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European ePractice Newsletter

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>> Win a webcam!

ePractice.eu invites all registered members to increase their involvement in the activities of the portal and gain the opportunity to participate in the prize draw of five webcams. During the campaign, every week the ePractice.eu team will choose one person among the users according to the prize draw conditions and will award him/her with a webcam. For more information and detailed conditions of the campaign, please visit epractice.eu/info/86

>> eInclusion of Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities workshop

On November 13th ePractice.eu will celebrate an international workshop in Brussels to analyse several themes related to eInclusion and Immigration in the EU. Coordinated by professor Joe Cullen, from the Tavistock Institute (UK), the seminar's keynote speeches will be delivered by Mr. Stefano Kluzer, from the Institute for Prospective Technological Studies (Italy) and Ms. Dana Diminescu, from the Maison des Sciences de l'Homme foundation (France). Three relevant case studies presentations and interactive discussions will follow. If you are interested in this free event, register now at epractice.eu/workshop/einclusionresults

>> Reducing Administrative Burden

ePractice encourages its members to participate in the workshop on Administrative Burden which will take place in Brussels on November 25. During this free event, participants will learn about the actions undertaken by the EC for measuring and reducing Administrative Burden and will be provided with an up to date overview of the latest activities of the Standard Cost Model Network. The workshop will also analyse several good practice cases showing how administrative burden is successfully being reduced for business, citizens and governments along Europe. Registration is open at epractice.eu/workshop/adminburden

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

- [Online all-in-one Environmental Permit](#) 24 October 2008 |

Editor's Choice of the week: [Click On It Grandma!](#)

Online all-in-one Environmental Permit

The VROM all-in-one service for electronic submission and process of environmental permits was introduced by the Environment Permits Bill (General Provisions), henceforth referred to by its acronym WABO. The main purpose of Wabo is to establish a single straightforward procedure and a single competent authority for persons or businesses seeking permission for activities which affect the physical environment. Therefore, someone wishing to carry out a physical project (e.g. start a business in a new building) can get the necessary permissions through an integrated procedure: just one licence from one procedure, one set of rules to follow, one system of remedies and one enforcement agency. The permit application will, where possible, be processed electronically. The new licensing system will replace much of the existing legislation regulating activities which affect our physical environment.

Latest News

- [EU: Commission launches survey to assess up-take and experience of Public eProcurement](#) 27 October 2008 | EU Institutions
 - [EU: OFE calls on EU to crack down on Public Procurement practice for IT software](#) 27 October 2008 | EU Institutions
 - [EU: EUCARIS wins iG 2.0 Award](#) 24 October 2008 | Pan European
 - [AT: Austria launches new Citizen Card initiative for students](#) 23 October 2008 | Austria
 - [LI: Liechtenstein revises its Data Protection Act](#) 23 October 2008 | Liechtenstein
 - [EU: SEMIC.EU wins iG 2.0 Transferability Award](#) 22 October 2008 | EU Institutions
 - [DK: New citizen portal online](#) 22 October 2008 | Denmark
 - [IS: New information channel on financial matters](#) 22 October 2008 | Iceland
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EU: Commission launches survey to assess up-take and experience of Public eProcurement - 27 October 2008

*Electronic Public Procurement: the European Commission has launched an online survey to assess up-take and experience of practitioners. The survey will remain open **until 18 December 2008**.*

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Internal Market and Services has commissioned Ernst & Young to conduct an evaluation of the effective up-take of electronic public procurement ("eProcurement") across the EU.

