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European ePractice Newsletter

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>> Communities workshop

ePractice.eu will host on March 12 a free workshop in Brussels intended for current and potential facilitators of [Communities](#). The main goals of the seminar are to learn from the experience of existing communities of experts; explain the technical features that facilitators need and present new improved tools and functionalities. Registration for this event is already open. More information at epractice.eu/workshop/communities.

>> New issue of the European Journal of ePractice: Key Enablers for eTransformation

The 6th issue of the European Journal of ePractice puts the focus on what the European Commission's eGovernment Action Plan considers key enablers: innovations in identification, interoperability and open source software. Guest edited by William H. Dutton, Professor and Director of the Oxford Internet Institute, the articles selected for this number provide an enriching set of good practice cases, lessons learnt and points of view about how these innovations are transforming eGovernment and high impact services in Europe. You may [download the publication](#) here.

Please feel free to forward epractice.eu/newsletter to whom it may be of use. You are welcome to send suggestions that may help us to improve the portal and enrich its content. We invite you to [become a member](#) of ePractice.eu in order to use all our services.

Latest Cases

- [Rate Your Politician](#) 9 February 2009 |
- [PNYKA](#) 9 February 2009 |
- [Sextante: A geographic information system for Extremadura](#) 6 February 2009 |
- [comuno - Internet-Enabled Deliberation and Collective Decision-Making](#) 6 February 2009 |
- [TradeMARK and Industrial Design On-line Search Service](#) 6 February 2009 |
- [e-pnyka.gr](#) 4 February 2009 |

Editor's Choice of the week: [Spatial Data Infrastructure of Piedmont Region](#)

Rate Your Politician

Rate Your Politician has the mission to become the global market leader in the use of the Internet and information technology to collect high quality, in-depth data on public opinion, voter trends and market research; providing people, companies, politicians, educational institutions and political parties with a greater view of the countries public opinion. Rate Your Politician has developed a web platform which encourages accountability and effectiveness in government, increasing people's access to accurate, real time information about government and public opinion. By promoting active citizenship and encouraging people to express themselves and connect with others with shared interests. We encourage citizens in democratic nations to take action on what matters to them and we give them the e-democracy tools to organise and interact. Rate Your Politician is engaged in developing an e-participation framework at the local, regional, national and International levels that allow people to come together from different community backgrounds and different religious faiths to, make informed choices, and take action on the issues that matter to them. We promote transparency, accountability, and trust across media and

government. New technologies, particularly the Internet technologies, provide a useful mechanism for engaging young people. Young people are largely a disenfranchised group in society that can be reached through new understandings in social informatics. Although youth are quick to uptake online tools, providing these tools is not sufficient to engage young people in the democratic decision making process in their country. Rate Your Politician aims to address these issues. This has resulted in the development of the UK and Ireland's high-level national public stages, which situate online dialogues, active rating and debating in a much broader, supporting framework. Our work will continue to research ways of developing online consultation tools that are both used and useful in society.

PNYKA

Research and Development of Electronic Voting Systems based on Formal Methods of Risk Assessment and Management focusing on the drawing of Public Confidence.

Sextante: A geographic information system for Extremadura

SEXTANTE is a geographical information system (GIS) developed under the auspices of the government of the Spanish autonomous region of Extremadura. The GIS is freely available under GPL license, and incorporates a lot of feedback of the Open Source community. Built to fit the needs of the region's forestry department, the software is fast becoming an important tool for the management of Extremadura's diverse landscape. Its numerous analysis functions set SEXTANTE apart from other geographical information software.

comuno - Internet-Enabled Deliberation and Collective Decision-Making

Based on a four-year research project tracing the fundamental changes to the governance approach of a world-wide software standard, the case study demonstrates how processes of opinion-forming and mobilization were incidental with changes to the governance approach. In other words, internet-enabled public deliberation and negotiation were integral for collective opinion-forming that preceded decision-making on governance approach. Internet-enabled communication channels are characterized by low barriers of access and high scalability enabling a large number of interested participants to contribute multiple and opposing viewpoints to public deliberations and negotiations. The case study demonstrates that the internet-enabled process of problem-solving was able to include a broad variety of viewpoints and interests thus generating better governance outcomes. Key findings of the case study could be used to develop a model of the collective problem-solving process. The case study exemplifies how internet-enabled public deliberation and negotiation promotes inclusion of opposing viewpoints and reaching of lasting agreements between different stakeholders.

TradeMARK and Industrial Design On-line Search Service

eMARKS optimises the protection of trademarks/Industrial Designs by offering a service that provides, currently lacking, image-based searches of Trademarks or Industrial Designs kept by Industrial Property Offices (IPOs). Given an image representing a Trademark or an Industrial Design, eMARKS allows users, (such as Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) professionals, lawyers, SMEs, Public Services combating counterfeiting crime such as Customs, Police etc.), to identify similar Trademarks or Industrial Designs registered with EU Industrial Property Offices. Image-based search on Trademarks or Industrial Designs is further assisted with natural language, multi-lingual semantic qualification of the categories of interest. eMARKS will build upon the working prototype that has been developed and tested through the eMAGE project under eContent Programme (EDC-11152/28713). In the framework of the eMAGE project, a databank of 1.3 million records from four EU Industrial Properties Offices (IPO) was established, i.e., the corresponding content has been collected, harmonised, enriched and loaded on databases. The eMARKS project consortium consists of 8 partners each contributing their own particular technical and business capabilities necessary for the successful accomplishment of the projects objectives. The Consortium is led by INTRASOFT International (INTRA) and consists of the following partners: Hungarian Patent Office (HPO), National Institute of Industrial Property of Portugal (INPI-P) and the Austrian Patent Office (OEPA), Czech Customs Administration (CCA), IPR professionals/Lawyers G.S. Kostakopoulos and Associates Law Firm (KLF), Chamber of Commerce and Industry of Marseille (CCIMP) and LTU Technologies (LTU).

e-pnyka.gr

E-pnyka.gr is a public podium, aiming at public involvement into issues of wider social impact. The goal is to form a publicly driven think tank and thus be able to form deliverables which will in turn be published to organizations, political parties, media and all related parties to the context of the deliverable reports / proposals.

Latest News

- [MK: 15 new free Internet access points to open soon](#) 9 February 2009 | FYR of Macedonia
- [EU: Geo-information in the Third ICT PSP Call for proposals](#) 9 February 2009 | EU Institutions
- [LT: New website online – “Quality initiatives in Public Administration”](#) 9 February 2009 | Lithuania
- [IE: National Broadband scheme announced](#) 9 February 2009 | Ireland
- [TR: Turkey's new eGovernment portal launched](#) 6 February 2009 | Turkey
- [EU: European services standard for cross-border healthcare provision agreed](#) 6 February 2009 | Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, EU Institutions, Germany, Netherlands
- [EU: Online consultation on the SEMIC.EU Multilingualism Study](#) 5 February 2009 | EU Institutions
- [DE: New online library for XML based Data Exchange Formats launched](#) 5 February 2009 | Germany
- [MT: Three eGovernment initiatives launched](#) 5 February 2009 | Malta
- [FR: French Land Register opens access to geo-data](#) 4 February 2009 | France
- [BE: Virtual campus for the employees of regional administration](#) 4 February 2009 | Belgium
- [UK: Winners announced in the 5th annual eGovernment National Awards](#) 4 February 2009 | United Kingdom
- [EU: Towards sustainable and personalised healthcare – Call for experts](#) 3 February 2009 | EU Institutions

MK: 15 new free Internet access points to open soon - 9 February 2009

The Minister of Information Society of the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Ivo Ivanovski, recently announced that the Government will shortly proceed to the opening of 15 new Internet clubs for free Internet access in 15 cities throughout the country, thus bringing information technologies closer to citizens.

