



AUSTRIACARD 

read the future



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about business

Austria Card sees itself as an open and competent partner. Business for us means striving for long-term and valuable partnerships and also maintaining and expanding these partnerships.

Our partners' wishes and concerns determine our actions on our path to innovation leadership.

We are continuously determined – inspired by aspirations and faith in the future – to optimize the information and service flows with our business partners. In keeping with the slogan – read the future – Austria Card has a wide selection of useful multi-purpose card solutions to offer. They run the gamut from efficient payment transactions and telecommunication up to secure identification. This diversity is important to us, since it provides you with the freedom to make the right choice.

Take advantage of our range of products, trust our expertise in finding solutions and save your company time and money.

Read the future –
welcome to Austria Card.



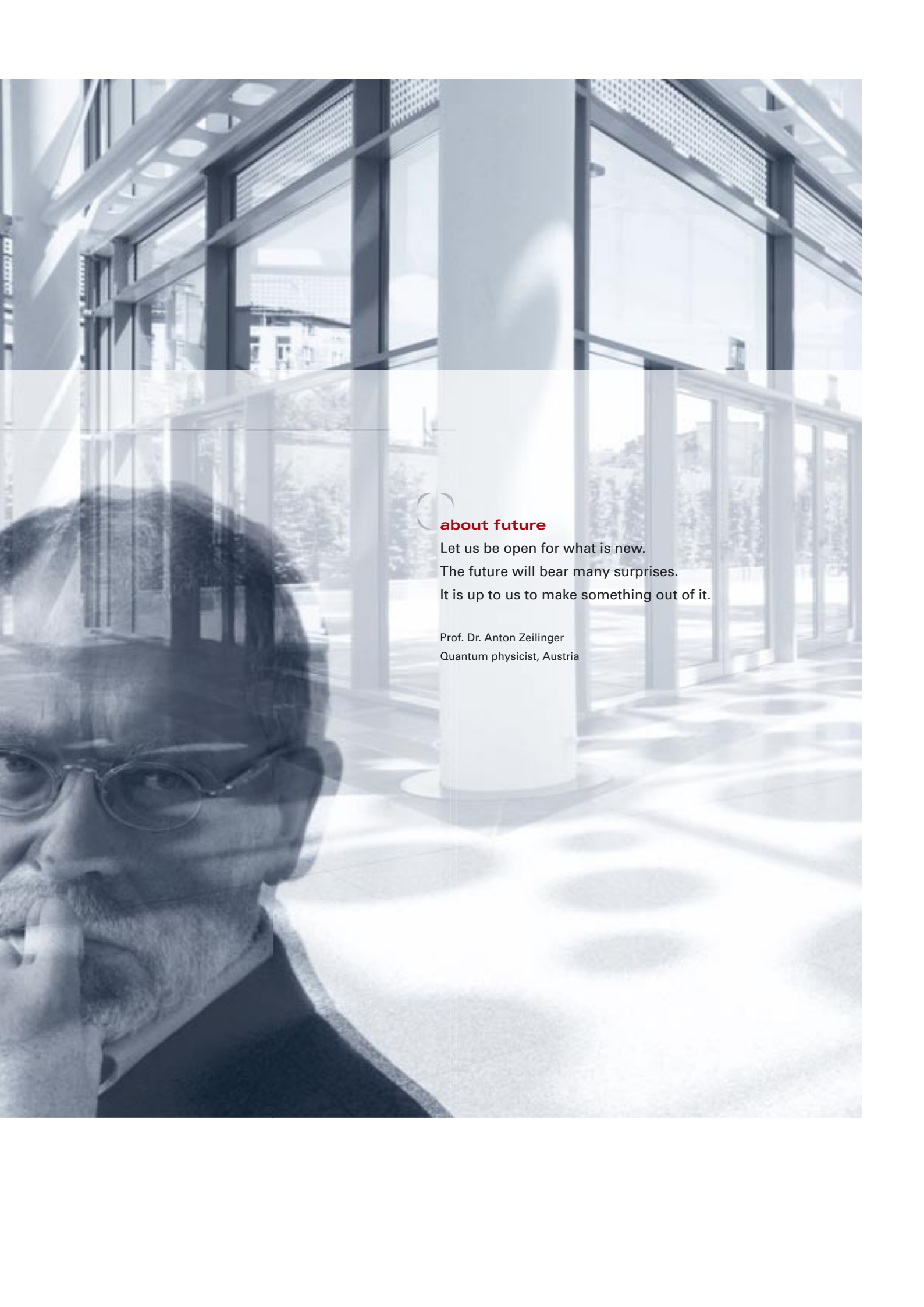


about future

Leaving the door wide open.

