

Press release  
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*ForMobile – An EU project to help keep citizens safe:*

## MSAB part of new European standard for mobile forensics

**MSAB, a global leader in forensic technology for mobile device investigations, has for three years been a part of the EU financed project, ForMobile. ForMobile is a consortium of partners, working in collaboration to create an end-to-end mobile forensic investigation chain, striving to improve digital safety, and security in the EU while respecting fundamental rights. “We are very proud to be the only vendor of digital forensic solutions in the project. MSAB has been a vital part in developing the tools, standard, and training to law enforcement agencies all over EU”, says Joel Bollö, CEO of MSAB.**

The ForMobile project kicked off on the 8th of May 2019 in Mittweida, Germany. The consortium includes nineteen institutions, from thirteen European states and two associated countries, representing law enforcement agencies, universities, research institution, standardization institution, and other EU agencies, like Interpol. ForMobile is a research and innovation project under the Horizon 2020 framework programme funding research, technological development, and innovation. The reason for the project is that mobile phones pose a unique challenge for law enforcement agencies, due to the volume and variants in circulation. Over 85% of all crime investigations include evidence from mobile phones.

### **ForMobile’s three major objectives**

The overarching goal of the ForMobile project has been to establish a complete end-to-end forensic investigation chain for mobile devices through three major objectives: Tools, Standard and Training.

- 1) Tools - To develop advanced, innovative tools and software for the successful acquisition, recovery, analysis, and visualization of data.
- 2) Standard - A best practice, standardized process for the mobile phone forensic chain, “from mobile phones to court”.
- 3) Training - To give law enforcement agencies the necessary training to effectively use the new tools and successfully follow the standardized procedures.

The work has been divided into [10 Work Packages](#) that reflect the analysis chain used by security practitioners that examine mobile evidence.

“The aim in this project has been to improve digital safety and security in the EU while respecting fundamental rights. MSAB has been instrumental in supporting and funding research into these efforts to ensure that close attention is paid to the right to privacy as well as to the right to a fair trial. This is also reflected in the development of a new [EU Standards document](#) specifically written to guide law enforcement on mobile forensics covering people, processes, tools, and ethical considerations”, says Joel Bollö, CEO MSAB.

The EU is a connected society. Mobile phones are used to continuously share information, files, and images. Much of this is innocent, but criminals and terrorists use the same channels to communicate. ForMobile tackles this risk and will benefit three key groups; The new tools, standard and training will make the work easier for security practitioners. Research groups will benefit from it through gaining access and insight into the latest information and techniques in the mobile forensic industry. EU Citizens will feel safer and consider Europe a safer and enjoyable place to live.

“The introduction of the tools, supported by the standardized processes and relevant training, means that law enforcement agencies will improve investigative capabilities. Using solutions and methods that did not previously exist, will be feasible for them to recover evidence from encrypted mobile phones, and data stored in cloud services. In addition to incorporating knowledge about cloned phones and anti-forensic methods into the forensic investigation process. Criminals are using mobile phones to communicate, coordinate, organize and execute illegal activities. It is imperative that law enforcement agencies have ways to; access, decode and use the data as evidence - in a safe, trustworthy, and reliable manner”, says Dirk Pawlaszczyk, Project Manager of ForMobile.

### End of project

As the 3-year ForMobile project concludes in June 2022, the project team has met with external stakeholders during a two-day event at the Netherlands Forensic Institute in The Hague on the 28th and 29th of April for presentation of the project results. The final work packages results, the submission of the technical report will be delivered by mid-May and the final review meeting takes place in June. When the project ends the objectives in the project have been reached - the standard has been published, prototypes of tools are ready for exploitation and the pilot training was a success.

### For more information, please contact:

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### About MSAB

*MSAB is the global leader in forensic technology for mobile device examination. MSAB develops high quality, easy-to-use mobile forensic solutions that empower law enforcement agencies and helps them fulfill their missions. MSAB serves a growing number of customers in more than 140 countries across the globe offering them a complete solution to help them achieve long term sustainable success in three areas: extraction, analysis, and managerial control. [www.msab.com](http://www.msab.com)*

### About ForMobile

*ForMobile is funded by the European Commission under the Grant Agreement No.832800. Article (2) of the Horizon 2020 Rules for Participation Regulation No 1290/2013. The European Commission defines the basic idea of the funding by stating that “Horizon 2020 should be implemented with a view to contributing directly to creating industrial leadership, growth and employment as well as citizens' welfare in Europe”. The ForMobile consortium serves this request with its description of action (DoA) and its diverse consortium consisting of 19 partners from 15 different countries representing law enforcement agencies (HO, MIR-PN, KWPP, MPF, PJ), universities (HSMW, TUD, UPat, KSTU), one research institution (FORTH), one standardisation institution (ASI), public bodies (NFI, NMPS, ZITIS), non-profit (PPHS, LIF) and for-profit organizations (MSAB, TLX, SI). The technical tools are developed by the European partners HSWM (Project Coordinator), NFI, TUD, MSAB and ZITIS. [www.formobile-project.eu](http://www.formobile-project.eu)*