According to the Minister, the decision to open the new 15 internet clubs was made after carrying out an analysis of the operation of yet another 15 clubs in other cities, where the citizens showed increased interest. The totality of the budget funds allocated amounts to 20 million denars (approximately €320 000) on an annual level for the operation, maintenance, equipment and salaries of the employees.

The opening of the new clubs and the functioning of the already existing ones will contribute to the improvement of education, the availability of information and the development of society in general. Other goals would be the reduction of digital divide, the increase of Internet penetration and the inclusion of the citizens in the Information Society (eInclusion).

The new free Internet clubs will be opened in the following cities: Veles, Strumica, Debar, Probishtip, Berovo, Makedonski Brod, Sveti Nikole, Radovish, Kratovo, Delchevo, Valandovo, Shtip, Krushevo, Struga and Vinica.

Each already existing club has an IT staff of three persons, who aside from the appropriate education also have advanced knowledge in the area of information science, enabling them to perform their everyday duties, maintain the computers and provide technical assistance, free advice and training to the visitors. The new clubs are expected to follow the same pattern.

This project is part of the “World at the palm” and “Citizens’ access to the Internet” projects which are part of the strategy of the Government for Information Society development in FYROM and for its promotion among citizens.

Further information:

- [Official press release of the Ministry of Information Society of the FYR of Macedonia](#) (in Macedonian)
- [News article by the Metamorphosis Foundation](#)
- [Official site of the Ministry of Information Society](#)

EU: Geo-information in the Third ICT PSP Call for proposals - 9 February 2009

On 29 January 2009, the European Commission has published the [third call for proposals](#) under the work programme for 2009 of the Information and Communication Technologies Policy Support Programme (ICT PSP). The Call will be running until 5 June 2009.

Spatial information in Europe is characterised by the fragmentation of datasets and sources, availability gaps and a lack of harmonisation between datasets at different geographical scales, as well as the duplication of information collection.

Theme 6 of the third ICT PSP Call deals with Public Sector Information (objective 6.1), with an emphasis on the wider use of geographic information/spatial data and [INSPIRE](#) (objective 6.2).

In the field of geo-information, the Call is intended to support several pilot actions whose focus and outcomes will be:

- To foster the wider use of spatial data by public and private sector organisations and citizens;
- To increase the use and reuse of harmonised and interoperable data sets related to one or more of the specific themes enumerated in annexes I-III to the INSPIRE directive, through network services for sharing spatial data between public authorities and other stakeholders in the Community, enabling the creation of value added services.

The funding from the European Commission will be of €2 million to €2.5 million.

The expected impact is the implementation of network services that allow users to identify, access, use/reuse aggregated geographical information covering a significant part of Europe and coming from a wide range of sources (from the local to the European level) in an interoperable way and for a variety of uses.

More information on the conditions and characteristics of the proposals may be found on the [Call's page](#) and in the [presentation of theme 6](#) which was given during the dedicated Information Day on 26 January 2009.

The ICT Policy Support Programme aims to stimulate innovation and competitiveness through the wider uptake and best use of ICT by citizens, governments and businesses.

Further information:

- [ICT PSP website](#)
- [Details of the third ICT PSP Call for proposals](#)
- [Presentation of Theme 6 – Information Day of 26 January 2009](#)
- [INSPIRE News article](#)
- [Text of the INSPIRE Directive 2007/2/EC](#)

LT: New website online – “Quality initiatives in Public Administration” - 9 February 2009

On 16 January 2009, the Lithuanian Ministry of the Interior announced that a new website focusing on best practices in Public Administration – www.vakokybe.lt – has gone live.

This new site presents examples of Lithuanian (national and municipal) best Government management practices in terms of transparency, efficiency and orientation towards results. It furthermore provides information on the selection process followed by the Ministry of the Interior while addressing various quality issues (e.g. Government performance monitoring, Quality management methods, etc).

The information displayed on the site goes beyond national developments. Next to a list of past and future national events, it comes back on previous European benchmarking events and announces upcoming ones such as the [European Public Sector Award 2009 \(EPSA\)](#).

The Ministry of the Interior hopes that the new site will not only prove valuable to public bodies willing to improve their performance; it indeed intends to equally attract all those interested in the development of the Lithuanian Public Administration system.

Further information:

- [Full, official press release – Ministry of the Interior of the Republic of Lithuania \(in Lithuanian\)](#)
- [Website “Quality initiatives in Public Administration” \(in Lithuanian\)](#)

IE: National Broadband scheme announced - 9 February 2009

The Irish Government has announced a National Broadband Scheme, a €223 million investment, to expand broadband coverage in rural Ireland.

The Irish Government (Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources) has concluded a tendering process and signed a new contract with a private telecommunications company aiming to full national broadband coverage, for the entire Irish population, by September 2010. Their efforts will mainly focus on remote rural areas where high speed Internet services have not yet been feasible.

Thanks to the full national broadband coverage, numerous existing businesses will be protected and sustained while new positions will be created, as investment and enterprise will be favoured in those areas. That shall boost Ireland's economy thus making it more competitive.

Further information:

- [Press release – "Government announces scheme to deliver broadband across Ireland"](#)
 - [Website of the Department of Communications, Energy and Natural Resources](#)
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TR: Turkey's new eGovernment portal launched - 6 February 2009

The new Turkish [E-Government Gateway](#) (*E-Devlet Kapisi*) was launched on 18 December 2008.

The E-Government Gateway aims to provide Turkey's 70 million citizens as well as the business community with a single point of access to eGovernment services. In addition, it will facilitate public sector agencies to interact with each other and exchange information.

At present, the E-Government Gateway includes a total of 21 services as well as information on administrative procedures. Secure transaction is currently provided through electronic signature, mobile electronic signature or password offered to users upon request. Future enhancements will facilitate users to access the portal with smart cards. In addition, the system will be extended to serve additional communication devices like cell phones and Pocket PCs.

Furthermore, the implementation of a payment/banking module is also in the pipeline and will provide each electronic service with a central mechanism to enable payments and money transfers between the government agencies and users.

The project's responsibility lies with the government company [Turksat](#), Turkey's main provider of Satellite and IT infrastructure services. The portal can be accessed at www.turkiye.gov.tr.

Further information:

- [E-Government Gateway \(in Turkish\)](#)
 - [Turksat](#)
-

EU: European services standard for cross-border healthcare provision agreed - 6 February 2009

Two European projects developing IT-based services for cross-border healthcare provision, [TEN4Health](#) and [NETC@RDS](#), have agreed on a common European web service specification supporting standardised messaging to link hospitals and other health care providers with health insurance organisations and national healthcare IT infrastructure.

The common web services are specified in WSDL and messaging is XML-based. The development of the services and this agreement are seen as a major step towards full interoperability in web-services provision throughout European health care.

The new services help to ensure that any European citizen requiring healthcare in another European country can be served easily, that health care providers can reliably determine that a patient is covered by health insurance and rapidly receive reimbursement.

For health insurance organisations offering these services, it is seen as a market discriminator, positively distinguishing them from competitors in the growing and increasingly competitive European health insurance market.

"With this agreement we are paving the way for a European standard supporting the necessary communication and data exchange processes for cross-border healthcare in Europe" said Pascal Collotte, project officer at the European Commission's Directorate-General Information Society and Media responsible for both projects, co-funded by the eTEN programme.

Two German health insurance funds have already developed and operate a web portal providing similar services for their joint 10 million customers. The service is operational in hospitals in Austria, Belgium, the Netherlands and in process of introduction in Italy and the Czech Republic. Now that this agreement is in place the service is being modified to fully conform to the new European WSDL and XML messaging standard.