In particular, the evaluation will assess how well the objectives of the "[Action plan for the implementation of the legal framework for electronic public procurement](#)" (the so-called Action Plan for eProcurement), adopted by the European Commission in December 2004, have been achieved. In this context, an online survey, available in English, French and German has been launched on 23 October 2008. It is aimed at four different categories of specific users:

1. Suppliers who may have conducted business with public purchasers in a traditional and/ or an eProcurement procedure.
2. Contracting authorities/entities which may have awarded works, supplies or services contracts via traditional and/or eProcurement procedures.
3. Central Purchasing Bodies, i.e. specialised procurement entities which centralise or co-ordinate the purchase of works, supplies or services for one or more contracting authorities/entities at national, regional, local or vertical levels. As such, they may have awarded works, supplies or services contracts via traditional and/or eProcurement procedures.
4. Member State institutions responsible for public procurement policy, or related technical or legal aspects.

eProcurement is a complex and technical issue. In order to obtain the necessary information, essential for a comprehensive evaluation of the various issues, the questions asked cover a fairly wide range of topics. To facilitate responses, structured answers have been provided wherever possible (i.e. tick boxes) and free text answers have been kept to a minimum. However, respondents are also invited to provide any additional comments at the end of the questionnaire. Such **free text contributions would be particularly valuable and can be made in any EU language**. Equally, where an exact response to a question would involve extensive research, it is better to provide a best estimate rather than no answer at all.

The results of this survey will be collected in a report, which will be made available during the second half of 2009. All respondents to the questionnaire will receive a summary of the results. Those interested in participating in this survey are invited to send an email to survey.eproc@it.ey.com and they will receive a logon identity and password. For technical reasons, it is not possible to provide a direct link to the survey without losing some of the more "user friendly" aspects of the application (most importantly the ability to save as the respondent moves from page to page, allowing a questionnaire to be completed at one's convenience, or by several users, rather than in one sitting).

Further information:

- [Action Plan for eProcurement](#)
- Contact email to participate in the survey or to obtain clarification: survey.eproc@it.ey.com

EU: OFE calls on EU to crack down on Public Procurement practice for IT software - 27 October 2008

Open Forum Europe (OFE) has monitored public procurement notices for computer software published on Tenders Electronic Daily. 136 contact notices were scanned for trademarks in the period from February 1 to April 25, 2008.

OFE's monitoring exercise shows that in 34 tender notices out of 136 (25 percent), company brand names were mentioned in procurement documents effectively preventing competition from alternative products.

Graham Taylor, Chief Executive of OFE commented "Frankly we were shocked at the likely extent of the problem. Public authorities not only stand accused of wasting potentially billions by inefficient purchasing, but also locking their users and citizens into today's solutions, and being unable to take advantage of new innovation in the future."

Further information:

- [Official source – Open Forum Europe \(OFE\)](#)
- [Read OFE's full press release - 22 October 2008](#)
- [OFE Monitoring Report: Discrimination in Public Procurement Procedures for Computer Software in the EU Member States](#)
- [Tenders Electronic Daily](#)

EU: EUCARIS wins iG 2.0 Award - 24 October 2008

EUCARIS, the European Car and Driving Licence Information System, was awarded the iG 2.0 Award for the most outstanding initiative in the field of interoperability.

The prize was awarded by a jury comprised of experts in ICT, Public Administration, Academia and Research. The accolade under the patronage of the European Commission honours outstanding achievements in interoperability at regional, national and European levels.

EUCARIS got classified among 15 other contestants as the most outstanding project in the field of interoperability in eGovernment. The prize was awarded on the basis of four criteria, on which EUCARIS obtained the best overall score: innovativeness, practical results, impact and transferability.

EUCARIS is a cooperation between 19 European countries in the field of information exchange of vehicles and driving licences. The system is currently used within the framework of the EUCARIS Treaty, the EU Prüm Council Decision and several bilateral agreements (mostly on cross-border enforcement of traffic violations).

The network is open for new initiatives of data exchange between different countries. More information on EUCARIS can be found on the relevant ePractice case at the following page: <http://www.epractice.eu/cases/eucaris>.

The competition has been organised within the framework of the 2nd European Summit on Interoperability in the iGovernment (ESIIG 2). The organiser of the ESIIG 2 Summit, the Lazio region, launched the second edition of the iG Award (iG 2.0) initiative in collaboration with ePractice.eu. The competition was open to a wide spectrum of participants, from public authorities at local, regional, national and European levels to stakeholders of the private sector experts in the ICT field and in the Knowledge and Information Society.

