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European ePractice Newsletter N. 279 - 19 May 2009

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Mobile Parking Project

The project aims at solving the parking problem in Istanbul by using mobile technologies, especially mobile phones. The users subscribe to the system before they use it. After that, they use SMS function of their mobile phones to park their cars and the parking bills are sent to them within their mobile phone bills. This project was made possible by the joint efforts of Municipality of Istanbul and Turkcell Mobile Phone Company. The system is in-use in certain areas of Istanbul for now. It is expected to increase efficiency in municipal parking services in terms of cost.

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 Comission 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>

Agrega, federated access to educational content

In 2006 a series of measures were developed in the area of Spanish community Education whose purpose is:

- To define a standard of digital educational content package
- To generate a core group of digital learning objects, in some cases based on existing content, which serve to promote the technological environment created and
- To create a technological environment that will house content which adheres to the aforementioned standard, and which is accessible to the educational community under different modes of use.

In order to meet this latter objective a federation of digital repositories, called Agrega has been created with nodes installed in each one of Spain's Autonomous Regions. Each node enables the storage of SCORM 2004 learning objects labeled with LOM-ES metadata (application profile of the LOM metadata specification), and the performance of a set of relevant operations in accordance with the profile defined by the user, such as search, display and the creation of new material.

Editor's Choice of the week: [Petrol Stations Geoportal \(MITYC\)](#)

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EU: Overview of ESDI-NETplus meetings and workshops - 18 May 2009

At the **EUROGI Members Day (MD 2009)** held on 26 March 2009 in Brussels, Belgium, a special focus was given to initiatives driven by the European Commission (EC), most of which are INSPIRE related projects.

In particular, various projects being co-funded by the EC under the eContentplus Programme 2005-2008 have been presented, namely [ESDI-NETplus](#), EURADIN, ESDIN, OneGeology-Europe and Plan4All.

The objective of the ESDI-NETplus project is to bring together key European SDI stakeholders through a Thematic Network- a platform for communication and knowledge exchange at all levels, from local to global.

The National Geographic Information Representatives (A-members) at EUROGI have been requested to present the activities related to the ESDI-NETplus and the related potential for further engaging on the assessment of sub national Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI). A total of sixteen countries have been covered.

ESDI-NETplus is co-funded by the EC eContentplus Programme (ECP-2006-GEO-320005) and coordinated by INI Graphics Net from Germany. The co-funded phase of the project started in September 2007 and will be over by August 2010, the network being foreseen to continue after this period.

EUROGI is strongly involved within the ESDI-NETplus and leads the Work package 2 (WP 2) on the Identification and Analysis of Best Practices.

For the purpose, several meetings and workshops are being organised across Europe. A total of 32 countries are covered through 13 national or supranational workshops and more than 200 SDI cases reported. A [brief overview](#) of the meetings and workshops was prepared for distribution at the MD 2009.

Background information:

EUROGI is the umbrella organisation that represents the European Geographic Information (GI) Community. It is an independent, non-governmental and non-profit organisation. EUROGI is convinced that good governance, economic and social development, and informed public participation depend upon the availability and widespread use of reliable and spatially-referenced information. In support of this conviction, EUROGI's mission is to maximise the availability and effective use of GI throughout Europe.

Further information:

- [Official press release - EUROGI](#)
 - [ESDI-NETplus website](#)
 - [Presentations from the Members of EUROGI on the ESDI-NETplus and INSPIRE](#)
 - [Text of the INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC](#)
-

EU: European eDemocracy Awards 2009 Call for applicants - 18 May 2009

The Call for applicants for the European eDemocracy Awards closes on 25 May 2009.

The European eDemocracy Awards is an annual award honouring the most valuable European eDemocracy initiative amongst 50 selected websites in the EU 27.

The Award features a wide range of eDemocracy tools and content strengthening eParticipation, transparency, representative participatory democracy and citizen participation in the democratic decision-making processes at the European, national or local levels of governance.

European stakeholders of eDemocracy and eParticipation amongst the EU 27 are welcome to apply.

Those wishing to submit their initiatives or projects can do so by sending an email to danielvl@politech-institute.eu or viktorian@politech-institute.eu by 25 May 2009.

The winner of the Awards will be invited to the World eDemocracy Forum 2009 which will take place in Issy-les-Moulineaux, France.

Further information:

- [World eDemocracy Forum Website](#)
 - [More about the European eDemocracy Award](#)
-

EU: Finnish ID Card used for the first time to create a company in Estonian e-Commercial Register - 15 May 2009

During the second week of May 2009, the first company in Estonian business history was created in the Company Registration Portal with a Finnish ID card, without the founders of the company having had to leave their desks to get the company officially registered in Estonia.

