

Press Release March 15, 2010

Research extends modern CodeMeter Software Protection: Wibu-Systems and Fraunhofer ITWM develop new License Management Technology

Flexibility and Security for new Business Models: S4Cloud extends CodeMeter Software Protection for Cloud Computing

Karlsruhe – In January, a survey of the high-tech association BITKOM identified Cloud Computing as the top IT trend in 2010: more and more companies will use external storage space, computing capacities, and single applications via the Internet to reduce costs and to benefit from new technologies. Thus software vendors which provide products in the cloud have vital interest in and make high demands on flexible and secure license management. Starting at March 2nd, the first day at the CeBIT, the Fraunhofer-Institut für Techno- und Wirtschaftsmathematik (Industrial Mathematics) together with the software protection provider Wibu-Systems AG will jointly work in the new project S4Cloud. The objective is to launch a secure and innovative license management system to meet the special requirements of cloud computing, and in this process to extend the proven CodeMeter technology.

S4Cloud focuses the competences of both research partners. The Fraunhofer ITWM already developed the patented process "GenLM" for license management in grid and cloud computing which will be advanced by a especially secure procedure: in future, "GenLM" is to create keys and license parameters optionally at the user's side using an attack-proof hardware token. CodeMeter by Wibu-Systems is already an established hardware and activation-based solution used by software vendors protecting and licensing software. In "GenLM" a resources ticket is calculated from the input data. This ticket will be converted to a data-dependent CodeMeter right to use. This allows to bind the usage rights for a software to the input data of a user. At the same time, the software-based solution CodeMeterAct will be extended to work in virtual system environments. As soon as the

Press Release March 15, 2010

cloud properties are implemented, the CodeMeter protected software runs flexible and secure in the cloud.

In a first step, software vendors are able to protect and market their products running on any PC in the cloud: secure and meeting diverse business models. The user's advantage: pay-per-use of the latest version. In a second step, S4Cloud will turn to data protection to prevent potential misuse by the cloud provider.

Explains Oliver Winzenried, founder and C.E.O. of Wibu-Systems AG: "The cooperation allows us to combine the patented technologies: GenLM of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft and CodeMeter of Wibu-Systems. It is planned to provide products as soon as 2011. Vendors will be able to provide their software in a cloud version without losing control over their software and suspecting know-how drainage. For the user this means scalable and fair use of the software. This way, we initiate the development of an integrated licensing and protection solution for digital products. System-independent protection ranging from mobile phones and embedded systems, desktop PCs and server to the cloud. Of particular importance to me is that S4Cloud provides security and the maximum possible flexibility to the vendor in implementing diverse business models."

Says Mathias Dalheimer, Project Manager at Fraunhofer ITWM: "The flexible integration into the business processes of software vendors is a key element of the new technology," and continues, "existing business models are preserved. At the same time, software vendors are also able to provide pay-per-use models to their customers. Moreover, the technology is independent of the cloud computing platform used – there exist no dependencies on middleware. This considerably eases the software operation."

Press Release March 15, 2010

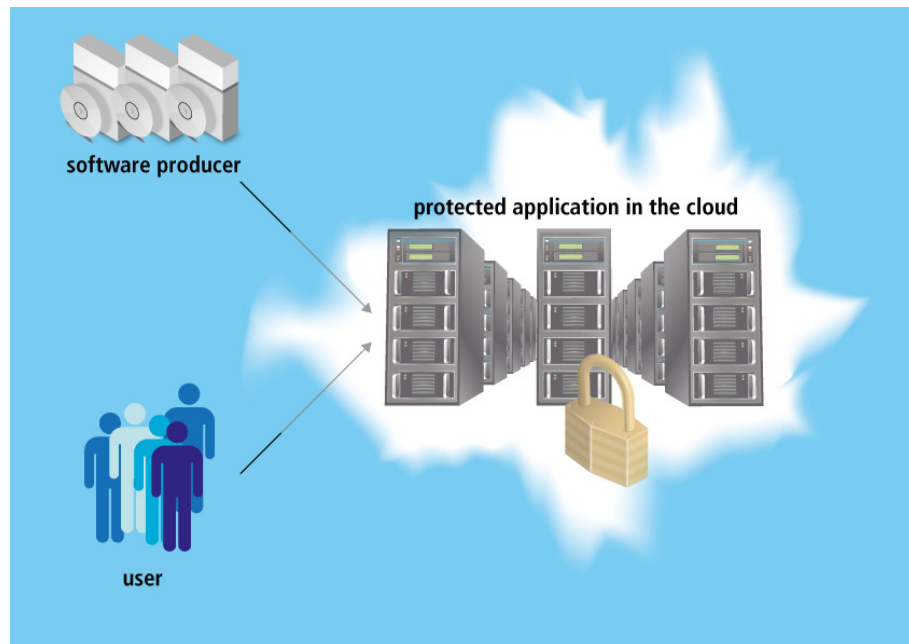


Image: S4Cloud provides secure and innovative license management meeting the special requirements of cloud computing: for the first time, the GenLM procedure and the CodeMeter software protection solution are integrated in a joint project.

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WIBU-SYSTEMS AG was founded in 1989 by Oliver Winzenried and Marcellus Buchheit. The main focus is in the fields of Digital Rights Management, software protection, license management, document protection and access control. The company located in Karlsruhe has distributors all over the world, offices in Seattle, USA, as well as in Shanghai, China, and sales offices in Belgium, Great Britain, Portugal, Spain and the Netherlands.

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Mathematic methods allow to PC-compatible map reality and to meaningful deal with large amounts of data or complex structures. In the case a company is to improve its products, optimize production processes, or detect sources of problems, together with the company specialists the Fraunhofer-Institut für Techno- und Wirtschaftsmathematik (Fraunhofer ITWM) generates a mathematical model of the problem evaluated by the PC. Tailored simulations allow to detect a solution meeting the requirements. The specific competence of the Fraunhofer ITWM to mathematical address practical questions ideal supplements engineerial and managerial work.

The key areas of work of the Fraunhofer ITWM which in 2001 have been integrated into the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft as the first Institute with a mathematical focus cover surface inspection, financial mathematics, visualization of large amounts of data, optimization of production processes, virtual material design, analysis of 3D micro-structures.

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