Further information:

- [ESIIG 2 website – iG 2.0 Award](#)
- [EUCARIS – ePractice case](#)

AT: Austria launches new Citizen Card initiative for students - 23 October 2008

Austria recently launched a new initiative to promote usage of electronic services among students.

Dealing with a variety of different administrative procedures and services is already part of a student's daily routine. The broad spectrum of relevant services ranges from carrying out the application for a scholarship or health insurance to reimbursing taxes for a student's secondary job.

Within the framework of the recently launched studi.gv.at initiative, students can now activate the Citizen Card functionality on their e-Card for free, thus being able to participate in a variety of online services for students already put in place. Students can furthermore receive a compatible e-card reading device – also free of charge.

Within the framework of studi.gv.at, which will be on-going until the end of January 2009, a group of tutors will be visiting all Austrian universities in order to distribute a total of 10 000 free e-card readers and help students activate their Citizen Card.

According to the Federal Minister for Science and Research, particular categories of students, such as those ones working in parallel to their studies or students with disabilities, will benefit a better integration in the university-environment.

studi.gv.at is a nation - wide joint initiative of the [Federal Ministry of Science and Research](http://www.bmwf.gv.at), the Federal Ministry of Finance, the Federal Chancellery, and Austria's Main Association of Social Insurances.

Further information:

- [Federal Ministry of Science and Research](http://www.bmwf.gv.at)
- studi.gv.at
- [Austrian Citizen Card](http://www.austrian-citizen-card.at)

LI: Liechtenstein revises its Data Protection Act - 23 October 2008

In a recent session, the Parliament of the Principality of Liechtenstein adopted a partial revision of the Data Protection Act bringing the law into line with EU agreements.

Liechtenstein's participation on the Schengen and Dublin agreements require the Principality to connect to European database systems, such as the Schengen Information System (SIS) or the Eurodac service.

In the parliamentary session of September 2008, Liechtenstein's Data Protection Act was partially revised to achieve compliance with the provisions of the two aforementioned agreements, thus enabling the country's future participation in those agreements.

According to the revised law, data protection will be subordinate to the Principality's Parliament, which will also elect the Data Protection Commissioner. This lays emphasis on the independence of data protection from the Executive and underlines data protection's main role; to ensure the protection of personal rights as well as the respect for privacy.

Further information:

- [National Administration Portal of Liechtenstein – Press Release](http://www.na.li/press-releases)

EU: SEMIC.EU wins iG 2.0 Transferability Award - 22 October 2008

The Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe ([SEMIC.EU](http://www.semic.eu)) is the winner of the iG 2.0 special Transferability Prize. The competition has been organised within the framework of the 2nd European Summit on Interoperability in the iGovernment (ESIIG 2).

Since its first edition, one of the main objectives of the ESIIG initiative has been to share the current practices in the field of interoperability in the eGovernment at local, regional, national and European levels. In this light, the iG Award and the associated prizes aim to acknowledge the most outstanding actions or initiatives in the field of interoperability.

The organiser of the ESIIG 2 Summit, the Lazio region, launched the second edition of the iG Award (iG 2.0) initiative in collaboration with [ePractice.eu](http://www.epractice.eu). The competition was open to a wide spectrum of participants, from public authorities at local, regional, national and European levels to stakeholders of the private sector experts in the ICT field and in the Knowledge and Information Society.

The finalists' and winners' selection has been carried out by a jury made up of experts in ICT from the Public Administration, the Academia and the research community, against four evaluation criteria: Innovativeness, Practical results, Impact and Transferability. Out of the sixteen cases that were submitted through the [ePractice.eu](http://www.epractice.eu) portal, the iG 2.0 Awards finalists are as follows:

- EUCARIS, the European car and driving licence information system;
- INTEROPCYL;
- Emilia Romagna's Labour Information System;

- Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe (SEMIC.EU);
- Employment/unemployment status management: actual interoperability through the CO eService.