According to Ingmar Vali, the head of the Court Registry Department at the Centre of Registers and Information Systems, the Estonian Company Registration Portal was opened to the users of Finnish ID-cards at the end of last year. The portal also accepts digital signatures from Portugal, Belgium and Lithuania.

"As far as we know, the cooperation between Estonia, Finland, Portugal, Belgium and Lithuania is the first instance where the register of one country officially accepts the national ID-cards and their digital signatures from other countries," said Vali.

The newly-created company has two Estonian and three Finnish founders who all used the ID-card of their respective country in creating the company that is located in Tallinn and deals with the wholesale of electronic and telecommunications appliances and their parts.

Vali confirmed that Estonian companies have offered a warm reception to the e-Commercial Register Company Registration Portal. "We are extremely delighted to see that our portal has now, for the first time, also found usage by our northern neighbours. We hope that we will soon see other entrepreneurs from Finland and other partner states there."

The Estonian e-Commercial Register portal is unique in Europe for the speed and comfort of founding a company. For example, one can register a private limited company in a few hours using the ID-card and never leaving the house. In addition to founding a business enterprise, the company portal can also be used to change a company's registry data and file the electronic annual report.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Estonian Ministry of Justice](#)
 - [ePractice case "Cross-border digital signature"](#)
 - [Estonian Company Registration Portal](#)
 - [Web pages of the Finnish Partner of the Estonian Centre of Registers and Information Systems - FINEID.ID](#)
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SI: The e-Vem project among the United Nations Public Service Awards Winners - 15 May 2009

On 5 May 2009 the United Nations awarded the Slovenian e-VEM project one of the best project prizes in the category "Improving service delivery in the public sector", among numerous projects from North America and Europe

So far this is the highest recognition of the Slovenian Public Administration not restricted to online services, as it also refers to solutions for the supply of governmental services in general. The e-Vem project mainly focuses on supplying efficient, high quality services, achieving the transformation of the Public Administration, defining innovative methods and techniques and implementing the necessary renewal procedures. Moreover, the project implements new concepts and ideas for solving the problem of transparency, accountability and prompt response to demands within the Public Administration.

The **United Nations Public Service Awards** (UNPSA) is the most prestigious international recognition of excellence in public service. It rewards the creative achievements and contributions of public service institutions that lead to a more effective and responsive public administration in countries worldwide. The competition promotes the role, professionalism and visibility of public service.

The Ministry of Public Administration will receive its prize in the award ceremony that will take place on 23 June 2009 in New York. During the ceremony UNPSA intend to celebrate the value of public services to the community, recognize the work of all civil servants who participated in the project, that of all public servants who provided support services to VEM operators and institutions in collaboration with the Ministry of Public Administration.

The e-Vem project is partly financed by the European Union and the [European Social Fund \(ESF\)](#) under the Operational Program for the Development of Human Resources for the period 2007-2013.

Further information:

- [Original press release - Ministry of Public Administration](#) (in Slovenian)
- [United Nations Public Administration Network](#)
- [Brochure of the United Nations Public Service Awards](#)
- [List of winners who will attend the Awards Ceremony](#)
- [Official website of the Slovenian e-Vem project](#) (in Slovenian)

BE: Liege Triligiport available online - 15 May 2009

"Liege Triligiport" which can be visited at <http://triligiport.wallonie.be>, is an internet site through which citizens can be informed, in a transparent manner and in the context of sustainable development, on the progress of this large project related to the economic organisation of the Walloon region.

It is an initiative of proactive communication and transparency by the owners of the Triligiport project. The Walloon region, the Public Service of Wallonia and the autonomous port of Liege offer their citizens the opportunity to follow, in real time, the evolution of a project that concerns, to a different degree, all the citizens of Wallonia.

It is managed by the competent agent for inland waterways, DGO2 (Operational Directorate-General of Mobility and Waterways) of SPW (Public Service of Wallonia) which provides for the construction of a multimodal platform (waterways, rail and road) along the Meuse river to accommodate logistic activities linked to the transportation of containers.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Service Public de Wallonie](#)
- [Official website of "Liege Triligiport"](#)

FI: Improved online financing application services - 14 May 2009

The online services offered by Finnvera - a Finnish State owned financing company - have been revised to create a more efficient channel when citizens wish to apply for financing services.

