

External Announcement

Castles Technology & SUZOHAPP partner to co-develop Next-Generation Cashless Payment Solutions

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Castles Technology International Corp., a globally recognized and industry-leading manufacturer of payment hardware solutions, and SUZOHAPP, the global market leader of software and hardware cash management solutions, announced today that both companies have entered into a multi-year partnership agreement, which includes the co-development and delivery of next-generation cashless terminals within unique sales channels throughout the global unattended marketplace.

This strategic partnership enables SUZOHAPP to white label and resell Castles' family of cashless payment hardware solutions, bundled with their services. The result is that each company's unique business partners obtain cashless payment hardware solutions that are backed with highest levels of PCI and EMV compliance, lower their overhead costs, capture new revenue streams, and empower their end users with independence and flexibility.

"Castles is quickly emerging as a formidable force in cashless technologies," said Dr. Rory Herriman, CTO Software and Digital Systems for SUZOHAPP. "We saw this partnership as an opportunity to co-develop next generation cashless solutions with an innovative company and are thrilled to help further expand their market presence in the unattended and component space as forward-thinking collaborators."

The unceasing advancements in payment technology such as continued EMV migration, closed-loop/loyalty and mobile and smart device integrations, have rapidly transformed how customers interact and complete purchases from global brands. But fraudsters and cybercriminals are constantly seeking ways to disrupt these kinds of advances by exploiting vulnerabilities and security at the point-of-sale.

"With over 85 years of combined experience, SUZOHAPP and Castles have made countless investments in the areas of research, product development and market surveillance of the potential dangers and liabilities that are weakening the payments industry," said Winston Fong, CEO of North America (Castles Technology International Corp).

With both companies integrating their existing payment technology and hardware platforms, Castles and SUZOHAPP stand ready to acquire substantial market share in kiosk, vending, micro market, gaming, amusement, transportation, banking and retail channels.

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About Castles Technology International Corp.

With 25 years of marketplace experience, Castles Technology has established itself as a top global manufacturer of next-generation card acceptance hardware. Our goal is to create simple, smart and secure payment solutions that provide mobility and flexibility for a diverse range of SMBs in attended and unattended payment environments such as retail, vending, micro markets, restaurants, transportation, finance, lodging and hospitality. At Castles, we are out to prove that we are a reliable partner who can help businesses maximize their profits with our future-proof point-of-sale devices and best-in-class support offerings. We pride ourselves on crafting payment solutions that are ergonomic, remove burdensome costs and integrates with any SMB's existing POS operation. US headquarters are in Atlanta, Ga. Global headquarters are in Taipei, Taiwan. Castles has 11 regional offices across Asia, Europe, North and South America.

About SUZOHAPP

SUZOHAPP is a technology company providing software and hardware for cash handling automation and self-service solutions to more than 25,000 customers throughout the world. SUZOHAPP's technology enables automation for customers operating in a variety of end markets, including retail, transportation, gaming, banking, vending and amusement. SUZOHAPP's solutions include cash deposit, recycling, processing and payment systems as well as a broad range of self-service component technologies. The brands of SCAN COIN, Comestero, CashComplete™ and Coinco are united under the SUZOHAPP Company. SUZOHAPP's more than 1,100 employees operate in 19 countries and its dealer network covers more than 100 countries. More information is available at <http://www.suzohapp.com>. SUZOHAPP is owned by affiliates of ACON Investments, L.L.C., a Washington, D.C.- based international private equity investment firm that has responsibility for managing approximately \$5.5 billion of capital. For more information, visit <http://www.aconinvestments.com>.

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