



<http://epractice.eu/>

## European ePractice Newsletter

N. 278 - 12 May 2009

**>> European eGovernment Awards 2009 submission open**

European eGovernment Awards 2009 cases can now be submitted online. All public sector organisations from EU Member States, EFTA countries and candidate countries are invited to submit their good practice cases to the awards scheme. You can submit your case in the following categories: eGovernment supporting the Single Market, eGovernment empowering citizens, eGovernment empowering businesses, and eGovernment enabling administrative efficiency and effectiveness. Submissions must be received no later than 10 June 2009 at 16:00 CET. Only online submissions via [www.epractice.eu/awards](http://www.epractice.eu/awards) are eligible. Read more at the [awards website](#).

---

### Latest Cases

- [Petrol Stations Geoportal \(MITYC\)](#) | 6 May 2009 | Spain
- [Red SARA](#) | 3 May 2009 | Spain
- [CLIQUES para a Inclusão - CLICKS for Inclusion](#) | 29 April 2009 | Portugal

---

### Petrol Stations Geoportal (MITYC)

Geoportal MITYC provides citizens with information about gas prices and public opening hours in gas stations, in order to reduce the amount of money spent in cars and in gasoline. It disposes of a version for mobiles phones, PDA's and a version for GPS navigators in order to allow drivers to get information about prices while they are driving. A version for TDTI has been developed to get this information in new TDTI channels.

---

### Red SARA

Red SARA allows the interconnection of the Spanish Public Administrations enabling the cooperation and the exchange of information and services between them. Ministries, Autonomous Communities, Local Entities and other public bodies may connect their networks through Red SARA in a secure, reliable, capable and flexible way. The IP addressing plan facilitates the interconnection of the Spanish Public Administrations through Red SARA.

Besides, thanks to the link between Red SARA and the transeuropean network sTESTA, the Spanish Public Administrations may be interconnected with the Commission Services and administrations of other Member States for the participation in cross-border European services.

Red SARA is a relevant interoperability infrastructure for the development of eGovernment in Spain. It answers the statement in Law 11/2007 about the creation of a communications platform to interconnect Spanish Public Administrations and with the networks of European Institutions and of other Member States in order to facilitate the exchange of services and information between them.

Some relevant features of Red SARA are the following:

- **Reliability:** Red SARA is designed with VPLS (*Virtual Private LAN Services*) which allows high capacity for data transmission. Its design and technologies allow Red SARA to offer high availability which is complemented with a support centre operating 24 x 7 and with demanding SLAs.
- **Security:** Red SARA implements a range of security measures. All traffic is ciphered through the backbone and it is possible to establish VPNs.
- **Capacity:** Red SARA has a bandwidth of 1+1 Gbps between Ministries and Data Centres and 100 + 34 Mbps in Autonomous Communities. This allows ensuring capacity enough to satisfy demanding requests by existing applications and services as well as new coming eGovernment services.
- **Quality of Service:** VPLS technology allows quality service mechanisms to handle each type of traffic according to its nature (voice, video, data)
- **Point-Multipoint:** Red SARA is designed with a connectivity model of point-multipoint so that there is no central node where all connections converge and in this way possible single points of failure are eliminated.
- **Flexibility:** Red SARA is designed to be able to evolve according to the needs of the administration.

Some relevant services of Red SARA:

- MultiPKI Validation Platform for eID and eSignature Services <http://www.epractice.eu/en/cases/afirma>
- Identity and Residence Data Verification Systems <http://www.epractice.eu/en/cases/identityresidence>
- Spain's Change of Address Communication System <http://www.epractice.eu/en/cases/changeofaddress>
- Gateway for On-Line Payments <http://www.epractice.eu/en/cases/pagos>
- Application for jobs in the Spanish Administration <http://www.epractice.eu/en/cases/ips>

---

## **CLIQES para a Inclusão - CLICKS for Inclusion**

The "Clicks for Inclusion", sponsored by the Évora County Association of Municipalities and financed by the Operational Program Human Potential, closed its training activities in March of 2009.

Having as main objectives the promotion of training to develop personal and social skills of young institutionalized children, unemployed people, ex-drug users and recipients of income from Social Security, the project, whose implementation and promotion were being provided by a Mobile Internet Access Unit, aimed to promote the skills of beneficiaries in areas such as citizenship, the organization of democratic states, Environmental and Consumer Education. 8 training courses were completed in the context of the project for a total of 110 beneficiaries.

In addition to innovative teaching methods applied, using ICTs, this project took on a character representing a first incursion of the Évora County Association of Municipalities in the area of direct intervention for social development and promotion of training for a very specific audience.

A partnership has been formed, in order to promote the success of this project, with organizations whose mission is directly geared to supporting these fringes of population. More specifically partners were 2 shelters for children and adolescents, 1 institution with the host centre for children and young people as well as work in the area of family education and 1 of the Portuguese Red Cross delegations.

Editor's Choice of the week: [Agrega, federated access to educational content](#)

---

## Latest News

- [BE: Walloon Administration website renewed](#) | 11 May 2009 | Belgium
  - [BG: GIS and GSD training for municipal administrations ICT directors](#) | 11 May 2009 | Bulgaria
  - [EU: Air quality database AirBase updated with 2007 data](#) | 11 May 2009 | EU Institutions
  - [LV: Advice on the safe use of the Internet by the VBTAl](#) | 8 May 2009 | Latvia
  - [EU: Commissioner Reding urges for preventive action against cyber attacks](#) | 8 May 2009 | EU Institutions
  - [ES/GL: INTERNETamiga promotes safe Internet use among teenagers](#) | 8 May 2009 | Spain | Central and South America | North America
  - [SE: eGovernment Delegation established](#) | 8 May 2009 | Sweden
  - [UK: Moneyspeak: a Directgov interactive tool is launched](#) | 6 May 2009 | United Kingdom
  - [HR: Broadband development: Croatia keeps the momentum going](#) | 6 May 2009 | Croatia
  - [IT: Italy awards its first Prize on Sustainable Projects and Green Public Procurement](#) | 6 May 2009 | Italy
  - [CY: Introduction of broadband internet connections via satellite at local level](#) | 6 May 2009 | Cyprus
  - [EU: Preparing to the effects of climate change](#) | 5 May 2009 | EU Institutions
- 

## BE: Walloon Administration website renewed - 11 May 2009

A revamped version of the website of the Administration of the Belgian region of Wallonia (SPW) '[spw.wallonie.be](http://spw.wallonie.be)', officially went live on 4 May 2009.

This modernised version of the SPW website pursues a twofold aim: to guide citizens through the Walloon Administration while showcasing the governmental achievements.

As a guide, the website intends to provide precise and efficient answers to any citizen query regarding the Walloon Administration.

Among the main tools and information now accessible from the SPW are:

- A directory providing contact details for all the Directorates of the SPW;
- Flowcharts;
- An inventory of the Administration's missions;
- The flagship projects of the General Directorates;
- The SPW news;
- The latest publications available online.