Changes have been applied to the Online Services to improve the financing application procedure. Regarding the information supplied by applicants on the pre-selection page, the application form is tailored according to their financing needs. For additional financing, all that the client needs to fill in are the company's basic data, any changes that may have taken place and the purpose for which financing is requested.

The contents of the front page are personalised according to the client's situation. The client's submitted online applications, attachments or messages to the service are displayed immediately when that person logs in to the service. The overall online services available for use are displayed in the front page.

General and field-specific instructions provided have improved usability. The instructions appear by clicking buttons marked with a question mark. There are also model applications for browsing.

To access those online services one must click the button ONLINE SERVICE on the Finnvera's website. Users log in to the service using their own bank identifiers; a Katso ID for organisations, or a FINEID (Finnish National Electronic Identification card) verifier.

Finnvera hopes that thanks to the revised Online Services, present and new clients will be able to access the financing services offered, more easily and safely, through this increasingly more efficient channel.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Yritys-Suomi, Enterprise Finland](#)
- [Official website of Yritys-Suomi, Enterprise Finland](#)
- [Official website of Finnvera](#)

IE: Social Welfare launches Customer Charter and new website - 14 May 2009

On 6 May 2009, the Irish Minister for Social and Family Affairs, Mary Hanafin, introduced the [new Customer Charter](#) of her Department and formally launched the revamped version of the 'www.welfare.ie' website.

The new Customer Charter of the Department of Social and Family Affairs sets out the standards of service that people can expect in their dealings with the Department. It will be displayed in all of the Departments offices and on the website. A [Customer Action plan 2009-2011](#) furthermore sets out the Department's aims and actions for the next three years. It forms a key part of the Government's objective of attaining greater efficiency in delivering public services in an affordable way and using modern technology to best effect.

Almost a quarter of a million people are visiting the new www.welfare.ie website every month. This figure is almost twice as many hits on the site compared with previous years. "Responding to increasing numbers of customers needs and improving productivity through technology is our key priority" said Minister Hanafin.

The Minister explained that using new technologies and providing ease of access to information for customers at a time that suits them is at the core of the decision to modernise the website.

"The new website is easy to use and provides the most up to date information for all users, including employers, Citizens Information Services and advocate groups. It was also recently awarded the 2009 Irish eGovernment award for Most Accessible Government website. Having all this information at your fingertips also cuts down on the delays associated with getting information booklets printed and updated, which will ultimately cut down on costs." she added.

Examples of some of the new procedures and processes being delivered by the Department of Social and Family Affairs include:

- State Contributory pensioners can complete and submit a claim online, and also apply for the Household Benefits package online;
- Requests for a copy of social insurance record available online;
- Jobseekers can download and complete a form at home and bring it to their local office, thus reducing queuing times;
- Statements of benefit paid can be requested online and via SMS text message;
- SMS text messaging for forms request (a full list of SMS services available at <http://www.welfare.ie/ContactUs/>).

Further information:

- [Official press release - Department of Social and Family Affairs](#)
 - [Website of the Department of Social and Family Affairs](#)
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FR: Departmental circulars website launched - 14 May 2009

Since 1 May 2009, the website www.circulaires.gouv.fr is providing citizens with a one-stop shop access to a structured and exhaustive directory of the departmental circulars of the French ministries.

The departmental circulars and administrative instructions featured online are structured around 19 themes, namely:

Foreign affairs; Agriculture and fishing; Budget and taxation; Regional and local government; Culture and communication; Defence; Ecology and sustainable development; Economy, finance and industry; Education and research; Public Service; Immigration; Internal affairs; Youth, sports and community life; Justice; Overseas departments and territories; SMEs, trade, craft industry and free lancers; Health and welfare; Transport, public works, housing, tourism and sea; Employment and professional training.

The legal basis for this new service is a Prime Minister Decree of 8 December 2009 which provides for the compulsory online publication on a single Internet site, as of 1 May 2009, of all circulars that the French Administration can avail themselves of towards citizens.

The www.circulars.gouv.fr website is placed under the responsibility of the General Secretariat of the Government.

Background information:

In France, the "*circulaires*" are texts allowing the administrative authorities (ministers, chief education officers, prefects) to inform their services. They are also known as "service notes" or "instructions". Most of the time, such circulars are issued following the publication of a legal text (law, decree, etc) in the aim to introduce the latter to the officials who will implement it. A circular only explains a legal text and does not add any content to it.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Service-Public.fr portal \(in French\)](#)
 - [Departmental circulars website - Directorate for Official Journals \(in French\)](#)
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HR: More than 30 000 companies and craftsmen use the HITRO.HR service - 13 May 2009

HITRO.HR, the service launched by the Croatian Government to speed up the communication between entrepreneurs/citizens and the State Administration, celebrates its fourth year of operation. More than 30 000 businesses were registered through the 61 HITRO.HR offices opened so far within FINA's (State Financial Agency) branch offices. This figure includes more than 2 000 companies owned by foreign residents.

