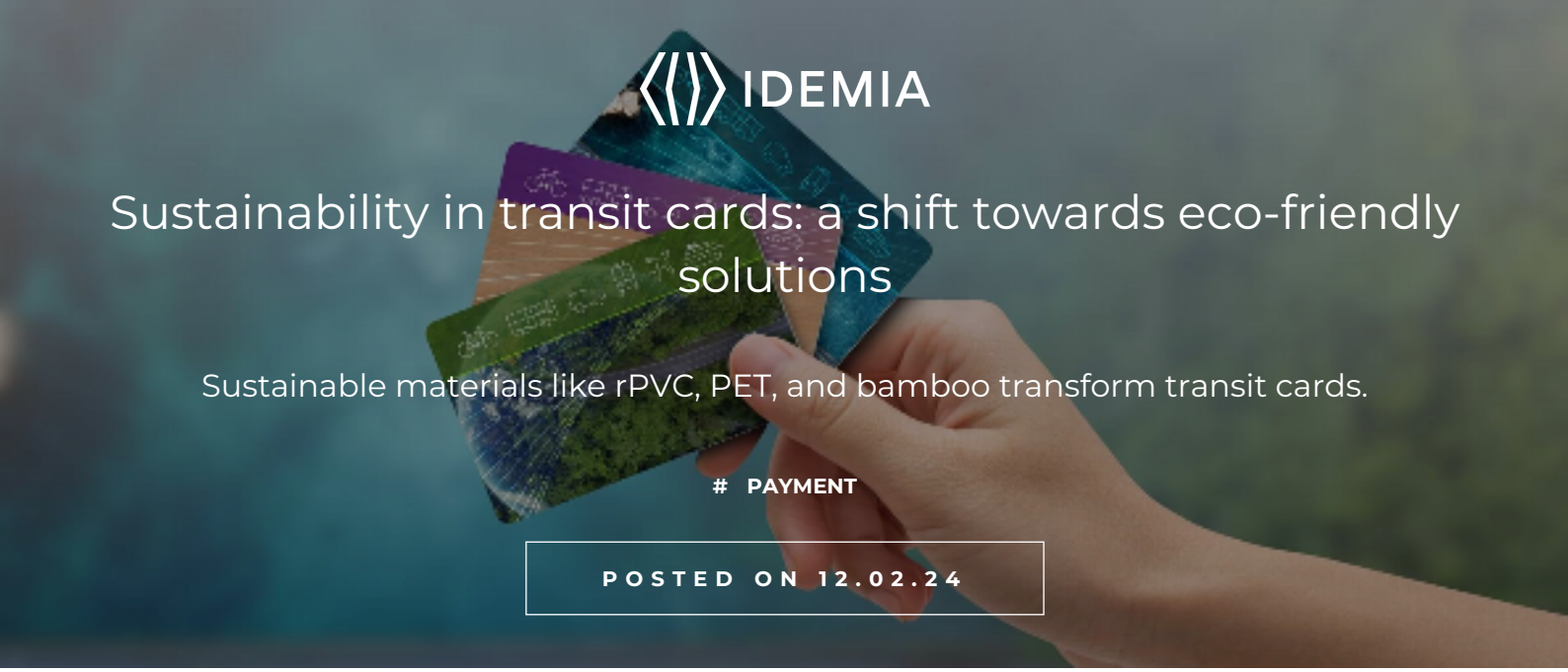

Sustainability in transit cards: a shift towards eco-friendly solutions

Sustainable materials like rPVC, PET, and bamboo transform transit cards.

PAYMENT

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The transit card industry is experiencing a significant transformation driven by sustainability. This shift is a result of cities and nations striving to reduce their environmental impact and create lasting change. Public transportation systems adopting of greener, more efficient solutions around the world not only answers environmental policies but also meets the growing demand for eco-friendly practices among commuters.

Transit cards have traditionally been made from various materials, each with different environmental impacts. Among these materials, rPVC (recycled and recyclable plastic), PET (recyclable plastic), and bamboo have emerged as leading options for sustainability.

rPVC transit cards: 100% recycled and recyclable

The introduction of recycled PVC (rPVC) in transit card production marks another significant step towards sustainability. Utilizing rPVC significantly **reduces carbon emissions, energy, and water consumption** as it is made of 100% recycled and recyclable materials originating from printing and packaging industrial wastes. This approach not only lessens environmental impact but also demonstrates a commitment to resource conservation.

PET for durable and recyclable transit cards

PET (**chlorine-free recyclable plastic**) is known for its durability and recyclability, making it an eco-friendly choice for transit cards. Its resistance to wear extends the lifespan of cards, reducing the need for frequent replacements and thus conserving resources. The recyclability of PET supports a circular economy by **minimizing waste and the reliance on virgin materials**. Additionally, its lightweight nature lowers transportation costs and reduces the carbon footprint associated with distribution. By using PET, transit systems can enhance operational efficiency and promote environmental stewardship.

Bamboo: a renewable alternative for transport operators

Wood, particularly from certified sustainably managed bamboo forests, offers a renewable alternative to traditional card materials. Bamboo's regenerative nature **ensures a continuous supply without depleting natural resources**. Bamboo processing is also energy efficient, reducing carbon emissions. By adopting bamboo, a fast-growing and highly renewable resource, transit systems have a means to reduce plastic use while minimizing deforestation and supporting

sustainable practices.

As sustainability becomes a priority for businesses all around the globe, transit system operators can play their part in this change by moving towards greener card materials, alongside broader initiatives to modernize infrastructures and equipment. The adoption of rPVC, PET and bamboo represents a significant shift towards a more eco-conscious future—beyond the positive environmental effect of eco-friendly materials adoption, the symbolic impact of putting these cards in billions of transit user pockets conveys the strong commitment of transport operators to a greener future. Now is the time to make the switch and help shape more sustainable transit systems, one card at a time.