The regional government and Public Service achievements will be highlighted and disseminated by means of online articles, news in brief, videos and pictures.

### Further information:

- [Official press release - Walloon Regional portal 'Wallonie.be' \(in French\)](#)
  - [Website of the Walloon Administration \(in French\)](#)
- 

## BG: GIS and GSD training for municipal administrations ICT directors - 11 May 2009

**In the national conference and training for regional and municipal development policies in Information Society, which took place from 23 to 25 April in Veliko Tarnovo, directors of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) in municipal administrations were trained to work with geo-information systems and use geo-spatial data.**

This was the second seminar following a study of ICT directors of Central Government on the draft operational balance of geo-information systems (GIS) and geo-spatial data (GSD) and on the Public Administration funding Operational Programme "Administrative Capacity". Funds for research and analytical activities for the project were allocated by the European Social Fund and basic software for testing the interoperability of GIS was provided by the European Regional Development Fund.

The project has been won and implemented by the State Agency for Information Technologies and Communications.

Among the training topics were:

- spatial data and technologies;
- trends in the development of geo-information systems and requirements of the European Directive INSPIRE;
- recommendations for interoperability of spatial data;
- international best practices; and,
- GIS interoperability.

Within the national conference organised by the Coordination Council for the Information Society, the new information system cadastre and registry were presented; records systems and their integration with other information systems were discussed together with the practical guidelines for the certification of information systems.

**Further information:**

- [Official press release - State Agency for Information Technology and Communications](#) (in Bulgarian)
- 

## **EU: Air quality database AirBase updated with 2007 data - 11 May 2009**

**The European air quality database 'AirBase' now holds the latest air quality (meta-)data of the year 2007, as reported by the participating countries through the Exchange of Information 2008 data collection.**

This update contains measurement data, (re)submitted historical data and derived statistics.

The data has become available through the interactive [AirBase viewer](#) of the European Environment Agency (EEA) as well as through the Data file download page on the EEA web site.

### **AirBase, the public air quality database system of the EEA**

AirBase contains air quality monitoring data and information submitted by more than 30 participating countries throughout Europe.

The air quality database consists of multi-annual time series of air quality measurement data and their statistics for a representative selection of stations and for a number of pollutants. It also contains meta-information on the involved monitoring networks, their stations and their measurements.

The database covers geographically all countries from the European Union, the EEA member countries and some EEA potential candidate countries. The EU Member States are bound to report under the [Council Decision 97/101/EC](#) establishing a reciprocal exchange of information (EoI) and data from networks and individual stations measuring ambient air pollution within the Member States.

As for the EEA member countries and cooperating countries which include EU (potential) candidate countries and the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) states, they either committed to report to the EEA following this EU-legislation, or develop the appropriate measuring and reporting infrastructure following EEA's criteria of the [EuroAirnet](#) programme (European Air Quality monitoring network, the data exchange platform for the non EU countries set up by the EEA). All data reported within EuroAirnet context is included in the database.

A country support tool - the [DEM](#), Data Exchange Module - is available and can be used to deliver each year the EoI data to AirBase.

AirBase data can be queried and retrieved through a web-based user interface. It is also possible to download AirBase data dumps.

Information on the annual AirBase updates can be found in the yearly technical reports and connected maps, figures and tables. In the most recent reports, the air quality status in Europe has been described on base of the AirBase data.

**Further information:**

- [Official announcement - European Topic Centre on Air and Climate Change \(Eionet\)](#)
  - [EEA AirBase viewer](#)
  - [Council Decision 97/101/EC](#)
  - [EuroAirnet](#)
  - [Air Quality Exchange Module \(AQ-DEM\)](#)
- 

## **LV: Advice on the safe use of the Internet by the VBTAI - 8 May 2009**

**Latvian Secretariat's Net-Safe project of Special Assignments Minister for Electronic Government Affairs participated in the State's Inspectorate for the Protection of Children's rights (VBTAI) from 22-24 April 2009**

According to information provided by the VBTAI, parents are increasingly concerned about the potential risks of Internet-use from their children. Even more parents are turning to helpline in order to ask psychologists about Internet safety and their children's protection.

For this reason parents in Latvia can receive counseling from VBTAI psychologists by calling the 80006008 hotline. In turn, the Net-Safe project invites experts to send an email to [info@drossinternets.lv](mailto:info@drossinternets.lv) in order to discuss all relative issues. Secure Internet specialists will answer questions on general computer security settings and will indicate how children should act when they receive a threat about illegal and harmful material on the Internet.

"As the Internet has become an integral part of our lives, especially for children and young adults, we are interested in VBTAI action to provide support to parents, informing them of the possible solutions in order to protect themselves and children from the potential threat of the Internet", said Latvian eGovernment Secretary of the Net-Safe project, Maija Katkovska.

The Net-Safe project is focused on children's, youths', teachers' and parents' awareness and education regarding Internet safety. It calls for professionals to inform people on Internet violations, such as hateful language, racism, child pornography and pedophilia, abuse of personal data, financial fraud and other cases.

**Further information:**

- [Official Press Release - Ministry for Electronic Government Affairs of the Secretariat of Special Assignments website](#) (in Latvian)
  - [Official website of the Net-Safe project](#) (in Latvian)
- 

## **EU: Commissioner Reding urges for preventive action against cyber attacks - 8 May 2009**

**In a video posted on her website on 8 May 2009, Viviane Reding, the European Union's Commissioner for Information Society and Media, highlighted the importance of the Member States to act in order to ensure that Europe's electronic communication networks are well protected. She laid emphasis on the fact that European critical information infrastructures are under a constant threat of technical breakdowns and cyber attacks.**

*"The reality of cyber attacks is nowadays quite far from being a game or a proof of intelligence and curiosity. Cyber attacks have become a tool in the hands of organised crime, a means of blackmailing companies and organisations,*

*of exploiting the weakness of people, but also an instrument of foreign and military policy, and globally a challenge to democracy and economy,"* said Viviane Reding, the EU's Commissioner for Information Society and Media, speaking in the EU Ministerial Conference on cyber security that took place on 27-28 April 2009, in Tallinn, Estonia. Representatives of the Member States, the European Commission and experts met and discussed the strategy recently proposed by the Commission for protecting Europe from cyber attacks and disruptions.

*"A one month-long internet interruption in Europe or the US would mean economic losses of at least 150 billion euros,"* stressed Commissioner Reding. As the functioning of the European economy and daily life depend on the smooth operation of the communication networks, the protection of those networks is of highest priority. At present, Member States would implement different approaches and have different capacity to respond to a potential network breakdown.

*Although the EU has created an agency for network and information security, called ENISA, this instrument remains mainly limited to being a platform to exchange information and is not, in the short term, going to become the European headquarters of defense against cyber attacks,"* warned Commissioner Reding.

In her [video message](#), Commissioner Reding prompted for action to ensure that the EU is protected by a strong and effective cyber security strategy.