Further information:

- [Website of the TEN4Health Project \(Trans-European healthcare support network for Europe's mobile citizen\)](#)
 - [Website of the NETC@RDS Project](#)
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EU: Online consultation on the SEMIC.EU Multilingualism Study - 5 February 2009

A [study on multilingualism](#) has been published by the Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe (SEMIC.EU) in January 2009. In order to collect stakeholders' opinions and to help shaping SEMIC.EU's future approaches to multilingual issues, a [public online consultation](#) has been launched.

The SEMIC.EU Study on Multilingualism describes efficient ways to deal with multilingual data exchange and argues that pivot mappings are the key to preserving meaning. The study can be summarised as follows:

Interoperability in a multilingual environment:

- How should multilingualism be incorporated in Semantic Interoperability Assets?
- How should pan-European federated applications be interconnected?

The SEMIC.EU Study on Multilingualism argues that any mapping between different languages should be performed by using pivot mapping and appropriate mapping languages.

English as a pivot language: All data exchanged as well as the defining artefacts within a Semantic Interoperability Asset should be available in the pivot language accepted by all partners. Usually, English is used as the pivot language in the context of the European Union. It is highly advisable to widely use the pivot language, e.g. for identifiers, in technical artefacts like XML schemata, etc. The pivot mapping reduces the number of mappings.

Schema Mapping and Controlled Vocabularies: This approach exploits two elementary mapping techniques. Schema mapping, on the one hand, can be used for structural changes and is a syntactic method to solve semantic issues. The usage of controlled vocabularies, on the other hand, requires more sophisticated techniques such as taxonomies, multilingual thesauri, or ontologies. These techniques offer powerful means to translate terms on a semantic level superior to pure machine translations.

Further information:

- [SEMIC.EU Website – Multilingualism section](#)
 - [ePractice Library – EU: SEMIC.EU Study on Multilingualism](#)
 - [Direct link to the online consultation on the Multilingualism Study](#)
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DE: New online library for XML based Data Exchange Formats launched - 5 February 2009

[XRepository](#), the new online library for XML based Data Exchange Formats was launched in January 2009.

The new website constitutes a central location for the publication of a broad spectrum of data relating to E-Government projects, including Data-Models, XML schemes and relevant documentation. Once published, the data is consequently available for re-use by other administrations and designers of business processes. The website also facilitates online research on standards and interfaces, which can be subsequently downloaded at no cost.

The XRepository online library has been developed within the framework of the [Deutschland Online](#) initiative, Germany's major joint strategy for integrated eGovernment. In particular, the online library constitutes the cornerstone of the Deutschland online '[Standardization](#)' project, serving the implementation of fully digitized and media-consistent administrative processes across all levels of government.

XRepository fosters the re-usability of standards and interfaces and aims to allow for the sustained success of current and future projects regarding the implementation of transaction based eGovernment applications. This is accomplished by providing the means for an interoperable electronic communication, while reducing the efforts related to designing new interfaces through minimising redundant developments.

The XRepository online library is operated by the [Federal Agency of Information Technology](#) within the [German Federal Office of Administration \(BVA\)](#), Germany's central public service agency.

Further information:

- [Deutschland Online – Press release \(in German\)](#)

- [XRepository \(in German\)](#)
 - [Deutschland Online initiative \(in German\)](#)
 - [Deutschland Online – Standardization project \(in German\)](#)
 - [German Federal Office of Administration \(BVA\) \(in German\)](#)
 - [Federal Agency of Information Technology \(in German\)](#)
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MT: Three eGovernment initiatives launched - 5 February 2009

On 21 January 2009, Austin Gatt, the Maltese Minister for Infrastructure, Transport and Communication announced that three eGovernment initiatives were successfully launched in Malta during the past year.

The three initiatives are briefly described here-after:

The Government Payment Gateway (GPG): Deployed in October 2008, the new GPG replaces the Electronic Payment Gateway that was launched in 2002. Said to provide a more secure and technologically advanced payment gateway than its predecessor, it enables Government Departments to process online real time ePayment transactions for over 23 eGovernment services. Key services covered include the Vehicle Registration and Administration System (VERA) and the Inland Revenue Department (IRD). In 2008, the system has processed over 350 000 transactions.

E-ID for Organisations: Following the success of the personal e-ID, the e-ID for Organisations provides a means for individuals holding a personal e-ID to make use of electronic Government-to-Business services in the name of an organisation, thus better suiting businesses' needs. The covered organisations are those registered with the official registry of the Malta Financial Services Authority. Entities wishing to enroll must nominate an "organisation manager" who will register through an online application accessible via the secure "[mygov.mt](#)" web portal. Prior to initiating the registration process, the organisation manager must hold a personal e-ID and a certificate.

"The success of the e-ID is reflected in the large number of e-ID registrations recorded during 2008, amounting to over 4 000 registrants" MITA reports. "This contributes to more than half of the total of registrants."

The Contracts Site: The new Contracts Site ([www.contracts.gov.mt](#)) provides businesses with an access to timely and selective online information which stretches over the whole procurement process, from the publication to the award. The system also offers alerts by email and/or SMS, allowing economic operators to be notified about specific tenders they may be interested in.

It is worth mentioning that the Contracts Site is the first eGovernment service which provides e-ID holders with the facility to operate in the name of an organisation. It is also the first new service to be launched since the upgrade of the Government's Payment Gateway. This service has published 98 tenders since its initiation up until the first week of January 2009.

All three projects were managed by the Malta Information Technology Agency (MITA) which is the responsible for implementing the the National ICT Strategy 2008-2010 (the so-called "[Smart Island Strategy](#)"). This strategy drives the implementation of Government ICT infrastructures and services with the aim of improving public services delivery.

According to the MITA's official press release, "The three new initiatives mark the start of the new phase of eGovernment which concentrates on delivering added value to businesses as consumers of eGovernment."

Further information:

- [Full, Original press release – Malta Information Technology Agency \(MITA\)](#)
 - [Mygov.mt web portal](#)
 - [New Contracts website – Maltese Department of Contracts](#)
 - [ePractice Library – MT: National ICT Strategy 2008-2010](#)
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FR: French Land Register opens access to geo-data - 4 February 2009

The French participants in the Open Street Map (OSM) - a project that creates and provides free geographic data - reported that they will be given access to vectorised geo-data from the French Land Register.

A German IT news site reported on the opening of the French geographic systems last week. The announcement was made public on an OSM mailing list on 20 January 2009.

One of the OSM participants quoted a letter from the French Ministry of Economy: "I am glad to announce the positive official answer to your request about using the cadastre.gouv.fr Web Map Server (WMS)." According to this OSM developer, this means the project can use detailed data from the French Land Register, like streets and roads, names and buildings.

The ministry wrote that all users are granted to freely use the data for their own projects, as long as the origin of the data is clearly indicated. Redistribution of the data is limited by the ministry to those products that use the registry as part of their product.

The ministry explained in its letter to the Open Street Map participants that the WMS server is currently being tested. "This is why we have not yet provided a public link to the service." The WMS server will be publicly announced in the middle of the year.

Open Street Map participant Steven Le Roux, an IT worker in the French city of Brest, explains that the group had in November 2008 already found out about the access to the WMS. "After some discussion we decided to contact the ministry, to make sure the licence actually allows us to use the data. If the ministry did not allow this, we would need to erase some of our work."

Further information:

- [Original Press Release – OSOR.EU](#)
- [French Land Register](#)

BE: Virtual campus for the employees of regional administration - 4 February 2009

The [Provincial Training Institute \(IPF - Institut Provincial de Formation\)](#) of the Belgian Province of Hainaut created an e-learning platform aimed at all provincial and municipal employees as well as those of Public Centers of Social Assistance (CPAS-Centres Publics d' Assistance Sociale) and public hospitals . The platform proposes 14 courses.

This initiative was launched in collaboration with the Education Technologies Unit (UTE - l'Unité des Technologies d' Education) of the University of Mons Hainaut.