HITRO.HR was first launched on 11 May 2005 in Zagreb, the capital of Croatia. It then spread out to all county centres, larger towns and islands in Croatia.

In addition to reduced costs, HITRO.HR brings substantial time savings, since the company registration cycle was reduced from 40 days in 2004, to only 24 hours today. The company registration procedure is completed through the "e-Tvrtka" (e-Company) project, i.e. the "On-line registration procedure of Limited Liability Companies". The procedure is planned to be implemented at all Commercial Courts during the year 2009.

In addition to quicker registration, the goal of the "e-Tvrtka"(e-Company) project is to unify the notary services and to make the registration procedure more transparent. The Government announced that they are working on similar registration procedures for other types of companies, as well as on the possibilities of registering changes of the Article of Association by electronic means.

Thanks to a successful co-operation with the Ministry of Justice, the Central State Administration Office for e-Croatia, the Croatian Notary Public Chamber, the High Commercial Court, Financial Agency and IN2, the HITRO.HR service managed to achieve internationally recognized results that will, according to the Central State Administrative Office for e-Croatia, certainly influence the rating of the Croatian economy in the World Bank reports, and attract new foreign investors.

At the Corporate Registers Forum 2009 in Cape Town, South Africa, the HITRO.HR service was pronounced the best service concept in the area of company registration, usage and application of electronic solutions among 42 countries from Europe, Africa, Asia and Oceania.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Central State Administrative Office for e-Croatia \(in Croatian\)](#)
- [HITRO.HR website](#)

FI: Pre-completed tax return form system for Finnish citizens in 2009 - 12 May 2009

Finnish taxpayers will not be obliged to send their tax-form back in 2009, if there are no additions or corrections to their 2008 taxes.

The Finnish tax return form, is a pre-completed form with information received directly from third parties, such as employers, other contributors of income, and many other sources of information. The last day for sending back the form is printed on the first page: 7 May 2009 or 14 May 2009.

Users who speak Finnish or Swedish can sign into a secure site called "[Veroilmoitus verkossa](#)" - online tax return interface - where corrections and additions to the Pre-Completed Tax Return form can be entered directly. English-speaking taxpayers can download a translation of the form and instructions - contents of the envelope that arrives in the taxpayer's home address.

Users need to sign in with their personal network banking ID and password or with an electronic microchip ID card. Married couples should have personal IDs and passwords in order to sign in.

If the Pre-completed Tax Return Form has not arrived before May in the user's registered postal address, the local fiscal service should be contacted.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Finnish Citizens portal suomi.fi](#) (in Finnish)
- [Online Tax Return Interface \(*Veroilmoitus verkossa*\)](#) (in Finnish)

Upcoming Events

- [NO: Hands-on-workshop with the PEPPOL Infrastructure](#) | 20 May 2009 | Norway
- [FR: Health Information Technologies 2009](#) | 26 - 28 May 2009 | France
- [AT: Porvoo 15 Conference 2009](#) | 27 - 28 May 2009 | Austria
- [ES: Admira Salón09](#) | 28 - 30 May 2009 | Spain
- [PL: European Forum on Electronic Signature 2009](#) | 03 - 05 June 2009 | Poland
- [UK: CÍS 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
- [IT: Cross-border e-he@lth](#) | 10 June 2009 | Italy
- [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
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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

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

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

AT: Porvoo 15 Conference 2009 - 27 - 28 May 2009

The Porvoo Group is an international cooperative network of government representatives whose primary goal is to promote a trans-national, interoperable electronic identity, based on Public Key Infrastructure (PKI technology) and electronic ID cards, in order to help ensure secure public and private sector e-transactions in Europe.

As its name suggests, the Porvoo Group was established in the Finnish city of Porvoo in April 2002. The Group has seen constant expansion. The majority of its members represent their respective national authorities but representatives of the business community as well as the European Commission and the UN have also contributed to its work. At present, some 30 countries from Europe, the United States, Canada and Asia have representatives in the Group. Porvoo Group conferences have been attended by as many as approximately one hundred delegates.