#### Further information:

- [Official press release - Europa Press Release Rapid](#)
- [Original video from the official website of the Commissioner for Information Society and Media, Viviane Reding](#)

---

## ES/GL: INTERNETamiga promotes safe Internet use among teenagers - 8 May 2009

**The worldwide "INTERNETamiga" initiative has been launched on 4 May 2009 in the aim to promote the safe, responsible and beneficial use of the Internet by teenagers. Any educational entity and other bodies are welcome to participate in the initiative which will run until 17 May 2009, the "Internet Day".**

"INTERNETamiga" consists of a range of educational online activities available on specific websites in the form of competitions. Three themes are being addressed, namely:

- **"Find out!"** to identify and learn about the enlightening and positive uses of the Internet, and to investigate the many, alternative leisure, cultural and learning uses which are not very widely known.
- **"Express your opinion!"** to offer the possibility to think about and be aware of the rights of the Child in the "Internet context", as well as to develop the children's right to participate online by voicing their opinion on which rights are essential in a digital environment.
- **"Act!"** to propose a proactive attitude towards cyber-bullying, its prevention, its origins and consequences, as well as to raise awareness on one's rights, duties and responsibilities in concrete situations of cyber-bullying.

Over 10 countries joined the project which is of high relevance in the context of the "Internet Day" or "World International Telecommunications and Information Society Day" on 17 May. The purpose of this Day is to help raise awareness of the possibilities that the use of the Internet and other information and communication technologies (ICT) can bring to societies and economies, as well as of ways to bridge the digital divide.

Likewise, "INTERNETamiga" has been launched in the pertinent context of the adoption on 20 April 2009 of the European Union's Prague Declaration entitled '[A new European approach for safer Internet for children](#)', and the upcoming twentieth anniversary of the Convention on the Rights of the Child which, in the light of the social changes inherent to the use of the Internet by children, may require a re-interpretation.

The CTIC Foundation (Center for the Development of Information and Communication Technologies in Asturias) is the coordinator of "INTERNETamiga" for Spain under the impetus of the "PantallasAmigas" programme. To coordinate the initiative in the Americas are the non-profit organisations "WiredSafety" for the United States and "El Abrojo" (Uruguay) for Latin America.

#### Further information:

- [Official press release - "INTERNETamiga" initiative \(in Spanish\)](#)
  - [Website of the "INTERNETamiga" initiative \(in Spanish\)](#)
  - [Prague Declaration entitled "A new European approach for safer Internet for children" - ePractice library](#)
  - [CTIC Foundation](#)
  - [Website of the "PantallasAmigas" programme \(in Spanish\)](#)
- 

## **SE: eGovernment Delegation established - 8 May 2009**

**In March 2009, the Swedish Government decided to set up the "E-Delegation" ("E-delegationen" in Swedish) whose remit will be to lead and coordinate the development of eGovernment in the country.**

The E-Delegation consists of the directors of the country's major Public Agencies whose activity intensively relies on IT. The head of the E-Delegation is Mats Sjöstrand, the Director General of the Swedish National Tax Board.

The E-Delegation will contribute to the implementation of the [National Action Plan for the Swedish eGovernment](#). It will furthermore aim to enlarge the prospects for developing more user-friendly interfaces for eServices to citizens and businesses, especially for those services that integrate the processes of several Public Agencies. Other tasks of the E-Delegation's will include guaranteeing a strong privacy protection and supporting eDemocracy.

The E-delegation will moreover work to ensure that eServices are as widely as possible based on open standards, promote the use of software based on open source and seek solutions which gradually free the Public Administration from the reliance on single platforms and solutions.

The development of eGovernment will take place in collaboration between the State and the Swedish Association of Local Authorities and Regions (Swedish acronym: SKL).

The Directive 2009:19 of the Ministry of Finance summarises the mission of the E-Delegation as follows:

- Formulate a draft strategy for the Public Agencies' work in the field of eGovernment. The draft will be presented to the Government by 30 September 2009 at the latest.
- Coordinate eGovernment projects and monitor their efficiency, as well as their impact on citizens, entrepreneurs and employees.
- Assist the Government regarding eGovernment cooperation at European Union level.
- Coordinate the Public Administration IT standardisation while assisting the Government's work at international level in this area.
- Submit interim reports and proposals to the Government, as well as a final report, no later than 31 December 2014.

"New technologies create opportunities for a greater involvement from individuals, organisations and businesses in the development of the Administration and the production of public services. Strengthening eGovernment is not just about efficiency, it is also about strengthening democracy and creating good conditions for the re-use of the information available in the public sector." said Mats Odell, the Minister for Local Government and Financial Markets. "I am therefore very pleased that the E-Delegation can now get started with their work so that we can achieve the objectives set down by the Government and regain a leading position in eGovernment." he said.

In the recent years, the Swedish Government has taken a number of actions to raise the overall quality and accessibility levels of eGovernment. The introduction of eInvoicing has been completed. For the year 2009, the Government has placed particular emphasis on intensifying the use of eProcurement, so as to simplify the procurement process while promoting cross-border trade.

### **Further information:**

- [Official press release - Department of Finance \(in Swedish\)](#)
  - [Directive 2009:19 of the Ministry of Finance on the eGovernment Delegation - released on 6 April 2009 \(in Swedish\)](#)
  - [ePractice news - Major eGovernment reform announced \(January 2009\)](#)
-

## UK: Moneyspeak: a Directgov interactive tool is launched - 6 May 2009

**Directgov has launched 'Moneyspeak'; a new, free and simple tool which can be shared via social networking sites.**

'Moneyspeak' is an interactive tool that places confusing and alarming every day economic terms into context.

This tool (or application) has two functions:

1. A search bar that can be used to enter a financial word or phrase: this tool then picks up relevant references from across the web;
2. 'Moneyspeak' identifies information relating to the chosen search term by linking to the relevant Directgov pages.

Jayne Nickalls, Directgov Chief Executive, said: "Directgov receives more than 18 million visits per month. By creating flexible tools that work outside of our site, such as Moneyspeak, we can make Directgov even more accessible."

### **Background Information:**

Directgov is a website of the UK Government that provides citizens with essential government information and online services. This is done by closely collaborating with ministerial departments and non-departmental public bodies to collate key information, all in one place. Topics covered by Directgov comprise: renewing one's car tax, finding a job or getting help with mortgage payments.

### **Further information:**

- [Official press release - Website of Directgov](#)
- ['Moneyspeak' tool](#)

---

## HR: Broadband development: Croatia keeps the momentum going - 6 May 2009

**Having in mind the late start of broadband development in the Republic of Croatia, keeping the high level of growth represents the prerequisite for approaching the EU Member States average level of density of broadband Internet.**

"The determination of the Government to build a sound information infrastructure as well as recent statistical data represents the best indication that Croatia keeps the momentum going", according to a recent press release from the Central State Administrative Office for e-Croatia.

The Republic of Croatia was one of the countries in which the development of broadband started with a considerable delay. Namely, in 2003 there were only 4 400 broadband Internet connections and a level of density of 0.01%.