It has been recently announced that this IPF e-learning platform would also be used in the context of a European Programme aimed at developing multilingual online courses designed for all civil servants on a European level.

The courses available are the following:

- civil law;
- administrative law;
- institutions, constitution, basic legislation;
- provincial organization;
- municipal law;
- CPAS law;
- provincial finances;
- public markets;
- HR management;
- European institutions;
- electoral law;
- management methods;
- administrative management of non-teaching personnel;
- social legislation.

The courses proposed include both traditional classes with a professor and online classes to be followed remotely. Each learning module is accompanied by exercises and their respective answers, in order for the individual to check his understanding of the course. This platform is easy to use and does not require special skills. In any case, courses on the correct use of the platform are available.

The long term objective is to provide students with all the courses that could adapt to the remote learning module of training. The medium term objective of the platform however focuses on general courses common to all profiles of public administration employees but also on other types of courses for alternative training profiles.

Further information:

- [Original press release – website of the Walloon Agency for Telecommunications](#) (in French)
 - [IPF e-learning platform](#) (in French)
 - [Official IPF website](#) (in French)
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UK: Winners announced in the 5th annual eGovernment National Awards - 4 February 2009

The [winners-list](#) of the [eGovernment National Awards](#) was announced on 21 January 2009. The 11 winners have received the UK's highest level commendation for the best eGovernment and technology-driven services.

eGovernment is delivering major benefits to citizens across the entire UK. Nowadays citizens are demanding better government services and the eGovernment National Awards winners are clearly supplying some of the technology necessary to this end by new breakthroughs and the achievement of new goals. The services thus provided, through innovative online delivery or IT implementation, have positively transformed the lives of citizens, local communities, business and stakeholder groups.

Important key themes in this year's Awards, run by a private information services company, are the effective implementation of Green IT and the use of innovative technology to deliver services that will contribute to a fairer society.

The charitable beneficiary of the fifth annual eGovernment National Awards dinner was the [Information Technologists' Company](#) - with funds raised aiming at assisting the lives of the disadvantaged.

The eGovernment National Awards 2008 were supported by the [Government Chief Information Officer \(Cabinet Office\)](#), the [Society of Information Technology Management \(SOCITM\)](#) which represents ICT management in the public sector, and the [Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers \(SOLACE\)](#).

Further Information:

- [Official Press Release - Public Technology limited: Winners announced in the e-Government National Awards 2008](#)
 - [Official site - Government Chief Information Officer \(Cabinet Office\)](#)
 - [Official site - Society of Information Technology Management \(SOCITM\)](#)
 - [Official site - Society of Local Authority Chief Executives and Senior Managers \(SOLACE\)](#)
 - [Official site - The Information Technologists' Company](#)
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EU: Towards sustainable and personalised healthcare – Call for experts - 3 February 2009

The "ICT for Health" unit of the European Commission is currently looking for experts in relation to four ehealth objectives addressed by the fourth [Call for Proposals](#) under the ICT theme of the EU's 7th Research Framework Programme (FP7). The call for experts will also apply to the sixth ICT Call which is planned to be launched at the end of 2009.

The four objectives in question are connected to the strategic Challenge 5 - "Towards sustainable and personalised healthcare" - of the fourth ICT Call. These are the following:

- Objective 1: Personal Health Systems
- Objective 2: Patient Safety
- Objective 3: Virtual Physiological Human (VPH)
- Objective 4: International Cooperation in VPH

The specific areas of expertise include: telemonitoring and telecare; biomedical sensors; medical implants; artificial organs; signal processing; mobile and wireless communications; user interfaces; text and data mining; semantic integration and interoperability of health data; ontology; security/privacy; medical imaging processing

and analysis; in silico simulation; visualisation; modelling of physiological processes and supporting infrastructures and tools such as High Performance Computing and Grid technologies.

The clinical applications require expertise in medicine, surgery, biology, genetics, bio-mechanics and pharmacology. Objective 4 will also require expertise in international research cooperation.

Those interested in applying for evaluation are welcome to register online at the following URL: <https://cordis.europa.eu/emmp7/index.cfm>.

The purpose of the call for experts is to establish a database of independent experts to assist the European Commission's services. These experts will be called to assist in various tasks, including the evaluation of proposals, assistance in the monitoring of projects and other purposes where specific expertise might be required.

Further information:

- [Press release – Europe's Information Society Thematic Portal](#)
- [More information on the ICT Challenge 5: Sustainable and personalised healthcare](#)
- [Fourth ICT Call under FP7](#)
- [Online registration of Experts for Research Activities](#)
- [ePractice news item – EU: ICT Call 4 open until 1 April 2009](#)

New Factsheets

The 11th Edition of the eGovernment factsheets for France, Slovakia and Slovenia, as well as the 6th Edition for Liechtenstein, have been made available online. We invite you to visit the [relevant section](#) for regular and/or ad hoc updates related to the factsheets.

Latest Publications

- [EU: SEMIC.EU Study on Multilingualism](#) 31 January 2009 | EU Institutions
- [UK: Power of Information Taskforce Report – Beta version](#) 30 January 2009 | United Kingdom
- [CA: Dissemination of Government Geographic Data in Canada – Guide to Best Practices](#) 18 December 2008 | North America
- [DE: Prospects for Business Models of German Companies in the European and Global Geo-Information Market](#) 31 May 2008 | Germany
- [UK: Models of Public Sector Information Provision via Trading Funds Report](#) 12 March 2008 | United Kingdom
- [UK/GL: The commercial use of public information \(CUPI\)](#) 31 December 2006 | North America, Oceania, Sweden, United Kingdom
- [EU/US: MEPSIR Study – Measuring European Public Sector Information Resources](#) 30 June 2006 | EU Institutions, North America

EU: SEMIC.EU Study on Multilingualism - 31 January 2009

Complete title: Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe – Study on multilingualism – version 1.0

Description (short summary): This study presents an initial approach for dealing with multilingualism in the context of SEMIC.EU, i.e. how multilingualism should be incorporated in Semantic Interoperability Assets, how SEMIC.EU's platform functionality should be enhanced to better address multilingualism, and how best to interconnect pan-European federated applications. Based on this input, the SEMIC.EU community and all relevant stakeholders are invited to contribute to the further improvement of SEMIC.EU's platform, concepts and methodology.

Original URL: <http://www.semic.eu/semic/view/snnav/Infopool/Multilingualism.xhtml>

Number of pages: 39

UK: Power of Information Taskforce Report – Beta version - 30 January 2009

Complete title: Power of Information Taskforce Report – Beta version

Description (short summary): This is a draft report on the UK Government's use of web 2.0, open data, citizen engagement and participation. This version has been published in beta version before it is formally handed by the Power of Information Taskforce to the Government. The authors wanted to give the community that has contributed to the Taskforce's work the chance to make suggestions while the report is in draft. The views raised will be considered, and the report will be adapted if the Taskforce considers it will help to make the case to the Government. The Taskforce will then hand it to the UK Cabinet Office.