The SEMIC.EU case has received a special IG 2.0 award in the 'transferability' category due to its potential to be applied to other geographical, cultural and administrative fields. The transferability good practice of SEMIC.EU partly comes from the fact that the SEMIC technology, methodology and guidelines can be transferred to similar initiatives of public administrations across Europe, and partly because of the collaboration and sharing values practiced by SEMIC, where it facilitates the sharing and re-use of quality semantic assets among public administrations.

SEMIC.EU is an initiative carried out under the [IDABC programme](#) of the European Commission. Since its launch in June 2008, SEMIC.EU has been aimed at providing a valuable range of services and a collaboration platform for pan-European eGovernment projects. In practice, SEMIC.EU features a repository of interoperability assets which enable data exchange in distributed information systems.

Further information:

- [Press release – SEMIC.EU](#)
- [ESIIG event notice at ePractice](#)
- [ESIIG 2 Website – About the iG 2.0 Award](#)
- [IDABC programme](#)

DK: New citizen portal online - 22 October 2008

A new, updated version of Denmark's citizen web portal '[borger.dk](#)' has gone live.

The upgraded portal contains the first version of the 'My Page' section which gives a personal overview of one's relation to the public authorities, such as information on housing and taxes. 'My Page' will make an increasing range of data available to the public.

At the same time, version 2 of borger.dk offers a single sign on solution. It allows citizens to receive and access information and services from several agencies without having to log on several times. The updated borger.dk has been further structured around its users' needs. As a result, information and solutions are divided into 'civic themes' following citizens' life events, thus providing thematic access to digital services provided by various authorities. At first, four of such 'civic themes' have been made available, namely: housing, economy, children and retirement. More themes are planned to be gradually added.

Further updates are scheduled to take place in the course of 2009. Among other things, citizens will gain the opportunity to opt for SMS reminders and to receive emails from public authorities via 'My Page'. Several public self-services will be added, together with new civic themes.

"With 'My Page' and the civic themes, the portal is taking a big step forward. The new borger.dk gives everyone in Denmark access to public services at any place and time that is convenient for them. We are constantly developing the cooperation between the authorities to make borger.dk an easy, safe and personal digital access point to the public administration for the individual." said Helge Sander, the Danish Minister for Science, Technology and Innovation.

Since 1 January 2007, 'borger.dk' has been the single Internet entry point to the public sector's information and services to citizens, regardless of the origin of the public authority. In doing so, it follows the 'glass plate' model of service integration, i.e. decentralised services with a centralised overview.

Further information:

- [Press release – National IT and Telecom Agency \(in Danish\)](#)
- [Citizen portal borger.dk \(in Danish\)](#)

IS: New information channel on financial matters - 22 October 2008

Due to the special circumstances on the Icelandic financial markets, the Icelandic Government has opened an information centre for the public, businesses and the media, both in Iceland and abroad.

The Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs informs that the purpose of this centre is to receive email and phone enquiries directed to the Icelandic authorities regarding the circumstances currently affecting the financial markets in the country.

The new information centre either addresses these queries directly, or forwards them to the relevant administrative body. It is open on working days, between 8 am and 10 pm, and can be reached by email at infocenter@mfa.is or by phone at +354-545-8950.

Furthermore, a Media Centre has already been in operation for the past two weeks. The Ministry for Foreign Affairs specified that it will continue to operate, as needed, and that media queries sent to the new information centre will be forwarded to the Media Centre. In addition, the service and information website run by the Ministry of Social Affairs and Social Security will continue to operate on the website of the Government Offices of Iceland at: <http://www.felagsmalaraduneyti.is/upplysingar>.

Further information:

- [Press release – Icelandic Ministry for Foreign Affairs](#)
- Email contact for the new Information centre infocenter@mfa.is
- [Website of the Government Offices](#)

New Factsheets

The 10th Edition of the eGovernment factsheets for Belgium, Italy and Cyprus, the 5th Edition of the eGovernment factsheet for Norway, as well as a new release for the eGovernment factsheet of Switzerland (v 1.1), are now available online. We invite you to visit the [relevant section](#) for regular and/or ad hoc updates related to the factsheets.

