



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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THALES GROUP’S NEVILLE PATTINSON ELECTED TO SERVE AS BOARD CHAIR OF INTERNATIONAL BIOMETRICS + IDENTITY ASSOCIATION

Washington, D.C. (August 20, 2024)—The International Biometrics + Identity Association (IBIA) announced today that Neville Pattinson, Head of Business Development and Strategic Marketing of Thales Group’s Digital Identity & Security Biometric Solutions division, has been elected as Chair of IBIA’s Board of Directors for a two-year term, effective August 1, 2024.

“I am honored to serve in this important role as our industry continues to play a leading and important role in security, privacy, productivity, and convenience for individuals, governments, and organizations,” said Pattinson. “As our industry continues to grow and play a positive role in the day-to-day lives of millions of consumers, I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Board and the entire IBIA membership to address and advocate for the issues that impact our industry the most.”

IBIA is an advocacy and educational organization that represents the developers, manufacturers and systems integrators of biometric and identity technologies and services. IBIA engages with elected officials, policymakers, the media and the general public to help them better understand these technologies and clear-up misconceptions about the responsible use and ethical implementation of biometric solutions to confirm and validate identity.

As Head of Business Development and Strategic Marketing at Thales Group’s Digital Identity & Security division’s Identity & Biometric Solutions team, Pattinson evangelizes the need to move to secure digital identity solutions to protect U.S. citizens’ identity and privacy. He is a leading expert and thought-leader on digital identity solutions, including smart cards, electronic passports, and various biometric technologies, as well as mobile identity solutions to keep identity credentials secure, private, and trusted.

As IBIA Chair, Pattinson will lead the organization’s Board of Directors alongside the current IBIA Management Committee: Michael DePasquale, IBIA Board Vice-Chair; Donnie Scott, Board Treasurer; and Kathleen Kiernan, Board Secretary. The IBIA’s previous Board Chair, John Mears, Vice President and Tech Fellow at Leidos, will move into the role of Immediate Past Board Chair.

IBIA 2024 Board of Directors:



- Neville Pattinson, Thales Group
- Michael DePasquale - CEO, BIO-Key International
- Donnie Scott - CEO, Public Security, North America, IDEMIA
- Kathleen Kiernan, PhD - President, NEC National Security Systems
- John Mears - Vice President and Tech Fellow, Leidos
- Mohammed Murad - Vice President of Sales and Business Development, Iris-ID
- Chip Merrill - Vice President, HID Global
- Bob Eckel - President and CEO, AWARE, Inc.

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About IBIA: International Biometrics + Identity Association advances the adoption and responsible use of technology-based identification solutions to enhance security and privacy and to facilitate convenience and productivity for government, businesses, and consumers. To effectively carry out its mission, IBIA focuses on three core activities: Advocacy, Connectivity, and Education. For more information, please visit our website at www.ibia.org.

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