At the end of 2004, the Government of the Republic of Croatia decided to introduce concrete measures in order to transform Croatian society into an Information Society. In order to allow the development of broadband - as the basic information infrastructure - it has introduced sound and solid legislative framework and begun drafting the first national Strategy for the development of broadband access. Furthermore, it has stimulated the development of broadband in the underdeveloped and isolated areas.

The basic goal of the Government's endeavours was to reach higher density of broadband Internet connections. Having in mind that the Government started such work from the scratch, it needed to run twice as fast as others; that is, to reach as high as possible level of growth.

On 31 December 2008, the Republic of Croatia reached the number of 683 287 broadband Internet connections. Out of this number, 524 683 connections were through immobile network, whereas 158 524 were through mobile networks. Thus, a 15.4 % level of density of broadband Internet connections was achieved.

According to the Central State Administrative Office for e-Croatia, the main reason for satisfaction behind these data is the achieved level of growth of 16.74%, in the first half of 2008. In comparison with the EU Member countries for the same period, Croatia reached almost twice a higher growth. "These data represent the best indication of the desire of

Croatia to run as fast as it can to reach the EU Member countries level of growth of the Internet connections." the press release states.

"The Government of the Republic of Croatia has recognised the significance of broadband for growth and development of knowledge and economy in general. If we remind ourselves that we have surpassed the number of broadband connections recorded in 2003 for as much as 155 times, we can, with certainty, conclude that we are witnessing the realisation of the construction of information highway, but also of the efficient legal and regulatory framework governing this area. At the same time, these results are also an encouragement to continue investing into the development of broadband, as the area of key importance for short- and middle-term recovery of economy, but also for our long-term future", said the State Secretary of the Central State Administrative Office for e-Croatia, Igor Lučić.

**Further information:**

- [Official press release - Central State Administrative Office for e-Croatia](#)
- [Report "Broadband Internet access in the Republic of Croatia - Status at the end of 2008"](#)

---

## **IT: Italy awards its first Prize on Sustainable Projects and Green Public Procurement - 6 May 2009**

**Consip and the Italian Ministry of Economy and Finance (MEF) recently awarded in Rome the first Prize on "Sustainable Projects and Green Public Procurement (GPP)".**

The initiative aims at highlighting the Italian excellences, both public and private, in the field of environmental sustainability.

The Awarding Committee - which included representatives from MEF, Consip, Ministry of the Environment, Ministry for Economic Development and Confindustria (entrepreneurs association) awarded two public administrations (ex aequo), the Sardinia Region and the Prisons Department of the Ministry of Justice, for the public administration category, and Cisco Systems Italy, for the enterprises category.

The prize - which consists of a real live tree to be planted in the winners' premises or to be donated to a public park - was awarded according to the following criteria:

- to the Prisons Department, for an innovative sustainable project on renewable energy involving detainees who have been specifically trained to be able to install and maintain solar and photovoltaic systems.
- to the Sardinia regional government, for its efforts to promote and disseminate GPP best practices among the local authorities in the Mediterranean island, using Italian expertise on the subject and European funds.
- to Cisco Systems Italy, for its adoption of a comprehensive environmental strategy supervised by an ad hoc Eco-Board aimed at promoting sustainable policies and energy efficiency products and services.

The Award Committee, given the high quality of other participating projects, has also awarded seven honourable mentions to other administrations and enterprises.

During the awarding ceremony, Consip presented its studies on the estimated public savings achievable through the use of environmentally sustainable IT hardware and office appliances and on the estimated savings on CO2 emissions.

**Background information:**

Consip is a company owned by the Italian Ministry of Finance. Consip's mission is to support the development and management of innovative ICT projects for the Ministry of Economy and Finance in accordance with the eGovernment guidelines and to support Italian Public Administration by providing innovative tools and simplified processes in the procurement area.

**Further information:**

- [Official press release - Consip website \(in Italian\)](#)

---

## **CY: Introduction of broadband internet connections via satellite at local level - 6 May 2009**

**On 21 April 2009, the Minister for Communications and Works, Mr. Nikos Nikolaidis, inaugurated the installation of two broadband internet connection systems via satellite in the communities of Kapedes and Odou.**

These are the first two communities served within the framework of a Government's policy to provide fast Internet access for free to communities that do not feature this facility yet. According to Government's plans, connectivity shall be provided via satellite and will be financed based upon a relevant contract signed on 23 December 2008 with a satellite operator licensed by the Governments of Greece and Cyprus.

Currently, 153 out of a total of 354 communities in Cyprus do not yet have a broadband Internet connection, due to their small size and further relevant reasons. Consequently, their population lacks the opportunity to use the Internet effectively, and this occurs, even though a total of 25 communities maintain primary schools and another 25 of them maintain medical and youth centers.

According to the Managing Director of the satellite operator, all 25 communities with schools will have been connected to the Internet by September 2009 while efforts will continue in order to achieve, the quickest possible, full coverage of all 153 communities.

### **Further information:**

- [Ministry of Communications and Works - Original Press Release \(in Greek\)](#)

---

## **EU: Preparing to the effects of climate change - 5 May 2009**

**On 1 April 2009 the European Commission presented a White Paper outlining concrete actions needed to strengthen the Union's capacity to adapt to the effects of climate change in a two-phase strategic approach.**

According to recent findings, the impact of climate change will be more substantial and swifter than it was indicated in the past by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change in its 2007 report. The consequences will vary from one region to another, therefore, most adaptations measures need to be taken nationally and regionally.

The White Paper presents a framework with which the European Union and its Member States can prepare for the impacts of climate change. According to its strategic approach, the first phase (covering the period 2009-2013) will try to increase knowledge on the issue and to integrate adaptation to important EU policies. It will lay the groundwork for preparing a comprehensive EU adaptation strategy from 2013 and beyond.

The paper also outlines the need for establishing an IT tool by 2011: a Clearing House Mechanism which will contribute to the Shared Environment Information System. According to the Commission, the Clearing House Mechanism will rely on geographical information provided by GMES.

Regarding upcoming actions, the Commission will set up, by 1 September 2009, an Impact and Adaptation Steering Group (IASG) composed of representatives from EU Member States. They will be involved in the drawing up of national and regional adaptation programmes and will consult with representatives from civil society and the scientific community. The community in question will be supported by technical working groups, including one on agriculture.

### **Further information**

- [Original press release - Europa Press Releases Rapid](#)
- [Commission webpage on climate change adaptation](#)
- [Commission webpage on agriculture and climate change](#)
- [EEA Report No 4/2008: Impacts of Europe's changing climate - 2008 indicator-based assessment](#)

## New Factsheets

The 11th Edition of the eGovernment factsheets for Belgium is now available online. We invite you to visit the [relevant section](#) for regular and/or ad hoc updates related to the factsheets.