Prof. Dr. Karmella Tsepko
Composer, Ukraine





about future

Let us be open for what is new.
The future will bear many surprises.
It is up to us to make something out of it.

Prof. Dr. Anton Zeilinger
Quantum physicist, Austria



about innovation

Innovation is part of our day-to-day business. This is how we make a living and our customers can benefit from it. Over the years, we have made a name for ourselves by providing the entire card industry with trend-setting impulses time and again. For instance, take our extraordinarily environment-friendly PET card which can also – by the way – survive the most extreme temperature fluctuations, and therefore exceeds all expectations and requirements in Scandinavia, unrivalled. Or take our world-wide one-of-a-kind 3D laminating technology that has succeeded – not only superficially - in making the card market “tangibly” more secure. In 2003, the International Card Manufacturers Association (icma) awarded Austria Card with a prize for these exemplary achievements in innovative card development. It is precisely this trendsetting innovation combined with our continuous drive to develop new products and to improve existing ones that has made us the market leader on the Austrian card market and a highly-respected player in the global business world.





about environment

Since a large part of our work involves processing plastics and metals, we are firmly committed to using resources sparingly and to respecting the environment. Therefore, environmental protection is an important principle to Austria Card. It is our task to implement this principle on a daily basis, even if there are other ways of doing business which are easier to follow in the short run. Despite Austria's stringent environmental regulations, moving production to countries with lower environmental standards is not an alternative for us. We would simply be moving the problem without solving it. As a solution-driven company, Austria Card therefore developed its own environmentally friendly way of disposing of the residual material accruing from card manufacturing. We have worked out an intelligent and ecologically-sound manner of using these waste materials, instead of simply disposing of them by thermal processing. For example: We have had 200 tons of PVC residual material reprocessed into 1.3 million meters of spacers used for formwork. That's what we call smart environmental conservation with a future!



about future

We all have our own pole and
we are all trying to find our way.
There are so few yet so many
opportunities to determine one's destiny.

Dr. Victor Boyarsky
Director of the Arctic and Antarctic Institute in
St. Petersburg, Russia





about future

The future lies in the thought processes and innovative ideas of today's youth. This creativity potential must be fostered in order to give our visions a shape.

Dr. Gabriele Zuna-Kratky
Director of the „Technisches Museum Wien“
Austria



about production

Austria Card has state-of-the-art manufacturing facilities and masters unique and groundbreaking printing technologies. Adhering to rigorous standards, our in-house research team develops operating systems for made-to-measure applications. For the time being, it is virtually impossible to produce a card in a more individualized or faster manner.

It is precisely in this aspect that we differ significantly from our competitors. We target individual customer needs and seek and develop solutions together with the customer to meet these needs. We ace in flexibility, and not by the rigid adherence to marketing standardized services. It is precisely this circumstance which makes us the ideal trouble-shooting partner in the fast-spinning card world for both small and large-scale companies alike.

Austria Card is certified for producing and personalizing Diners Club International, MasterCard International and Visa International cards and, consequently, also meets the highest security requirements.





about staff

How does this superior product quality come into being? How can a relatively small company like Austria Card do so well on the global market? It is not only due to our production processes or high-tech manufacturing facility in Vienna, but also to our employees, who fully identify themselves with Austria Card and their work. Every day they are highly-motivated, from their head to the tips of their toes. Our staff members take pride in their work and we are proud of them. We employ more than 300 people, and every single one of them is his or her own quality manager, every single one holds, receives and carries responsibilities. Due to our geographic locations across the world, the number of our employees' mother tongues amounts to almost 20 different languages. Nevertheless, one language applies to all of them: further training at all cost! Austria Card invests a lot into further education and specialized knowledge. All our employees have a high level of education which makes us highly competitive, flexible and fast together.



about future

We touch the future with our hands on a daily basis. We roll and push the future ahead of us like beetles. That is why fortune tellers can tell the future from looking at our hands.