Original URL: <http://poit.cabinetoffice.gov.uk/poit/>

Number of pages: 28

CA: Dissemination of Government Geographic Data in Canada – Guide to Best Practices - 18 December 2008

Complete title: Dissemination of Government Geographic Data in Canada – Guide to Best Practices

Description (short summary): This version of the Guide to Best Practices complements the initial version through its refinement of the integrated framework for the licensing of government geographic data recommended in 2005. It addresses distribution models that have emerged or increased in prevalence, including:

- web-based distribution models which are appropriate where the stated objective of a dissemination activity is to promote widest use possible of the licensed government geographic data, with no restrictions on further distribution. The Guide to Best Practices supports no-fee web-based distribution of government geographic data, provided it is effected within the parameters articulated in the recommended model template No-Fee Unrestricted Use Web-Wrap Licence Agreement. With respect to web-based distribution on a fee basis, the Guide to Best Practices acknowledges the availability, in law, of click-wrap agreements; however, for policy, contract and risk management reasons, it recommends that, in the context of an integrated approach to the licensing of government geographic data, producers of government geographic data wishing to distribute their data on a fee basis refrain from entering into click-wrap agreements. Rather, it is advocated that fee-based licence agreements be entered into using traditional methods; the delivery of the licensed government geographic data may, however, be done electronically, after signature of the applicable fee-based licence agreement.
- the reseller model which is appropriate where the stated objective of a dissemination activity is to promote widest use possible of the licensed government geographic data through access to established distribution channels, with constraints on allowed uses so as to ensure the integrity of the licensed government geographic data. The fundamental characteristics of the reseller model are articulated in a model template Reseller Agreement;
- the value-added reseller model which is appropriate where the stated objective of a dissemination activity is to promote the incorporation of the licensed government geographic data into value-added products and its distribution through established channels. This distribution model, appropriate in certain defined circumstances, is articulated in a model template Value-Added Reseller Agreement;
- no-fee and fee-based distribution models, anchored in the Unrestricted Use Model and in the End-Use Model. The Guide to Best Practices presents and discusses how these two models support very distinct dissemination objectives and require specific contractual provisions;
- data sharing between federal departments and agencies, and between federal departments and agencies and other levels of government. Version 2 of the Guide to Best Practices explains what type of documents should evidence such data sharing arrangements. It recommends two model template Memoranda of Agreement for use when data is shared between federal departments and suggests the types of contractual vehicles to be used to evidence arrangements between the federal government and other levels of government.

Version 2 of the Guide to Best Practices replaces the 2005 version through its treatment of issues that are now at the forefront of matters that are of vivid interest to government data licensing practitioners. For example:

- it addresses new federal data dissemination policy, as well as other overarching governmental policy positions that impact on the dissemination of government geographic data;
- it discusses how the evolutive and transformative nature of geographic data, compounded with users' technological sophistication and expectations for technology-based data distribution have spurred significant industry activity in a number of areas, including in relation to:

- metadata and the development by industry of applications assisting in the development of metadata for geographic data;

- web services;
- geographic digital rights management.

Version 2 of the Guide to Best Practices sets out a revised integrated framework for the four types of government geographic data licensing models most commonly used in Canada - the unrestricted use model, the end-user model, the reseller model and the value added reseller model. It provides a rationale for appropriate uses, explains how each model builds on common structures, demonstrates their inter-relationships and provides clear guidance to assist licensing practitioners in selecting the most appropriate model and licence agreement. Recommended approaches to fundamental concepts such as ownership of intellectual property, liability, duration and termination are discussed in detail for the benefit of licensing practitioners, and are guided by data dissemination policy directives currently in force across federal departments and agencies.

Original URL: http://www.epsiplus.net/news/canadian_best_practice

Number of pages: 184

DE: Prospects for Business Models of German Companies in the European and Global Geo-Information Market - 31 May 2008

Complete title: Prospects for Business Models of German Companies in the European and Global Geo-Information Market – English Summary

Description (short summary): Industry-oriented solutions and applications for the geo-information market open access to new markets. On a national level, this realization has established itself firmly in the German Commission on the Economics of Geo-Information (GIW-Commission). Now the time has come for this to take place on an international level as well. Building on the results of the GIW-commission's work, the German Federal Ministry for Economics and Technology (BMWi) has charged MICUS Management Consulting with creating the study "Prospects for Business Models of German Companies in the European and Global Geo-Information Market."

The study emphasises industries for which geo data is relevant and which are already the subjects of the GIW-Commission's lead projects:

- The insurance industry – georisks
- The reusable energy industry – geothermal energy
- The industry for primary resources - aggregates and quarry products
- The utility and banking industry - real estate
- The media industry - 3D city models

Additionally, good practice solutions on the basis of geo data are introduced. In the relevant section, business models, innovative solutions for web portals and exemplary applications in relation to the subjects of the GIW-Commission's lead projects are discussed.

An important requirement for the activation of the geo-information market involves developing sustainable business models. This section introduces the elements of such business models, sales and distribution models and potential forms of cooperation. The emphasis is placed on web-based business models in an international environment.

The geo-information market in Germany was first explored by MICUS in 2003. This market assessment has been updated. In the relevant section, the three most important market segments given by portable and on board satellite navigation, planning and documentation systems as well as geo-marketing are considered.

Based on the results of the study, policy recommendations are made. These address public administrations as well as organizations and businesses.

Original URL: <http://www.geobusinessmaps.org/>

Number of pages: 14

UK: Models of Public Sector Information Provision via Trading Funds Report - 12 March 2008

Complete title: Models of Public Sector Information Provision via Trading Funds

Description (short summary): This report is an independent review of how government trading funds provide and charge for public sector information. The review was undertaken by economists at Cambridge University. Among other individual trading funds analysed are the UK Hydrographic Office and the national Land Registry.

Original URL: <http://www.opsi.gov.uk/advice/poi/trading-funds>

Number of pages: 154

UK/GL: The commercial use of public information (CUPI) - 31 December 2006

Complete title: The commercial use of public information (CUPI)

Description (short summary): This study looks at the markets for Public Sector Information (PSI) and how well the supply of PSI is working for customers.

Original URL: http://www.ofc.gov.uk/advice_and_resources/publications/reports/consumer-protection/ofc861

EU/US: MEPSIR Study – Measuring European Public Sector Information Resources - 30 June 2006

Complete title: MEPSIR – Measuring European Public Sector Information Resources – Final Report of Study on Exploitation of public sector information – Benchmarking of EU framework conditions

Description (short summary): This document is the final report of the MEPSIR study that conducted a measurement related to the European Directive 2003/98/EC of 17 November 2003 on the re-use of public sector information (PSI). The first part of this report contains a description of the context (chapter 2) and the scope (chapter 3) of the study, followed by a description of the approach (chapter 4), methodology (chapter 5) and analysis method (chapter 6). This introductory material is followed by chapters with presentation of the overall results (chapter 7) and overviews of the results for all domains (chapter 8), for all countries (chapter 9) and for economic indicators (chapter 10). Chapter 11 describes the situation in the USA, while chapter 12 contains a description of seven case studies. The report concludes with a number of conclusions (chapter 13). The second part of this report presents the detailed results of the study, both from a domain perspective, showing the figures for the sub-domains relevant for public sector information, as well as from a geographical perspective, showing the figures for the countries that were surveyed.

Original URL: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/policy/psi/library/index_en.htm

Number of pages:

Executive Summary of the MEPSIR Study: 20 pages

Part 1 of the final report of the MEPSIR Study: 94 pages

Part 2 of the final report of the MEPSIR Study – Detailed results for sub-domains and individual countries: 119 pages

ePractice Workshops

ePractice.eu combines online and offline activities. Workshops are held on a monthly basis, giving participants the opportunity to discuss the latest issues and cases face-to-face.

