

IQ Structures Strengthens Tax Stamp Protection

IQ Structures – the Czech based optical nanotechnology specialist – recently announced the launch of a new set of visual security elements for protection of tax stamps, vouchers and similar documents against counterfeiting.



The new portfolio of visual protection features is, says the company, backed by several years of research and development, industry knowledge and experience, and the use of a combination of origination techniques such as electron beam (e-beam), laser and nanoprinting to thwart counterfeiters.

This recent announcement comes on the back of IQ Structures' launch of a new portfolio of optical security devices for banknotes that include a keyhole hologram (see HN February 2020) and a number of announcements and innovations in the secure identity sector, including two-sided holograms for transparent windows in polycarbonate (PC) cards (see HN September 2019).

Centre of excellence

IQ Structures operates an excellence centre, where technology experts and graphic designers work closely together. The centre has recently undergone expansion and creates specific visual effects developed by IQ Structures. These effects are based on unique in-house created mathematic algorithms, using a combination of origination techniques and are able to create illusion objects that cannot be developed by any other technology.

Petr Franc, the Director of the company's Security Division, said: 'the protection of stamps needs a different approach than ID cards. Even a single successful imitation of an ID card compromises the entire project. The attackers use sophisticated laboratories, and governments spend significant budgets on protection.'

'In the area of tax stamps, criminals focus on mass production of fakes. There is strong pressure on costs and most users pay almost no attention to protection elements. We need to take into account all these facts.'

He added that, for effective anti-counterfeit protection of tax stamps, it is critical to find the right combination of visual effects and graphical designs to ensure that:

- It is distinctive, and users can identify it easily;
- Protection elements are integrated into the overall design of the stamp;
- Optimal space covered (visual effect versus costs).

www.iqstructures.com

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Events

Virtually all the ID and secure document industry conferences taking place from March through to June have now been postponed until later in the year or early 2021.

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