Dimitré Dinev
Writer, Bulgaria/Austria



about future

If tomorrow were not populated by ghosts of the past, if scientists were not preoccupied with how many animal species are becoming extinct and how many languages are about to vanish over the next century, if we believed in the future more than we believe in the past – perhaps we would not be afraid to look into the mirror and greet the new dawn with a smile.

Amanda Aizpuriete
Writer, Latvia



about partnership

Croatia, the Middle East, Norway,
Poland, Sweden, ...

Our versatility enables us to understand and guide each customer "in his or her own world". Of course, this partnership-based method of thinking has to do with our supra-regional corporate structure.

Global management of collective knowledge, the exchange of experience and, of course, the mutual enrichment based on the different perspectives of people, who are all targeting the one and only most important goal: assisting the customer on his path to success. With the highest readiness for innovation on the local as well as on the global market.



about history

Our company was established in 1981 as a personalization center for EC cards and Eurocheques numbering 18 employees at the time.

In 1984, the first equipment for the production of plastic cards - primarily Eurocheque cards - was put into operation.

In 1987, a customized production and administration building was inaugurated. The increasing importance of microchips in cards led to the installation of the first production line for smart cards in 1993. Already in the first year of operation, 2 million chip cards were produced and sold. During the same time period, the opening of foreign markets – primarily in Eastern Europe – was aggressively pursued.

Since 1994, Austria Card has been owned by the Austrian National Bank Oesterreichische Nationalbank (OeNB, central bank of the Republic of Austria). In 1995, the electronic wallet QUICK was developed and deployed for the first time over the entire area of Austria, a first-time feat in world history. Later, a specialist team for the programming of SIM cards for mobile phones was put together. As a competence center for electronic payment transactions, Austria Card developed its own EMV-software (ACE) as the standardized solution in chip-based payment transactions in close cooperation with our market partners.

70 million cards are currently being produced per year by our 320 employees. 70% of the cards produced were exported, primarily to Eastern Europe, the Scandinavian countries and the Middle East.

In April 2003, Austria Card acquired 30% of the shares of the Scandinavian card service supplier ACSC. In September 2004, Austria Card acquired 50% of the personalization center GNC in Germany.



- Austria Card Customers
- Headquarter
- Offices and Regional Contacts

about references

Find a list of reference projects at
www.austriacard.at/references



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Headquarter

Austria Card

Lamezanstraße 4-8
1230 Vienna, Austria
T +43 1 610 65-0
E sales@austriacard.at

Offices

Austria Card Poland

Warsaw Financial Centre
53 Emilii Plater St, 10th floor
00-113 Warsaw, Poland
T +48 22 528 67 77

Austria Card Turkey

Fener Kalamyp Cad.
Belvu Sitesi A2 Blok D:11
81030 Fenerbahce-Kadyköy/Istanbul
Turkey
T +90 216 330 51 59

Regional Contacts

ACSC

Bergkällavägen 36 A
192 79 Sollentuna
Box 980, 191 29 Sollentuna, Sweden
T +46 86 26 60 60

Austria Card Azerbaijan

Parviz Bagmanli
1069, T.Aliyev 112
Baku, Azerbaijan
T +99 41 24 93 82 31

Austria Card Croatia

Robert Kajić
Kustošijski venec 95
10 000 Zagreb, Croatia
T +385 98 35 45 12

GNC Card Services GmbH

Odenwaldstraße 19
63263 Neu-Isenburg, Germany
T +49 89 324 89 02

Austria Card Hungary

Anita Halmosi
Kende utca 8-10
Budapest 1112, Hungary
T +367 70 77 17 319

Austria Card Iran

Saziba
Parya Zaghand
No. 18, 18th Street
Vozara Avenue
Tehran 15117, Iran
T +98 21 88 72 91 66

Norsik AS

Godesetdalen 10
Postboks 283 Forus
4066 Stavanger, Norway
T +47 51 81 70 00

Suomen PA Segenmark Oy

Vallikallionkatu 7
02650 Espoo, Finland
T +358 95 91 59 00

Masthead

Publisher: Austria Card GmbH.
Lamezanstraße 4-8
1230 Vienna, Austria,
T +43 1 610 65-0
F +43 1 610 65-700
E sales@austriacard.at
www.austriacard.at

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