[Electronic Public Procurement in South-East Europe](#) 26 February 2009 | Peania (Greece)

[ePractice.eu Communities workshop](#) 12 March 2009 | Brussels (Belgium)

[Public services 2.0: How to implement and promote user-driven open innovation in public services](#) 16 March 2009 | Brussels (Belgium)

[Procure Final Conference: towards a global solution](#) 17 March 2009 | Brussels (Belgium)

[eGovernment Impact Measurement](#) 26 - 27 March 2009 | Kittenberg (Hungary)

Co-branding your event with ePractice.eu is possible. Please read our terms at epractice.eu/workshops

Upcoming Events

- [BE: Open Conference on Data Protection and Privacy](#) 12 February 2009 | Belgium
- [DE: ESDI-Net+ Workshop "Local GDIs in a European context - a national perspective"](#) 12 - 13 February 2009 | Germany
- [CZ: Workshop on Monitoring and Benchmarking e-Health in Europe and the World](#) 18 February 2009 | Czech Republic

- [BE: ICT Solutions using SOA and Web Services](#) 19 February 2009 | Belgium
 - [BE: Workshop “eGovernment research: social and economic aspects”](#) 20 February 2009 | Belgium
 - [GR: Consultation Workshop on ICT for Governance & Policy Modelling](#) 27 February 2009 | Greece
 - [DE: CeBIT 2009](#) 3 - 8 March 2009 | Germany
 - [BE: 5th annual Growth and Innovation Day](#) 5 March 2009 | Belgium
 - [TR: “First International Conference on eGovernment and eGovernance” of TURKSAT](#) 12 - 13 March 2009 | Turkey
 - [BE: European e-ID Interoperability Conference 2009](#) 17 - 18 March 2009 | Belgium
 - [DE: Challenges for FTTB/H in Europe](#) 23 - 24 March 2009 | Germany
 - [CZ: European Conference ‘Towards eEnvironment 2009’](#) 25 - 27 March 2009 | Czech Republic
 - [ES: e-STAS 2009](#) 25 - 27 March 2009 | Spain
 - [DE: European Accessibility Forum Frankfurt](#) 27 March 2009 | Germany
 - [UK: ePS Annual Conference 2009](#) 23 - 24 April 2009 | United Kingdom
 - [UK: Patient 2.0 Empowerment - EHR for Personalizing and Improving Care](#) 1 - 3 June 2009 | United Kingdom
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BE: Open Conference on Data Protection and Privacy

12 February 2009

Open Conference on Data Protection and Privacy of the CEN/ISSS Workshop on Data Protection and Privacy

The aim of this open conference is to engage in a public consultation on the current work of the CEN/ISSS Workshop on Data Protection and Privacy. The following projects will be presented:

- Project 1 on EU privacy audit tools, addressing a practical approach of audit tools for data managers, enabling them to perform regulatory self assessments;
- Project 2 on producing a Common European set of voluntary Best Practices for data protection management to help businesses and data managers comply with the Directive, with diverse European national laws and with other privacy and data protection regulatory requirements;
- Project 3 that aims to describe a Voluntary Technology Dialogue Framework to enable industry, service providers and regulators to work together during the development cycle of new products and services to improve privacy and data protection.

Attendance is free of charge but subject to advance registration. Those wishing to participate are requested to send an email with their name and organisation to [Françoise Wanson](#) by 29 January 2009.

More information, together with the draft agenda of the conference may be found [online](#).

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: CEN/ISSS Workshop on Data Protection and Privacy (CEN Workshop DPP)

Event website: <http://www.cen.eu/cenorm/businessdomains/businessdomains/iss/iss/activity/wsdpp.asp>

Event email: infodesk@cen.eu

DE: ESDI-Net+ Workshop "Local GDIs in a European context - a national perspective"

12 - 13 February 2009

ESDI-Net+ Workshop "Local GDIs in a European context - a national perspective"

This workshop takes place within the framework of the EU co-funded [ESDI-Net+ project](#) (Network for promotion of cross-border dialogue and exchange of best practices on Spatial Data Infrastructures (SDI's) throughout Europe). The event focuses on the spatial data infrastructures (GDI) in the German-speaking world, as well as all topics pertaining to geo-information (GI) and the INSPIRE directive. The aim of the workshops organised by the ESDI-Net + project partners is to continue and expand the dialogue on the subject of GI from the local to the European

level. For organisational reasons, those wishing to take part are requested to complete the [dedicated form](#) and return it either by [email](#) or fax (+49 (0)6151 155 599) by 30 January 2009.

Country: Germany

City/Location: Darmstadt

Organiser: InGeoForum and the INI GraphicsNet Foundation

Event website: <http://www.ingeoforum.de/veranstaltungen/aktuell.html?id=94>

Event email: info@ingeoforum.de

CZ: Workshop on Monitoring and Benchmarking e-Health in Europe and the World

18 February 2009

Workshop on Monitoring and Benchmarking e-Health in Europe and the World

Today, Information and Communication Technology (ICT) are used in many areas of the health system - including hospitals, doctors' practices, pharmacies, insurances and other reimbursers etc. - constituting what is commonly referred to as eHealth. Despite this continuing trend, comprehensive empirical information on the deployment and use of eHealth are hard to find.

Against this background, the eHealth Benchmarking study aims to identify and collect quantitative and qualitative evidence of eHealth deployment and use in the European Union, Norway, Iceland, Canada and the United States - with a particular focus on measurements specified in the European Union's eHealth Action Plan. Sources to be covered include healthcare associations and bodies, international organisations such as OECD and WHO, IT industry, national statistical institutes and authorities at regional and national level.

The general study results, the indicator framework and some of the 13 selected good practice cases from different countries will be presented at the workshop.

This information will not only help to better understand eHealth progress but also to identify main gaps, obstacles and barriers in relation to eHealth monitoring / benchmarking to be overcome in the next few years.

Registration to the workshop is free and can be performed through email to: ehealth_benchmarking@empirica.com or [online](#) by filing the registration form. Additional details about the workshop are available in the [complete information package](#).

Country: Czech Republic

City/Location: Prague

Organiser: European Commission

Event website: <http://www.ehealth-benchmarking.eu/workshop/workshop.html>

Event email: ingo.meyer@empirica.com, werner.korte@empirica.com

BE: ICT Solutions using SOA and Web Services

19 February 2009

eGovernment Workshop Brussels – Public Finance: ICT Solutions using SOA & Web Services

The objective of this one day Workshop is to introduce ICT solutions in the context of public finance, including tax, benefits and payments, and exchange experience amongst professionals of use cases focusing on SOA [Service Oriented Architecture] and web-based services.

The Workshop will bring together tax and finance specialists with eGovernment policy professionals and officials from a wide range of ministries and different countries concerned with tax, revenue and related public finance issues. Representatives from technology companies and members of European and international secretariats as well as staff from industry and trade associations are also expected to participate.

The OASIS eGovernment Member Section has developed the Workshop to promote interoperability and the use of open standards in this rapidly expanding sector, which is forecast to continue to grow despite the financial crises afflicting major markets.

The four main themes will be:

- Advancing Open Standards in Government using SOA and web services;
- Exchange of SOA Experience in the revenue and tax sector;
- International Cross-border use cases;
- Practical Solutions for Consumers/Citizens and Tax-payers.

This meeting is open to both members and non-members of OASIS with an interest in the use of open standards for eGovernment.

Participation in this Workshop is at no cost, but registration is essential. Details on registration can be viewed [here](#). Places are limited to 50.

The agenda of the event (subject to change) may also be viewed [here](#).

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: OASIS eGov Member Section and the Belgian Federal Ministry of Finance

Event website: <http://events.oasis-open.org/home/egov-brussels-workshop/2009>

Event email: events@oasis-open.org .

BE: Workshop “eGovernment research: social and economic aspects”

20 February 2009

Workshop “eGovernment research: social and economic aspects”

Future eGovernment challenges are expected to come from changes in society and the interaction of governments with their environment. If technology is to become an effective instrument in the solution to societal problems, it must be translated into government applications. The workshop will discuss the societal implications and the ultimate expectations associated with this transformation.

The workshop will primarily address results of the Sixth Framework Programme (FP6) projects of the IST priority. Short presentations will be given by project representatives or other individual researchers and practitioners. Demonstrations of successful studies and applications, as well as lessons learnt through them are of particular interest. The complete Call for Participation is available [online](#).

The organisers will be accepting short abstracts (of not more than 150 words) from those wishing to give a presentation. All abstracts submissions as well as expressions of interest in participating are to be sent via e-mail to: eGovR@eurodyn.com within the deadline of **10 February 2009**.

