrades and maintenance. In addition, Coppin State is working hand-in-hand with Fischer's identity management specialists to develop best practices and maximize the partnership over the long-term.

"An inflection point in the development of identity and access management (IAM) solutions has been reached. Those architectures, standards, and solutions that make up IAM for the 'outside' of enterprises is being embraced more by the enterprise themselves," said Earl Perkins, Research Vice President, Gartner, Inc. "In other words, 'out is now in.' As a result, traditional enterprise-bound ways of delivering IAM are now being enabled for other forms of delivery, resulting in more options for customers in adopting IAM for their enterprise."

Security in the Cloud
Fischer's cloud-based IaaS® model addresses IdM security needs through stringent checks and balances that include:

- The network topology is configured so that only established connections and ports are used.

- Fischer technology automatically encrypts data that goes through the cloud, thereby protecting it from both internal and external threats.

- Restricting data access to sensitive information; in the current configuration, neither Fischer's solution nor administrative staff have access to sensitive information within the university's PeopleSoft tables, which contain the financial and personal data of students, faculty and staff,.

This allows Coppin State to maintain control over its proprietary data while, at the same time, eliminating the need to hire additional staff to manage the system.

"The level of customer support we have experienced with Fischer has exceeded our expectations and provides us with a great level of comfort as we outsource our identity management solution for the first time," said Dr. Ahmed El-Haggan, Vice President for Information Technology, Chief Information Officer, and Professor of Computer Science at Coppin State University. "With Fischer's help, we now recognize that the 'cloud' does not mean loss of functionality or flexibility."

El-Haggan added, "With the cloud deployment in place, Coppin State is now able to invest in talent and resources to support core services by reducing the time previously dedicated to manage the identity management solution. As a result, we have seen improved levels of data reporting, increased functionality of the system and have gained more value from our investment."

About Coppin State University
Coppin State University is a historically black, four-year liberal arts university that offers 26 majors and 11 graduate degree programs in the arts and sciences, teacher education, nursing, graduate studies, and continuing education. Coppin is a fully accredited, residential institution with the unique mission to address the problems, needs and aspirations of the people of central Baltimore and its immediate metropolitan area. As part of the University System of Maryland, Coppin serves Baltimore residents as well as students from around the world. Coppin State University has a K-16 model, as it manages and oversees Rosemont Elementary/Middle School and The Coppin Academy High School, which opened in Fall 2005 and is housed on the institution's campus. During the year 2010, Coppin State celebrates 110 years. Dr. Reginald S. Avery is the President of Coppin State University.

About Fischer International
Since 1982, Fischer International has established a solid tenure and reputation as a leader and innovator in security technology. In 2006, Fischer International Systems Corporation founded Fischer International Identity, to focus solely on Identity Management. With its 28-year heritage in shaping the enterprise security industry, Fischer continues its history of technology leadership and innovation by bringing to market an identity services platform that truly simplifies Identity Management, scales seamlessly from the SMB to the largest enterprise, and can be deployed either as a traditional on-premise solution or via any outsourced delivery model. Fischer's solutions provide organizations of all sizes with greater choice in how they derive the benefits of Identity Management, but without risk or compromise. For more information, please visit www.fischerinternational.com

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