

IQ Structures Turns National Symbols into Defence Against Counterfeiters



Credit: NIG for Spain (© IQ Structures).

As IQ Structures, a member of the IQS Group, expands its capacity to protect over 1 billion documents a year, it is looking at ways to simplify the job of the document inspector and frustrate the work of the counterfeiter.

There has, for some time, been a problem in document inspection in that, as optically variable security technologies become more advanced, the complexity for officials whose job it is to check them increases. To address this, IQ Structures has developed an approach that uses the national symbols of a country to create a suite of anti-counterfeiting imagery across the country's various national identity documents – ID card, passport, driving licence, social security card...

IQ Structures, which operates from secure premises on a nuclear reactor site in Řež in the Czech Republic, has branded this approach as the National Identity Guard (NIG), with each country getting its own custom design. In recent months, NIG designs have been developed for a number of countries in Africa, America, Asia, and Europe, including Spain which is shown in the image above.

IQ Structures CEO Petr Franc had this to say about NIG: 'It's no secret that IDs are supposed to be beautiful and highly secure against forgery. Yet how do we make that happen for specific countries? How can we increase security by unifying the design for different documents like ID cards, passports, visas, social security cards, driving licences, etc.? Our National Identity Guard gives a clear answer. It puts something tangible in the hands of the people responsible for issuing documents, allowing them to plan for future development.'

The nature of the concept – multiple large-area optical security features – gives designers a tool not only to depict all relevant national symbols, but to reflect the most important national heritage elements and tell visual stories from the country’s history. NIG also has the ability to integrate computer-generated optical features with security printing, embossing and other protection technologies to create a visually unified element.

Taking this unified approach for the NIG will allow the document inspector to focus on a limited number of security elements and thus achieve full knowledge of them, allowing them to identify even the smallest deviation. This satisfies one of the key objectives of document security: an increase in security without an increase in complexity for the official.

Subscribe Now!

From Only £940/Year



[Subscribe](#)

Reports