It is to be noted that free-of-charge event is open to the participation of all those interested, in particular:

- Representatives of eGovernment research projects in FP6;
- Researchers, interested practitioners and promotion experts.

Places being limited, early registration is recommended.

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: European Commission (“ICT for Government and Public Services” Unit, DG Information Society and Media) along with the “Bringing Together and Accelerating eGovernment Research in the EU” study

Event website:

http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/egovernment/studies/trendswatch/index_en.htm#Workshops

Event email: eGovR@eurodyn.com

GR: Consultation Workshop on ICT for Governance & Policy Modelling

27 February 2009

Consultation Workshop on ICT for Governance & Policy

During the half-day event ideas will be discussed with representatives from the European Commission. Participants will deepen in the insight and understanding on the new research area set out in the Objective 7.3 of the new ICT Work Programme for 2009-2010 in the 7th Framework Programme for R&D.

In order to facilitate the discussions, abstracts of maximum 1 page are called for. The abstracts should summarise one's ideas on the topic and may include scenarios on the possible application of the technologies described in Objective 7.3 in the domain of Governance & Public Services.

The Consultation Workshop will follow the Workshop organised at the same venue by the Information and Communication Department of the Hellenic Technical Chamber (e-TEE) titled "e-Government for Transparency and Democracy". Participation to the event is free of charge, but pre-registration is required by sending an email to [Yannis Charalabidis](mailto:Yannis.Charalabidis) or [Costis Christogiannis](mailto:Costis.Christogiannis). Due to logistic constraints participation is limited to 50 persons. Early registration is therefore recommended.

Country: Greece

City/Location: Athens

Organiser: National Technical University of Athens (NTUA) & Unit H2 (ICT for Government and Public Services) of the DG Information Society and Media of the European Commission

Event website: <http://challengers-org.eu/news/athens-consultation-workshop-on-egovernance.html>

Event email: yannisx@epu.ntua.gr or christ@telecom.ntua.gr.

DE: CeBIT 2009

3 - 8 March 2009

CeBIT 2009 – 'Discover a World of ICT opportunity'

CeBIT is an international trade fair showcasing digital IT and telecommunications solutions for home and work environments. Its key target groups are users from industry, the wholesale/retail sector, skilled trades, banks, the services sector, government agencies, science and all users passionate about technology.

CeBIT offers a platform for comparing notes on current industry trends, networking, and product presentations. It constitutes an event of interest for everyone who needs to receive valuable related input on IT developments, make important decisions on IT issues, better manage today's business challenges and add business value to his/her work.

Participants will gain the opportunity to:

- discover new topic areas that cover current areas of interest and the latest industry trends;
- approach and directly communicate with the actual decision makers;
- cultivate business contacts;
- exchange information with senior professionals and leading firms.

Details on participation, registration and fees are available [online](#).

Country: Germany

City/Location: Hannover

Organiser: Deutsche Messe AG

Event website: http://www.cebit.de/homepage_e

Event email: <http://www.cebit.de/14664>

BE: 5th annual Growth and Innovation Day

5 March 2009

5th annual Growth and Innovation Day- ICT enabling Europe's economy

The evolution of the internet can provide the capacity to drive innovation that has never been seen. The ICT industry of tomorrow will create tremendous growth revolutionizing the way European citizens receive their news or manage their health, work, leisure, energy consumption and their children's education. However, the new industry can only succeed if today's inventor and tomorrow's entrepreneur are empowered to succeed.

Government leaders, industry stakeholders, academics and the media will have the opportunity to take a look at the European Research & Development technology building the future, revolutionizing the way European citizens receive their news or manage their health, work, leisure, energy consumption or their children's education. They will discuss the issues and concerns of European software developers and try to find answer on where Europe needs to invest and prepare for tomorrow's economy.

The event will host an exhibition that will showcase web enhancing software and more importantly how European talent has the potential to develop software that will be rolled out in a few years.

Main topics for discussion and sessions will be:

- Roles and responsibilities of government and industry.
- What is the role of the industry and how can they help?
- How will the next presidency help in driving innovation?
- Will tomorrow's spin-off company be armed to compete internationally?
- What are the concerns for tomorrow's software developers?
- How innovation can offer a platform for hundreds of thousands of small European companies and start-ups to grow and be tomorrow's global businesses?
- How these businesses can create solutions to help solve serious issues in the environment and health sectors?
- How ICT can support the public sector, the citizens and other businesses to help drive efficiency in challenging economic times?
- Whether it is essential for the industry to develop the internet of tomorrow to protect the consumer.

Registration is to be performed [online](#) at the event's website.

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: Microsoft

Event website: <http://www.euinnovationday.com/>

Event email: info@euinnovationday.com

TR: "First International Conference on eGovernment and eGovernance" of TURKSAT

12 - 13 March 2009

"First International Conference on eGovernment and eGovernance"

The first International Conference on eGovernment and eGovernance of TURKSAT (Turksat Satellite Communication Cable TV and Operation Inc.) will provide the opportunity for all stakeholders to gain an understanding of real-world eGovernment and eGovernance issues.

The conference will consist of keynote addresses, a plenary session, technical sessions and a panel discussion covering a wide range of topics in the eGovernment and eGovernance areas. It has been organised by and for an audience of leaders, bureaucrats, technocrats, researchers, practitioners and academic across the globe to present and discuss on their research findings and experiences in the field of the specific domain areas.

Registration is to be performed by filling out the [dedicated form](#) available at the event's website. The conference fee is €70, which is payable in advance and should be received by December 19, 2008.

Country: Turkey

City/Location: Ankara

Organiser: SoSReS (Social Sciences Research Society)

Event website: <http://icegov.info/>

Event email: icegov@sobiad.org

BE: European e-ID Interoperability Conference 2009

17 - 18 March 2009

European e-ID Interoperability Conference 2009, "Current Perspective and Initiatives from around Europe in Government and Business"

In its fourth year, this annual conference acts as a neutral forum where industry and administrations can address specific areas of importance in the digital identity arena. It also facilitates the exchange of ideas amongst delegates who want to learn and build upon their knowledge in a relaxed, constructive environment.

The European e-ID Interoperability Conference 2009 will examine how the cross border electronic identity (e-ID) large scale pilots (LSPs) and National schemes are progressing and the implications for governments, administrations, businesses and the citizen alike. It will focus on key subject areas such as those listed below:

- Secure Identity Across Borders Linked (STORK) – Pan European Public Procurement OnLine (PEPPOL) - European Patients Smart Open Services (EPSOS) - Objectives, Current position and Interworking together;
- Examples of how countries and businesses are rolling-out their e-ID schemes;
- Discovering the key legal, data protection and privacy implications;
- The technical issues and solutions (additionally the future use of RFID & NFC applications);
- The latest strategies for maximising the security of e-ID (including two-factor authentication);
- The cross border interoperability challenges and their possible solutions Applications and solutions driven by national e-ID card implementations;
- Mobile applications.

The agenda of the event is available [here](#). There is a participation fee for the event, €200 for eema members, and €400 for non-members. The number of attendees is expected to be around 120. Online registration will open shortly.

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: European Association for e-identity and security (eema)

Event website: <http://www.eema.org/>

Event email: f.hawkins@eema.org

DE: Challenges for FTTB/H in Europe

23 - 24 March 2009

International WIK (Wissenschaftliches Institut für Infrastruktur und Kommunikationsdienste) conference: Challenges for FTTB/H in Europe

This international conference constitutes an open event that will focus on critical issues related to the creation of a high-speed Internet access infrastructure for Europe (FTTB/H - Fiber to the Building / Fiber to the Home). It addresses issues such as technology, deployment & operation, regulation, investment & financing, national fibre broadband strategies and business cases.

