

## **Sopra Steria partners with Wallet.Services to develop innovative Blockchain solution**

### ***Proof-of-concept platform SICCAR to better manage public sector data***

**Edinburgh, Scotland, 17 August 2017:** Sopra Steria announces a new strategic partnership with Wallet.Services. The collaboration will help develop a blockchain platform, SICCAR, designed to better manage vital public sector data.

The SICCAR platform, which is being jointly developed with the Scottish Government CivTech® unit, is designed specifically for cross-agency working. It builds on existing, proven, blockchain technology to create a trusted digital environment that allows people and organisations to collaborate and share information securely.

In terms of its specific use, SICCAR aims to assist civil servants process licensing permit applications and enforcement. There is great demand for solution in this field, as more than 180 Scottish Government agencies currently manage this service. It is anticipated that SICCAR, currently a proof-of-concept, will be trialled with local governments this year.

SICCAR will drive paper-free, digital-first public service delivery, with an onus on putting the user first. It aims to reduce administration and duplication costs, whilst improving transparency and confidentiality. The platform applies blockchain technology to support better governance of data. This enables information to be managed in a far more secure and efficient manner compared to conventional paper or digital systems. SICCAR will also ensure information can be shared and validated without unnecessary exposure, putting citizens in control of their own sensitive data.

Working with Sopra Steria during the project's pilot phase will assure the robustness of the solution. The partnership will allow SICCAR to be up-scaled quickly, in order to maximise public services for the benefit of Scottish residents.

There is a strong business case for developing SICCAR, as sharing information sensibly between public sector organisations, in a way that citizens and businesses find acceptable, is the holy grail in maintaining and improving public services.

**Alison McLaughlin, Regional Director, Public Services at Sopra Steria, commented:** *"We are delighted to add SICCAR to our toolkit and to be working with Wallet.Services. Our partnership will investigate how this solution can be deployed to address specific information sharing requirements. Sopra Steria is committed to helping innovative tech startups such as Wallet.Services to solve societal challenges that will benefit the public. We have a strong track record in supporting digital transformation projects and I look forward getting SICCAR ready-for-market."*

**Stuart Fraser, CEO at Wallet.Services, commented:** *"Sopra Steria has an outstanding track record of implementing transformational digital solutions within the public sector using a wide range of technologies. They have the skills, the domain knowledge, the business processes and the size to work effectively with the public sector to pilot and implement significant transformational change quickly and effectively. This partnership allows Wallet.Services to maintain our focus on our key strength - the technology."*



### **About Sopra Steria**

Sopra Steria, a European leader in digital transformation, provides one of the most comprehensive portfolios of end-to-end service offerings on the market: consulting, systems integration, software development, infrastructure management and business process services. Sopra Steria is trusted by leading private and public-sector organisations to deliver successful transformation programmes that address their most complex and critical business challenges. Combining high quality and performance services, added value and innovation, Sopra Steria enables its clients to make the best use of digital technology. With 40,000 employees in more than 20 countries, Sopra Steria had revenue of €3.7 billion in 2016.

For more information, visit us at [www.soprasteria.com](http://www.soprasteria.com)

### **About Wallet.Services and SICCAR**

Edinburgh-based startup Wallet.Services is the market leader in blockchain interoperability, the technology required to enable real-world solutions across different blockchains. These solutions are predicted to be mainstream by 2021, and in use across multi-sectors and across different geographies and jurisdictions. The Wallet.Services SICCAR platform simplifies the development and operation of these solutions specifically for the public sector. SICCAR was devised in response to the CyberSecurity challenge of Scottish Government during the Civtech® Accelerator pilot in 2016. CivTech® itself was devised to harness innovation for the public sector, bringing Tech SMEs together with public sector organisations and expertise.

### **Contacts**

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