Latest Publications

- [UK: Designing for social justice: people, technology, learning](#) 22 October 2008 | United Kingdom
- [EU: eCertificates and eAttestations: Preliminary Study - Final Report and National Country Profiles](#) 5 September 2008 | EU Institutions

UK: Designing for social justice: people, technology, learning - 22 October 2008

Complete title:

Designing for social justice: people, technology, learning

Description (short summary): An introduction to the concept of social justice and practices of user-centred design, looking at how theories for changing the world marry up with methods to implement these changes. The report then explores the potential role of technology-enhanced learning (TEL) within this framework.

Original URL: <http://www.futurelab.org.uk/resources/publications-reports-articles/opening-education-reports/Opening-Education-Report1128>

Number of pages: 60

EU: eCertificates and eAttestations: Preliminary Study - Final Report and National Country Profiles - 5 September 2008

Complete title:

Preliminary Study on the electronic provision of certificates and attestations usually required in public procurement procedures

Final Report and National Country Profiles

Description (short summary): The Preliminary Study on the electronic provision of certificates and attestations in public procurement procedures aims to examine how different European countries (EU, candidate countries and EEA) currently manage the use of certificates and attestations in procurement procedures, particularly in an eProcurement context.

The goal of the study is to identify if and how electronic certificates and attestations are currently issued, accepted and validated in public procurement procedures across these countries, and if and how their eProcurement systems could be modified or amended to support non-national electronic certificates and attestations, thus facilitating cross border economic activities in these countries and contributing to the creation of an internal market for electronic procurements.

As a part of this study, a series of scenarios were created that could be used to build interoperability between existing eAttestation systems, i.e. to ensure that electronic attestations from a tenderer established in one country could be presented to a contracting authority in a different country. These scenarios were then comparatively assessed in order to determine the most efficient or promising ones, and roadmaps were subsequently drafted to implement the most favoured interoperability scenarios. Finally, the study presents a number of recommendations for future actions to gradually improve the availability and usability of electronic attestations in public procurement procedures.

The Final Report of the study has been published in September 2008, together with a report on the electronic attestations and certificates used in 32 European countries (National Country Profiles).

Original URL: http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/publicprocurement/e-procurement_en.htm#feasability

Number of pages: Final Report: 124; National Country Profiles: 557

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.

- [eInclusion, immigrant and ethnic minority groups](#) 13 November 2008 | Brussels (Belgium)
- [eGov services to business: the state of the play](#) 17 November 2008 | Cork (Ireland)
- [Administrative burden](#) 25 November 2008 | Brussels (Belgium)
- [Service Deployment](#) 9 February 2009 | Brussels (Belgium)

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

Upcoming Events

- [DK: World of Health IT 08 – Conference & Exhibition](#) 4 - 6 November 2008 | Denmark
 - [BE: The Power of Procurement](#) 6 - 7 November 2008 | Belgium
 - [PT: 3rd International Strategic Procurement Conference](#) 12 November 2008 | Portugal
 - [SK: Information day on the iWEBCARE project and workshop on e-Europe](#) 12 November 2008 | Slovakia
 - [BE: IMI Training and Awareness-Raising Days](#) 25 - 26 November 2008 | Belgium
 - [FR: ICT Forum 2008](#) 25 - 27 November 2008 | France
 - [FR: ENEA Networking session on “An affordable and personalized health care system for an independent ageing”](#) 26 November 2008 | France
 - [AT: e-Inclusion Ministerial Conference and EXPO](#) 30 November - 2 December 2008 | Austria
 - [FR: Open World Forum – Paris 2008](#) 1 - 2 December 2008 | France
 - [ES: ableTech'08](#) 10 - 11 December 2008 | Spain
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DK: World of Health IT 08 – Conference & Exhibition

4 - 6 November 2008

Connecting Leaders in Technology and Healthcare

Because the adoption of IT in healthcare is a global initiative, this conference will focus on the role and impact of Health IT on the health sector in Europe and other parts of the world, including the Middle East and Africa (EMEA). The event is being designed by and for clinicians and other health professionals; health IT users and buyers; directors and administrators; informatics professionals; academicians; relevant standardisation and competent authorities on an international level and national level, and vendors such as software and hardware development companies and professional services firms.