The conference aims to provide insights into the experiences, expectations and perspectives of leading international network operators, national regulatory authorities, and representatives of the European Commission, government officials, investors, equipment manufacturers and independent experts.

Participation in this conference is fixed at € 590 per person + VAT. Registration is to be performed by completing the dedicated [form](#) which is to be submitted prior to 10 March 2009 by fax to the following number: +49 2224 922 563. The expected number of participants to attend this event will vary from 120 to 150 persons.

The draft agenda of the event may also be viewed [here](#).

Country: Germany

City/Location: Berlin

Organiser: WIK (Wissenschaftliches Institut für Infrastruktur und Kommunikationsdienste)

Event website: http://www.wik.org/content_e/challenge_of_fttb.htm

Event email: fttbh-conference-2009@wik.org

CZ: European Conference ‘Towards eEnvironment 2009’

25 - 27 March 2009

European Conference of the Czech Presidency of the Council of the European Union – ‘Towards eEnvironment – Opportunities of SEIS and SISE: Integrating Environmental Knowledge in Europe’

The European conference ‘Towards eEnvironment 2009’ is dedicated to information exchange among public administrations, EU institutions, environmental agencies, scientists and businesses involved in developing and using environmental informatics for the delivery of modern eEnvironment services in Europe.

The event is intended to offer a meeting place for experts on leading edge ICT technologies. It aims to foster the standardization and integration of environmental data and information flows in Europe and beyond, which are essential pre-requirements for managing natural resources in a sustainable development framework.

The main topics of the conference will include: ICT research towards the development of a Single Information Space in Europe for the Environment (SISE); best practices of European Member States in the implementation of the Shared Environmental Information System (SEIS); cooperation and integration of Kopernikus and INSPIRE activities.

The conference will feature the state-of-the-art in environmental informatics while presenting the opportunities towards the development and implementation of two related initiatives; SEIS and SISE. Special focus will be placed on:

- Building SEIS, Europe's backbone for eGovernment environment services. Does Europe champion challenge and seize the opportunities in the provision of eEnvironment/eParticipation services?
- ICT research towards enabling a Single Information Space in Europe for the Environment (SISE). How can ICT contribute to strengthening a collaborative information space on the web that will maximise the use of distributed environmental information for multiple purposes and actors?
- ICT for monitoring and controlling energy efficiency and security, environmental modelling of air pollution, climate change to support decision making in environment protection.

Participation is open to governmental institutions, international and intergovernmental organisations, environmental agencies and networks, scientists, academicians, politicians, businesses, managers of corporate social responsibility, public administration and decision makers in the field of environmental information, experts from the ICT industry, specialists of theoretical and applied informatics, consultants, students and the concerned public.

More information (including the preliminary programme) can be found on the conference's [official announcement](#).

Registration is to be performed by completing the dedicated [PDF form](#). The participation fees are as follows:

- Early rate (before 15 December 2008): €300 for delegates, €100 for students;
- Late rate (from 15 December 2008 to 20 March 2009): €330 for delegates, €130 for students.
- On site rate (after 20 March 2009): €360 for delegates, €160 for students.

Country: Czech Republic

City/Location: Prague

Organiser: Masaryk University in cooperation with the Ministry of Environment of the Czech Republic, the European Commission and European Environment Agency

Event website: <http://www.e-envi2009.org/>

Event email: e-envi2009@guarant.cz

ES:e-STAS 2009

25 - 27 March 2009

e-STAS, Symposium on Technologies for Social Action and Human Development

The [e-STAS](#) Symposium focuses on Technologies for Social Action from an international and multi-stakeholder perspective. By providing the necessary grounds for all actors involved in the development and implementation of ICTs exchanging good practices, innovations, experiences and know-how, it is intended to contribute to putting an end to the digital divide through a cluster of innovative strategies relating to ICTs and social action.

The Symposium's main aim is to promote, foster and adapt the use of ICTs for the benefit of social action and human development. Both the population with the lesser chances of access to the Information Society and volunteers indirectly benefit from e-STAS, so that the promotion of the use of the New Technologies reaches NGOs and those groups with the higher risk of digital exclusion.

The 4th edition of the e-STAS will focus on the "Innovation for the Empowerment of Citizens".

Targeted attendees range from entities to individuals, including local authorities, companies, NGOs and universities, and all those involved in the development and implementation of the ICT through various social projects.

Participation to this event is open and free-of-charge. Registration is to be performed [online](#) at the event website. The number of seats is limited to 200.

Country: Spain

City/Location: Malaga

Organiser: Fundacion Cibervoluntarios

Event website: <http://www.e-stas.org/>

Event email: e-stas@cibervoluntarios.org

DE: European Accessibility Forum Frankfurt

27 March 2009

European Accessibility Forum Frankfurt - "Accessible Internet. For All!"

This International eAccessibility conference aims to explore accessibility from the perspectives of technology, profitability, politics, and higher education.

Demographic developments have rendered accessibility an economic and ethical imperative as well as a sign of professionalism. During the event, several industry innovators will share their knowledge and discuss social and political developments on the Internet.

Early bird tickets (from 28 January to 15 February) will cost €150 while registration from 16 February and on will cost € 220. Those who cannot afford to pay the participation fee and wish to attend the conference may [contact](#) the conference organisers.

Details on registration can be viewed [here](#). Places are limited to 200 attendees.

The agenda of the event is displayed [here](#).

Country: Germany

City/Location: Frankfurt am Main

Organiser: namics (deutschland) gmbh

Event website: <http://eafra.eu>

Event email: eafra@namics.com

UK: ePS Annual Conference 2009

23 - 24 April 2009

eProcurement Scotland's 7th Annual Conference 2009

The ePS Conference 2009 will predominately address public sector buying organisations including those currently using eProcurement or considering its use in the future.

The programme will cover:

- eCommerce and new contract of service
- PECOS Project 21C - how do we get there collectively
- Content Management and best practice in collaborative contracts
- Progressing with Post Implementation Reviews, the key findings to what we can do
- Supplier eCommerce (eEnablement) - what do our suppliers need?
- Progress with eInvoicing
- eSourcing - who is using it, what can it do to support your business needs, how does it fit with the advertising portal.

Spaces are limited and registration to the event is being performed by email eprocurement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk. There is a fee of £100 (approximately €106) for Scottish public sector organisations and of £182 (approximately €193) for non Scottish public sector, aiming to cover the full cost of accommodation, meals etc. Number of expected attendees is around 150 delegates.

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: Aviemore

Organiser: Scottish Procurement Directorate, Scottish Government

Event website: <http://www.eprocurementscotland.com/Home/Channels/Events/Archive/conf2009>

Event email: eprocurement@scotland.gsi.gov.uk

UK: Patient 2.0 Empowerment - EHR for Personalizing and Improving Care

1 - 3 June 2009

6th ICMCC Event – "Patient 2.0 Empowerment - EHR for Personalizing and Improving Care"

In a recently published paper, the ICMCC defined Patient 2.0 Empowerment as: the active participation of the citizen in his or her health and care pathway with the interactive use of Information and Communication Technologies.

Dealing with medical and care compunetics, the field of social, societal and ethical implications of computing and networking, ICMCC decided to focus the 2009 event on Electronic Health Records (EHR) and secondarily, the connection between EHR and Digital Homecare.

The main themes of the conference are as follows:

- EHR and Knowledge Mangement;
- Social aspects of EHR;

- Ethical aspects of EHR;
- EHR and Digital Homecare;
- Future of EHR (visionary).

The [call for papers](#) is open until 1 February 2009. Authors are encouraged to focus their contributions from a patient's perspective.

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: International Council on Medical and Care Compunetics (ICMCC)

Event website: <http://2009.icmcc.org/>

Event email: event@icmcc.org

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