---

## Latest Publications

- [EU: Analysing and federating the European assistive technology ICT industry](#) | 27 April 2009 | EU Institutions
  - [EU/US: Top-level decisions through public deliberation on the Internet: Evidence from the evolution of Java governance](#) | 27 April 2009 | Germany | United Kingdom | North America
- 

### **EU: Analysing and federating the European assistive technology ICT industry - 27 April 2009**

#### **Description (short summary):**

The report represents the final report of the study, "Analysis of the Assistive Technologies Information and Communication Technologies (AT ICT) industry in Europe" for the European Commission. The global objective of the study has been to gain information as to the state of the EU AT ICT industry and to develop conclusions and recommendations to what steps can be taken to improve the competitiveness of the companies which form this industry.

The report suggests that in order to achieve the objective of promoting and strengthening the EU AT ICT industry, the following basic tenets should be followed:

- Network members should include both large and small industry players. It needs the voices of both multinationals and SMEs to be successful.
- Geographical coverage should cover all EU member states, for example via connections to existing national organisations, such that representatives of national organizations becoming members of the EU level network.
- Strong support for the implantation and start-up of the network, for example on the form of specific EC policy support action and/or a type of grant to off-set initial start-up costs.
- Good operational financial structure to guarantee continuity. This would be principally financed through member fees and income from network events, activities and services.
- And most importantly, that the EC recognises this network as the key point of contact with the AT ICT industry, and likewise, that the industry values and recognises the network as their voice to the EC.

**Number of pages:** 189

---

### **EU/US: Top-level decisions through public deliberation on the Internet: Evidence from the evolution of Java governance - 27 April 2009**

#### **Description (short summary):**

This study found internet-enabled public deliberation having a direct impact on top-level decisions and it identified institutional mechanisms by which this occurs. Most government initiatives aimed at promoting online deliberation all short of expectations. The participatory governance model developed in the current study presents design and process parameters along which more interactive and engaging online experiences can be modeled. The applicability of the propositions is demonstrated by systematically collecting online data and analyzing public deliberation during

the evolution of Java governance. Self-selection of participants and opposing views, mutual adjustment, and high influence combined with incremental decision-making were shown to be critical for institutionalizing a broadly supported governance approach.

In order to understand better how the co-evolution of Internet and democracy can be improved, the present study investigates the following research questions: (1) *does Internet-enabled public deliberation have an impact on top-level decision-making* and (2) *are there discernible patterns or mechanisms by which public deliberation is incorporated into top-level decision-making?*

The study developed and tested a novel ICT-driven methodology for identifying and tracing processes of public opinion-forming and mobilization on the internet. Deliberation occurred in the natural environment of participants. It demonstrates how processes of opinion-forming and mobilization on the Internet were incidental with changes to the Java governance approach. The methodological approach used a combination of quantitative and qualitative coding techniques to systematically identify and analyze relevant sources on the internet.

**Number of pages:** 14

---

## Upcoming Events

- [CZ: eBusiness Workshop on Innovative Business Models Enabled by ICT](#) | 13 May 2009 | Czech Republic
  - [NO: PEPPOL Conference Public Procurement for the Future 2009](#) | 18 - 20 May 2009 | Norway
  - [NO: Hands-on-workshop with the PEPPOL Infrastructure](#) | 20 May 2009 | Norway
  - [FR: Health Information Technologies 2009](#) | 26 - 28 May 2009 | France
  - [PL: European Forum on Electronic Signature 2009](#) | 03 - 05 June 2009 | Poland
  - [UK: CIS User Forum and 1st Pan-European Workshop](#) | 04 - 05 June 2009 | United Kingdom
  - [PL: ICVP09 - International Conference on Virtual Patients](#) | 05 - 06 June 2009 | Poland
  - [FI: International Conference: Beyond the dawn of Innovation \(BDI\)](#) | 15 - 17 June 2009 | Finland
  - [NL: INSPIRE Conference 2009](#) | 15 - 19 June 2009 | Netherlands
  - [DE: Access to Environmental Information Freedom of Information in Favour of Environmental Protection?](#) | 18 - 19 June 2009 | Germany
  - [IT: Cybertherapy 14 and Cyberpsychology 2009](#) | 21 - 23 June 2009 | Italy
  - [RO: E-Health and Bioengineering Conference 2009](#) | 17 - 18 September 2009 | Romania
  - [FR: Smart Event 2009](#) | 22 - 25 September 2009 | France
- 

## **CZ: eBusiness Workshop on Innovative Business Models Enabled by ICT - 13 May 2009**

The European eBusiness Support Network for SMEs (eBSN) is an eBusiness policy coordination platform, bringing together decision makers and public policy experts in the field of eBusiness, in order to share information and to discuss strategic policy direction. Its ultimate goal is to improve the effectiveness of public SME policies in fostering competitiveness by promoting the innovative use of ICT.

A crucial factor for improving the competitiveness and raise new opportunities for SMEs, is their integration into global digital supply chains through the implementation of eBusiness practices. Nonetheless, the great potential of ICT uptake is still largely underexploited by European SMEs.

This workshop will focus on demonstrating the concrete business case for ICT-uptake and eBusiness, through a number of convincing show-cases of European SMEs and launch a debate on relevant challenges and policies.

The workshop will be simultaneously translated into English and Czech. The agenda of the event can be downloaded from [here](#).

Registration to the event is free and can be performed [online](#). Early registration though is recommended as there is a limit of available places, 260.

**Event email:** [contact@epme.eu](mailto:contact@epme.eu)

Event email: [contact@epme.eu](mailto:contact@epme.eu)  
Event website: [www.epme.eu](http://www.epme.eu)  
Country: Czech Republic  
City/Location: Prague  
Organiser: European eBusiness Support Network, Adetef, P riscope

---

## **NO: PEPPOL Conference Public Procurement for the Future 2009 - 18 - 20 May 2009**

Public procurement giving tax payers best value for money; enabling innovation; utilising public private partnerships; creating market opportunities for small and medium sized enterprises; including social and environmental considerations; ensuring compliance with the fundamental principles of equal treatment, non-discrimination, mutual recognition, proportionality and transparency; utilising electronic means - this is 'Public Procurement for the Future'.

The 'Public Procurement for the Future' conference starts with a reception on 18 May, continues with a full day program and banquet on 19 May, and closes on 20 May after a full day program. The conference's program can be viewed online at the event's website.

The conference is held in cooperation between the Pan-European Public Procurement Online (PEPPOL) project and BUSINESSEUROPE. It is open for the participation of public administrations attendees, suppliers and others engaged in European innovation through eGovernment and public procurement.

Registration may be performed online by **7 May 2009** and requires the payment of a 4 500 NOK (approximately  510) fee (discounted participation fee for every second participant from the same organisation).

Event email: [anita.hessen@tsforum.no](mailto:anita.hessen@tsforum.no)  
Event website: <http://www.peppol.eu/peppol-conference/conference>  
Country: Norway  
City/Location: Oslo  
Organiser: PEPPOL project and BUSINESSEUROPE

---

## **NO: Hands-on-workshop with the PEPPOL Infrastructure - 20 May 2009**

A "Hands-on-workshop" for developers and IT-architects is offered in parallel to the "[PEPPOL-conference: Public Procurement for the Future](#)". The purpose of the workshop is to allow suppliers of ERP systems, business software, middleware products and systems integrators to get a first hand impression of the software and components provided to ease connection to the PEPPOL Infrastructure.