Topics to be addressed in the conference include:

- eHealth as a Key Enabler in Integrated Healthcare and Citizen Empowerment;
- Organisational Readiness for Transformation in Healthcare;

- Investing for eHealth Deployment;
- Innovation and eHealth.

The conference will offer the following:

- Keynote addresses by leading healthcare experts, practitioners, and officials from EU and national governments;
- Education sessions about timely healthcare IT trends and issues;
- Best practices and real-world case studies from throughout the EMEA region;
- A trade exhibition where companies can showcase their products/services.

The educational sessions will primarily address experiences from deployed services, and focus on proven benefits in quality and efficiency. The demonstration activities and exhibition will give insight into the practical aspects of IT systems and their connectivity.

Country: Denmark

City/Location: Copenhagen

Organisers: European Commission's General-Directorate for Information Society and Media together with the Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS), the European Institute for Health records (EuroRec), the European Health Telematics Association (EHTEL), the European Coordination Committee of the Radiological, Electromedical and Healthcare IT Industry (COCIR) and the Health Information Network Europe (HINE).

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

Event email: jbartley@himss.org

BE: The Power of Procurement

6 - 7 November 2008

The Power of Procurement

The **Power of Procurement** is an informative and interactive event which will focus on how procurement policies and practices will and should affect the future use of information and communications technology (ICT) and the ability to access and share information. It is critical to address these issues now as governments, businesses, and citizens build the infrastructure that can promote social and economic growth. These efforts can be threatened by:

- Ineffective ICT standardization
- Vendor lock-in
- Weak conformance testing and enforcement
- Ineffective strategy coordination across companies, governments, and regions
- Uninformed technological choices
- Out of date government procurement policies and legislation

At this forum, experts in public policy, procurement trade, standardization, and information and communications technology will address these threats. The conference will focus on identifying ICT standardization and government procurement policies that can be used to formulate strategies and implementation plans. Emphasis will be on identifying effective procurement policies, implementing those policies successfully, and on case studies that demonstrate the results of these actions. Based on forum discussions, recommendations will be made for how government can drive economic and social growth through procurement policies that foster the use of ICT standards.

The goal is to provide a forum that brings together decision makers from across geographical and industrial boundaries to discuss how the digital world can evolve with the help of a strengthened ICT standardization system. The speaker expertise featured in this conference series provides an opportunity for attendees to learn about key topics around standardization.

The agenda of the event can be found [here](#). Registration is limited and available on a first come, first served basis; it can be performed online at: <http://www.thebolingroup.com/procurementpower/registration.html>. There is no attendance fee.

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: The Bolin Group

Event website: <http://www.thebolingroup.com/procurementpower/index.html>

Contact Email: sharon@thebolingroup.com

PT: 3rd International Strategic Procurement Conference

12 November 2008

3rd International Strategic Procurement Conference – Compras 2008

The objectives of the 3rd International Strategic Procurement Conference are as follows:

- To present new concepts and operational tools of strategic procurement;
- To share the most recent practices and trends of strategic sourcing and eProcurement;
- To highlight winning experiences and their key success factors;
- To present the global trends of strategic procurement;
- To identify the procurement competitiveness factors in the private sector;
- To debate the challenges related to the new Public Procurement Code of Portugal (DI nº 18/2008 of 29 of January 2008);
- To promote a commercial relationship platform with the Angolan market.

The event is free of charge and open to the participation of all interested persons, but the number of seats is limited. Therefore, those interested are requested to confirm their participation by 7 November 2008, by email sent to info@leadership-bc.com or by phone at +351 213 581 060. Registration can otherwise be performed via the [online form](#) (only available in Portuguese currently). More details on this conference will soon be made available in English on a dedicated website.

