

## Israeli start-up Passportcard planning UK launch

Travel insurance start-up Passportcard is intending to be operational in the UK by the end of 2016.

[/post/news/2447079/israeli-start-up-passportcard-planning-uk-launch](#)

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The Passportcard product, which allows travel insurance claims to be settled in real time, is facilitated by a debit card given to customers when purchasing travel insurance.

When customers need to make a claim abroad they call a helpline and the card is topped up with the relevant funds, for example, to pay for a doctor's visit. After the payment is made the claim is closed.

Started in Israel, Passportcard, a joint venture between White Mountains Insurance group and managing general underwriter David Shield, has also launched in Germany with Allianz. It intends to launch in Canada in April.



Speaking to *Post*, Passportcard CEO Sharon Haran, *pictured right*, said large UK underwriting players had expressed an appetite for the product.

He was unsure if Passportcard would partner with just one insurer in the UK, given the fragmented market and the lack of one dominant player.

Haran said Passportcard plans to further digitalise its offering including exploring the use of Apple Pay or Google Wallet.

The product could also be extended beyond travel insurance into other lines of business and Passportcard is testing its use in roadside assistance in Germany.