The workshop is divided into two parts. The first part is devoted to a presentation of the PEPPOL infrastructure, the specifications, components and software libraries. The second part has two separate tracks. Track I is for Java developers wishing to try out the software libraries and build PEPPOL compliant services and clients. In track II two suppliers of middleware products will demonstrate their products and show ways to be connected to the PEPPOL infrastructure with "off-the-shelf" products.

The targeting audience of the workshop is developers and IT-architects representing suppliers of ERP systems, business software, and middleware products and systems integrators. Participants in the workshop are assumed to be familiar with web services security (ws-security, ws-reliablemessaging, X509, OCSP, etc.)

Registration can be performed [online](#). The event is open and free of charge. There is however a limited number of free places and applications can be refused once the number of complimentary places has been exceeded. Therefore early registration is recommended.

Event email: [mhb@itst.dk](mailto:mhb@itst.dk)  
Event website: <http://www.peppol.eu/news/events-1/hands-on-workshop-with-the-peppol-infrastructure>  
Country: Norway  
City/Location: Oslo  
Organiser: Danish National IT and Telecom Agency

---

## FR: Health Information Technologies 2009 - 26 - 28 May 2009

Hit Paris, the European healthcare information technologies congress and exhibition, was launched in 2007 on the initiative of the FHF (French Hospital Federation) in response to the need of Healthcare players for information and training in areas concerning the modernisation and development of information technologies. An integral part of continuous professional training, it has been constructed around three key words: quality, pragmatism and transversality.

The event is set to be a new key event for all those involved in modernising health care. The European Health Information Systems Congress is therefore designed to bring together all actors involved in the process. Congress participants will come from the following fields:

- Institutionals: GIP, DHOS, ARH, Conferences, Agencies
- Hospital decision-makers: General Managers, IT Management, Medical IT Management, CME Presidents, Cluster Managers
- Users (Doctors, pharmacists, health executives)
- Private practice professionals
- Standardisation organisms
- Manufacturers and industrialists, financial providers and consultancy businesses.

Hit Paris 2009 is freely accessible to conference and exhibition participants and all healthcare professionals. The programme and registration for the congress will be available soon. All those interested may find more details and submit their papers [here](#). As for exhibitors, they may also find more details about participation [online](#).

Event email: [info.pgpromotion@fr.cmpmedica.com](mailto:info.pgpromotion@fr.cmpmedica.com)

Event website: <http://www.health-it.fr/index.asp>

Country: France

City/Location: Paris

Organiser: La Fédération hospitalière de France (French Hospital Federation), PG Promotion

---

## PL: European Forum on Electronic Signature 2009 - 03 - 05 June 2009

The European Forum on Electronic Signature (EFPE) is dedicated to the issues of Public Key Infrastructure (PKI) and e-signature related services. The main topic of the 9th edition of the Conference will be "Role of electronic signature in the Information Society".

The conference will consist of main panel and workshops and will be composed of three main modules, namely: Law, Technology, Applications. It will be attended by representatives of Government authorities, Public administration, IT firms, PKI users, Customers of e-signature-related services.

The honorary patronage of the EFPE in previous years was assumed by the Minister of Economy of the Republic of Poland (whose competences include e-signature issues), the Minister of Science and Information Technology, the European Committee for Standardisation (CEN), and the Federal Agency of Information Technologies of the Russian Federation (FAIT).

Registration to the event can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee. Further information about the conditions for participation is available [here](#).

The languages of the event are English, Polish and Russian.

Event email: [info@efpe.pl](mailto:info@efpe.pl)

Event website: <http://www.efpe.eu>

Country: Poland

City/Location: Miedzzyzdroje

Organiser: Unizeto Technologies, National Clearing House SA (KIR SA), West Pomerania University of Technology, Polish Security Printing Works SA

---

## UK: CIS User Forum and 1st Pan-European Workshop - 04 - 05 June 2009

ÆGIS (Open Source-based Generalised Accessibility Support for Mainstream ICT) aims to make devices like desktop computers, mobile phones and internet applications more accessible to people with disabilities: the end-users. The project will produce assistive software that can be built into mainstream devices. It will also create tool kits for software developers; accessible solutions developed using Open Source technologies. ÆGIS is placing users and their needs at the centre of all its ICT developments, and focuses in particular on users with visual, hearing, motion, speech, language and cognitive impairments.

The ÆGIS User Forum, to take place on 4 June 2009, aims at having fruitful discussions between both end-users and application developers, thus better understanding user's needs when wanting to use accessible desktop, mobile and internet applications. It will ensure that future technologies and services will meet the needs of the end-users, and both mainstream and assistive technology developers.

The User Forum's Agenda includes the following topics:

- ÆGIS project at a glance
- ÆGIS technical presentation
- Demos
- Interactive (via discussion) generic use case user scenario presentation

In the same framework, supported by the 7th Framework Programme on Research and Technological Development of the European Union, the ÆGIS Workshop, to take place on 5 June 2009, will present the preliminary findings of the ÆGIS project related to the Use Cases selection and preliminary user requirements, thus stimulating discussions on these issues between both end-users and application developers. Its outcome will be taken into account by the ÆGIS Consortium during the further course of the project. Key stakeholders from relevant areas are expected to participate (such as end users' representatives and organisations, EC representatives, technologies developers, etc.). Experts from relevant fields will have the chance to meet at this workshop.

Some of the topics to be discussed during the Workshop are the following:

- EU Policies on eInclusion
- Demos and Technical Overview
- ÆGIS Draft Use Cases and discussion
- Standardisation and Demonstration Issues on eInclusion

Participation both to the ÆGIS User Forum and Workshop is free of charge and registration may be performed by filling the [User Forum](#) and [Workshop form](#) which should then be sent either by fax to +32 2 736 86 22 or [email](#) before 30 April 2009. However, due to space limitation, participation will be on a first-come first-served basis.

Event email: [info@aegis-project.eu](mailto:info@aegis-project.eu)

Event website: <http://www.aegis-project.eu/>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: Slough, Berkshire

Organiser: ÆGIS (Open Source-based Generalised Accessibility Support for Mainstream ICT)

---

## **PL: ICVP09 - International Conference on Virtual Patients - 05 - 06 June 2009**

The significance of eLearning in academic curricula is constantly taking on. This trend is particularly noticeable in medicine, where various specialized forms of computer aided learning emerge.

Among them are virtual patients - computer simulations of real-life clinical scenarios for the purpose of education in medicine, nursing or dentistry. Representing logically consistent clinical cases, they offer effective means of facilitating problem-based sessions on various learning stages (pre-clinical, clinical years, CME).