Country: Portugal

City/Location: Lisbon

Organiser: Leadership Business Consulting

Event website: <http://www.conferencia-compras.com/>

Contact Email: info@leadership-bc.com

SK: Information day on the iWEBCARE project and workshop on e-Europe

12 November 2008

Information Day on the IWEBCARE project and Workshop on e-Europe

The Information Day will provide practical demonstrations of the results achieved so far by the project “Integrated Web Services Platform for Facilitation of Fraud Detection in Health Care e-Government Services” ([iWEBCARE](#)). This project was approved by the European Commission for the years 2006-2008 and it is financed by the European Union within its 6th Framework Programme and the Information Society Technologies (IST) programme.

The following Workshop on e-Europe will be devoted to presenting the results of the participants' various projects and applications in the different areas of the EU's Lisbon strategy on e-Europe. It will cover, among other areas; eGovernment, eHealth, eBusiness, eLearning, eInclusion, eBanking, eSecurity, eidentification, eContent, Information Society, Knowledge Based Economy.

No registration fee is required. However prior registration by email sent to infoday@fm.uniba.sk before 30 October 2008 is necessary, due to limited number of participants. The same date is also the deadline for the participants to send their proposed papers.

Country: Slovakia

City/Location: Bratislava

Organiser: Comenius University, e-Europe Research & Development Centre and Department of Information Systems of the Faculty of Management

Event website: <http://erdc.fm.uniba.sk/>

Contact Email: infoday@fm.uniba.sk

BE: IMI Training and Awareness-Raising Days

25 - 26 November 2008

IMI Training and Awareness-Raising Days – Towards a smooth administrative collaboration among the Member States

The Internal Market Information System (IMI) is an electronic, multilingual and flexible tool that provides a system for the exchange of information allowing Member States for more efficient and effective co-operation in the implementation of Internal Market legislation. In an enlarged, multilingual European Union where many authorities at local, regional and national level are involved in the implementation of community legislation, tools such as IMI are of particular importance.

Thanks to IMI, important barriers to communication caused by different administrative cultures, structures and languages can be overcome, cross-border activities enhanced and an environment of trust and confidence can be created. IMI will contribute to alleviate many of the present enforcement problems in the Internal Market and will ease administrative burden for everyone involved. Therefore, both citizens and businesses will be able to take advantage of the opportunities offered by the Internal Market, as the system will contribute to its smooth functioning.

IMI is funded by the IDABC programme (Interoperable delivery of pan-European eGovernment services to public administrations, businesses and citizens), which promotes European eGovernment services. IMI has already supported information exchanges related to four professions (doctors, physiotherapists, pharmacists and accountants), within the framework of the IMI Professional Qualifications Pilot project which has been running since the beginning of 2008.

The "IMI Training and Awareness Days" take place at a key point in time for the project, when it is intended to extend the IMI system to support information exchanges for additional professions under the Professional Qualifications Directive, notably nurses, dental practitioners, midwives, architects, veterinary surgeons, radiographers and secondary school teachers. The event pursues the following aims:

- To raise awareness of the system amongst stakeholders and future users;
- To train groups of key users who can provide all this know-how to other end-users in their Member State;
- To inform of the progress made in the IMI project;
- To offer networking opportunities.

Participation to this event is free of charge. Those wishing to express their interest in participating are invited to use the following link: <http://ec.europa.eu/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=IMI2008B>. It is to be noted that registration will close on 23 October 2008.

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: European Commission's Directorate General for Internal Market and Services

Event website: http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/imi-net/imi_awareness_days_main_en.html

Contact Email: IMI-conference2008@eurodyn.com

FR: ICT Forum 2008

25 - 27 November 2008

"I's to the Future – invention, innovation, impact – An event organised by the European Commission and hosted by the French Presidency of the European Union

The biennial ICT Event (formerly called the "IST Event") organised by the European Commission and hosted by the country presiding the European Union is the most important forum for discussing research and public policy in information and communication technologies at European level. The previous edition of the event took place in 2006 in Helsinki (Finland).