The Porvoo Group's two-day conferences are held every six months. The conferences always include a comprehensive presentation by the hosting country on the situation of the Information Society and the electronic identity. In addition, the participating countries present their country updates. The primary objective of the conferences is to bring under discussion "Best practices" in the PKI technology, present on-going PKI projects, follow the progress of standardisation and biometrics in the field of electronic identity, discuss various studies concerning the EU Directive governing electronic signatures and draft statements and proposals to the European Commission when deemed necessary.

The themes of the Porvoo Conference 2009 include: national eID development projects in Austria, the STORK pilot project, electronic signature, standardisation and biometrics. Registration to the event is open and free and can be performed by filling the relevant [form](#) by 26 April 2009.

Event email: porvoo15@a-sit.at and porvoo.group@vrk.fi

Event website: <http://porvoo15.a-sit.at/index.php>

Country: Austria

City/Location: Vienna

Organiser: SU.ZMR - Austrian Ministry for the Interior Support Unit ZMR, Digital Austria, Secure Information Technology Center - Austria (A-SIT)

ES: Admira Salón 009 - 28 - 30 May 2009

The Admira *Salón* is a Spanish event dedicated to presenting products and services aimed at modernising the Public Administration. The 2009 edition will in particular cover the following sectors:

- eGovernment: public services, modernization, safety, infrastructure;
- eProcurement;
- eHealth;
- Economy, employment and tourism;
- Environment;
- Learning;
- Social Services;
- Transport infrastructures;
- Urban Planning and GIS.

Admira *Salón* will, apart from an exhibition area, provide a range of technical events consisting of the following categories:

- **Thematic Plenary sessions:** forums where representatives of central, regional (Autonomous Communities) and local government will present the most innovative projects currently underway in Castilla y León, as well as in other regions and administrations.
- **The Administrations' Space:** in this area, practical presentations will complement the topics presented in the thematic plenary sessions, thus covering all the innovation of public administrations.

- **The "Innovation-Cube"**: an area where exhibitors will present their cases and their most innovative proposals in order to show to attendees projects for practical application in various administration sectors.

Representatives from various levels of government involved in innovation and in the modernization of public services and their management will attend the event. Directors and chief executive officers in areas such as eGovernment, Information Society, environment, energy, urban development, infrastructure, education, culture, health, security, citizenship will participate in the thematic plenary sessions which will be held on 28 and 29 May 2009.

Further information regarding the program of the event can be found [here](#).

Registration is free of charge for professionals. The professional pass can be obtained through the event website, or by emailing visitantes@feriavalladolid.com.

Event email: organizacion@mymgrupo.com

Event website: <http://www.salonadmira.es>

Country: Spain

City/Location: Valladolid (Castilla y León)

Organiser: Feria de Valladolid and MyM Group

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.eu

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: CÍ S 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:

- AEGIS project at a glance
- AEGIS 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 AEGIS Workshop, to take place on 5 June 2009, will present the preliminary findings of the AEGIS 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 AEGIS 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
- AEGIS Draft Use Cases and discussion
- Standardisation and Demonstration Issues on eInclusion

Participation both to the AEGIS 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

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

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: Slough, Berkshire

Organiser: AEGIS (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

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

Country: Poland

IT: Cross-border e-he@lth - 10 June 2009

The aim of the meeting is to discuss the opportunities and challenges regions face when applying new technologies to health across regional and national borders in Europe. Regions will exchange their experiences and best practices and discuss with other regions possible cooperation and funding opportunities, find partners or join projects.

The Assembly of European Regions (A.E.R) e-he@lth Network is looking for regions to present the initiatives adopted in their territories in relation to cross-border e-health.

Contributions to the e-health Seminar are to be sent [here](#).

The registration is open and free and should be performed by 25 May; the registration form as well as practical information can be found on the [event's website](#).

Event email: c.meschede@aer.eu

Event website: <http://www.aer.eu/en/events/health-social/2009/ehealth-fvg.html>

Country: Italy

City/Location: Trieste

Organiser: Assembly of European Regions (A.E.R) e-he@lth Network

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.

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

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

Event website: 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

Event website: http://www.ida.brandenburg.de/sixcms/detail.php?id=bb2.c.550422.de%20&template=allgemein_Ida

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: cinziavigna@gmail.com

Event website: www.e-therapy.info

Country: Italy

City/Location: Verbania-Intra

Organiser: Interactive Media Institute and Istituto Auxologico Italiano

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 TELEMOM - 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

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

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

Country: France

City/Location: French Riviera

Organiser: Strategies Telecoms and Media

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