Virtual patients grow in importance due to the decreased time spend by patients in hospitals, time constraints of clinical teachers or difficulties in presenting rare diseases. It is very likely that one day, training on virtual patients will become for medical students as natural as flight simulators are for pilots.

The aim of this conference is to promote the usage of virtual patients in medical curricula. It offers a unique opportunity to discuss a wide range of topics related to creation and application of virtual patients.

The conference is open to participants with considerable experience in the field of virtual patients, as well as for those who just started considering including problem-based learning tools at their schools. Registration can be performed [online](#) at the event's website.

Event email: [icvp09@gmail.com](mailto:icvp09@gmail.com)

Event website: <http://icvp09.cm-uj.krakow.pl/>

Country: Poland

City/Location: Krakow

Organiser: under the auspices of the Polish Ministry of Health

---

## **FI: International Conference: Beyond the dawn of Innovation (BDI) - 15 - 17 June 2009**

New innovations rise every day around the globe, both socially and technically-oriented. Therefore, it is of an utmost importance to stay focused and keep on track.

The Conference will bring together academics, business leaders and other professionals from both private and public sectors in order to discuss and share knowledge on innovation-related matters. It will contain competitive paper presentations, inspiring keynote sessions, and panel discussion; special session proposals are welcomed. The BDI event will contain competitive paper presentations, inspiring keynote sessions together with luncheon speeches, interactive panel discussion, and conference tutorial.

The submissions of innovation-related papers may include, but are not limited to, the following sub-themes:

- New Innovative Education Opportunities
- Entrepreneurship as an Innovation Process
- Innovation as Competitive Advantage
- Innovative Revenue Sharing and Business Models
- Innovation Networks and Alliances
- Developing Societies as Innovators
- Best Practices in Innovation Processes
- Innovation Management Policy and Practice
- Innovative Service Concepts (including Public Sector)
- Seamless R&D in Innovation Process
- Incremental and Radial Innovation Strategies
- Building Innovation Corporations
- Innovation Efficiency as Firm Behavior
- The Many Faces of Innovation: Knowledge-Based, ICT-Enabled Strategic, Open, New Product, Sustainable and Social
- Innovation as a State of Mind
- Innovative Organizational Culture
- Facilitating and Sustaining Innovation Environments
- Tools for Innovation
- Idea Management
- Commercialization of Innovation
- Breaking the Innovator's Block
- Creativity Busters and Boosters
- Scalability of an Invention

Registration requires the payment of a [fee](#) (special rates are available for students and accompanying guests). The number of expected participants is around 100.

### **Call for Abstracts:**

Posters and oral presentations based on abstracts welcome. Abstracts of 500- 1500 characters are to be submitted **before 10 April 2009** to [bdi.papers@laurea.fi](mailto:bdi.papers@laurea.fi).

The abstracts must indicate whether the submission is to be presented in a poster format or as an oral presentation at the Conference. The submissions should apply a novel approach of some sort in relation to the subject in hand and present fresh ideas and/or innovative research results. The submission for poster session and other oral presentations (besides competitive paper manuscripts) are not subject to refereed, double-blind peer review.

Event email: [bdi.info@laurea.fi](mailto:bdi.info@laurea.fi)  
Event website: <http://www.laureap2p.fi/bdi/index.html>  
Country: Finland  
City/Location: Hyvinkää  
Organiser: Laurea University of Applied Sciences

---

## **NL: INSPIRE Conference 2009 - 15 - 19 June 2009**

The third INSPIRE conference takes place in conjunction with the [Eleventh International Conference of the Global Spatial Data Infrastructure \(GSDI\) Association](#) entitled "Building SDI Bridges to Address Global Challenges" and the National conference on Dutch SDI: Results and Challenges.

The INSPIRE Conference provides a forum for stakeholders from government, academia and industry to hear about and discuss the latest developments of the INSPIRE Directive.

This year, by teaming with the GSDI and Dutch National conferences, the INSPIRE conference encompasses a conference programme, technical tutorials and workshops, a programme of demonstrations and an exhibition to provide an ideal opportunity to learn and network with like-minded colleagues from around the world.

The focus of the INSPIRE sessions and workshops will be placed on reviewing the progress of the implementation of the [INSPIRE Directive](#) and on the development of Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDIs) in general.

The event's objectives are to:

- View the current state of progress of the INSPIRE legislation;
- Share knowledge on the progress of transposition of the INSPIRE Directive in the Member States;
- Offer an opportunity to the INSPIRE Drafting Teams and Thematic Working Groups to report on the development of the INSPIRE Implementing Rules;
- Further the understanding of the implementation challenges, costs, and benefits of SDIs at national, regional, and local level;
- Identify key issues and opportunities for European SDI projects;
- Build SDI Bridges to Address Global Challenges.

Participation requires prior [online registration](#) at the website of the 11th GSDI Conference. Various fees apply and early rates are available for those booking by 15 March 2009.

Event email: [ec-gis@jrc.it](mailto:ec-gis@jrc.it)  
Event website: [http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu/events/conferences/inspire\\_2009/](http://inspire.jrc.ec.europa.eu/events/conferences/inspire_2009/)  
Country: Netherlands  
City/Location: Rotterdam  
Organiser: European Commission Joint Research Center (JRC)

---

## **DE: Access to Environmental Information Freedom of Information in Favour of Environmental Protection? - 18 - 19 June 2009**

The Symposium will be hosted by the Brandenburg State Commissioner for Data Protection and Access Information. Public bodies are obliged to release information useful for engagement to the environment under the Environmental Information Act in order to support the citizens' commitment to environmental protection. In practice, the act's implementation gives rise to several questions: What exactly does "information about the environment" mean? To what extent are private bodies subject to the act? How far does the Environmental Information Act overlap with the general Freedom of Information legislation?

The International Symposium analyzes the basis of the Environmental Information Act in European law and focuses on the practice in separate states. The use of the right to environmental information by Non-Governmental Organizations, the significance of judicial decisions as well as different legal and institutional models will be portrayed. The conference also will deal with the obligatory publication of environmental information and its realization by means of environmental information systems. Experts from Brandenburg, the federal level, the European Union and its

member states will give insights into current projects and discuss the role of transparency in the field of environmental protection.

The programme of the conference can be downloaded from [here](#). There is no registration fee. Early registration though is recommended as seating is limited; further information on the registration procedure can be found at the event's [website](#).

Event email: [Poststelle@LDA.brandenburg.de](mailto:Poststelle@LDA.brandenburg.de)

Event website: [http://www.lida.brandenburg.de/sixcms/detail.php?id=bb2.c.550422.de%20&template=allgemein\\_lda](http://www.lida.brandenburg.de/sixcms/detail.php?id=bb2.c.550422.de%20&template=allgemein_lda)

Country: Germany

City/Location: Potsdam

Organiser: Alcatel-Lucent Stiftung, the German Association for Law and Information Technology, the Independent Institute for Environmental Concerns

---

## **IT: Cybertherapy 14 and Cyberpsychology 2009 - 21 - 23 June 2009**

The CT14 brings together researchers, clinicians, policy makers and funding agencies to share and discuss advancements in the growing disciplines of CyberTherapy & CyberPsychology. The deadline for the call for abstracts is 15 January 2009.

The conference will seek input from a wider segment of the scientific community, and is interested in attracting experts in clinical therapy and rehabilitation, cognitive sciences, social sciences, and computer sciences interested in the meeting's core topics: emerging applications, design and effects of New Media.

There is also an interest in continuing to design, evaluate and apply cutting edge technologies such as: Ambient Intelligence, Augmented and Mixed Reality, Avatars, Shared Virtual Worlds, Video Game Virtual Reality (VGVR), Web 2.0 and 3.0, 3G and 4G mobile phones.

Oral presentations, posters and symposiums are sought in the following areas: Adaptive Displays; Addictions; Advanced user interfaces; Ambient Intelligence; Anxiety disorders; Augmented reality; Autism; Avatars and autonomous agents; Brain Computer Interfaces; Cognitive assessment; Cyberaddiction; Cyberbullying; Cybersickness; Distance Learning and learning communities; Eating disorders, obesity and body image disturbances; Education; Haptics; Internet; Internet Addiction; Mobile Computing; Mobile Phones; Motor Rehabilitation ; Multiplayer on-line game; Neuropsychological assessment; Pain reduction; Physiological measurement and imaging during immersion in VR; Posttraumatic Stress Disorder; Presence; Psychotherapy; Rehabilitation; Robotics; Schizophrenia; Science 2.0; Serious Gaming; Social Networking; Telehealth and videoconferencing; Training; Videogame applications; Virtual reality applications; Web 2.0.

The accepted abstracts will be published in a regular issue of the journal Cyberpsychology and Behavior (indexed in Medline and PsychInfo) and presentations will be available in PDF on the CT14 web site shortly after the conference. The Proceedings, an important record of the each year's conference, are published by IOS Press in Amsterdam (<http://www.iospress.nl>) as part of its Studies in Health Technology and Informatics (SHTI) series, in hard copy and online (<http://www.booksonline.iospress.nl>). The complete series has been accepted in Medline.

This year's conference will feature three awards delivered in a luncheon ceremony on 23 June 2009:

- the Annual 'CRC-Clinical Cyberpsychology New Investigator Award' for a presentation of outstanding research quality. The aim of the new Award is to reward the presentation of strong methodological studies at the CyberTherapy conference. It includes a certificate and a check of \$1 000 (approx. €540);
- the 5th Annual 'CyberTherapy Excellence in Research Award', honoring a person who has demonstrated outstanding achievements in the fields of virtual reality and behavioral healthcare;
- three 'Student Poster Awards – Today's students are tomorrow's leaders'. Accompanying this honor will be three \$250 (approx.€185) - National Institute of Education (Singapore) <http://www.nie.edu.sg>

Registration and abstracts submission are to be performed [online](#) by 15 January 2009. The registration fees range from €290 to €600. Participation is open to all those interested. Approximately 150 attendees are expected.

Event email: : N/A

Event website: [www.e-therapy.info](http://www.e-therapy.info)

Country: Italy

## RO: E-Health and Bioengineering Conference 2009 - 17 - 18 September 2009

The main focus of EHB 2009, the second edition of the EHB conference, is placed on ehealth and bioengineering in general. Its goals are to promote concepts and advanced hardware and software technologies in the emerging domains of ehealth, telemedicine, medical devices/equipment, medical informatics, biomechanics, biomaterials, biotechnologies and healthcare management.

Another objective is to strengthen the interdisciplinary synergy between medical and technical researchers and practitioners, within the generous framework of medical bioengineering, in order to establish and promote advanced scientific concepts, methods and technologies for medical services and healthcare in Romania and enlarged Europe. In this respect, a special attention will be granted in the next years to targeting research to the real needs of patients, through different national and international projects and partnerships.

Last but not least, EHB 2009 represents a new "official" occasion to show that telemedicine in Romania and particularly in Iași exceeds the level of other more or less theoretical approaches and demonstrative issues. Its maturity was already proven by real time transmission and analysis of some vital biosignals of patients, performed by using the facilities offered by the first Romanian Telemedical Regional Centre located at the Faculty of Medical Bioengineering of the „Gr.T. Popa” University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Iași, which was developed by a local team within two research pilot projects - TELMES and TELEMON - financed by the Romanian Ministry of Education and Research.

The intention is therefore to promote procedures for teleconsultation, telediagnosis and telemonitoring, providing an alternative to be employed in the healthcare system that could be made available "every time and anywhere" for those persons who need such a public service.

The [topics to be covered](#) and the [full papers' submission guidelines](#) can be viewed online.

The organisers expect to attract over 200 attendees. The registration fee is 300 RON (approximately €70).

Event email: [ehb2009@bioinginerie.ro](mailto:ehb2009@bioinginerie.ro)

Event website: <http://www.bioinginerie.ro/ehb2009>

Country: Romania

City/Location: Constanta

Organiser: “Gr. T. Popa” University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iasi, the Romanian Society of Medical Bioengineering and “Ovidius” University of Constanta

---

## FR: Smart Event 2009 - 22 - 25 September 2009

Smart Event is as an international forum of knowledge-sharing, learning and networking in the fields of e-ID, e-mobility and Smart Security. It has proven to be a meeting place for world-class researchers, innovators, developers and business decision-makers. The event encompasses 3 international conferences covering complementary areas:

- The future of digital security technologies, e-Smart.
- The building of trusted mobile applications, Smart mobility
- The next generation of e-ID management technologies and services, World e-ID.

The relevant calls for papers are open until 13 March 2009.

Smart Event features contents combining scientific and strategic presentations of Industry experts, researchers and academics, as well as governmental and institutional representatives.

The *Smart University* advanced educational programme as well as a series of workshops and meetings complete the agenda.

Smart Event 2009 addresses high level professionals that foster research and innovation the e-ID, e-mobility and Smart Security fields. Based on a steady growing audience, the target for 2009 exceeds 800 attendees. Regardless

their activity - Academia, eGovernment, Institutions, Standardisation, Research, Integrators/Consultancy, Manufacturer/hardware, Security Solutions Providers, Content Service & Telecoms Operators – they all play an important and crucial influence on major decisions in the mobility, trusted technologies and services marketplace.

Registration will be performed online with the payment of a fee, and it will commence in April 2009.

Event email: [info@strategiestm.com](mailto:info@strategiestm.com)

Event website: <http://www.strategiestm.com/conferences/smart-event/09/index.htm>

Country: France

City/Location: French Riviera

Organiser: Strategies Telecoms and Media

---

*The European ePractice Newsletter is published under a contract with the European Commission. The views expressed may not in any circumstances be regarded as stating an official position. Neither the European Commission nor any person acting on its behalf is responsible for the use that might be made of the information provided.*

© European Communities, 2009. Reproduction is authorised, except for commercial purposes, provided the source is acknowledged