The next ten years will see major transformations in the technological, industrial and business landscapes surrounding information and communication technologies (ICTs). The 2008 edition will set the agenda for ICT research and innovation in Europe during this crucial decade.

The event will bring together researchers, innovators, engineers, policy and business decision-makers and will address topics as diverse as Europe's role in shaping the future internet, ICT's contribution to advancing the sustainability agenda and alternative research paths for future ICT components and systems. These and many other cutting-edge themes will be explored in depth.

In particular, ICT 2008 will examine:

- European Union priorities in ICT research for over €2 billion of funding available in 2009-2010;
- The major current technological trends which impact upon strategic research planning;
- Public research policies to stimulate research and innovation.

The event will feature a conference, an exhibition and networking sessions.

Registration is to be performed [online](#) at the event's website. The early bid registration fee, applicable to payments received prior to 31 October 2008, is €450. For payments received between 1 November and 20 November 2008, the registration fee is €550.

Country: France

City/Location: Lyon

Organiser: European Commission's Directorate General Information Society and Media

Event website: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/ict/2008

FR: ENEA Networking session on “An affordable and personalized health care system for an independent ageing”

26 November 2008

“An affordable and personalized health care system for an independent ageing” – Future challenge for healthcare deployment: how to make it happen?

This afternoon networking session is organised in the context of the [ICT Forum 2008](#) which will be held in Lyon, France, from 25 to 27 November 2008. It is supported by the Directorate-General 'Information Society and Media' of the European Commission.

There is a social and market demand for the new, ICT based responses to care and health service provision to improve chronic disease management at home and prolong the possibility of an autonomous, safe and socially fulfilling life. Many current ICT e-health applications focus on the provision of individual clinical services. There is a need for improvement of horizontal applications and for the coordination of services from different agencies and disciplines into tailored and customized packages of provision spanning both health and social care. It is essential to understand if the national healthcare systems can integrate these innovative services and if a European cooperation could help facilitating this process.

The ENEA networking session will gather experts of the healthcare and enterprise interoperability sector. After a short overview of the EU Programmes on ICT for eHealth (FP7, CIP, AAL) and practical case studies (OLDES project, COIN project, etc.), the experts will discuss how innovative eHealth services, as the ones developed by projects like OLDES, can be integrated in healthcare systems in a sustainable manner. Issues around standards are also expected to be addressed by the panel discussion.

The objective of the session is to share experiences and common pathways between the healthcare sector and experts from the enterprise interoperability world, with the final aim of learning from each other and build possible partnerships for future activities, as well as collaborative solutions, taking into account also the eHealth standardization aspects.

A detailed agenda of the session is expected to be soon made available online at the event's website. Those interested in participating are invited to send their expression of interest by email to monica.ibido@bruxelles.enea.it. Registration to this session is free of charge, but requires participation in the ICT Forum in line with the normal registration rules, including the payment of the [Forum's subscription fees](#).

Country: France

City/Location: Lyon

Organiser: OLDES (older's people e-services at home) Consortium, coordinated by the Italian National Agency for New Technology, Energy and the Environment (ENEA)

Event website: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/cf/item-display.cfm?id=690

Contact Email: monica.ibido@bruxelles.enea.it

AT: e-Inclusion Ministerial Conference and EXPO

30 November - 2 December 2008

European Ministerial e-Inclusion Conference

The European Ministerial e-Inclusion Conference 2008 aims at accelerating progress towards an information society for all (digital inclusion), in order to combat social and economic exclusion. The conference will acknowledge the many actions that are taking place all over Europe during 2008 and that contribute to the European e-Inclusion Initiative. It will also take stock of future challenges and renew the commitments to achieve inclusion in the information society for all.

The conference will be attended by eInclusion leaders from industry, academia and voluntary sector and will address topics as diverse as shaping European e-Accessibility environments, investing in information technology for sustainable elderly care, digital literacy and insights into future technology perspectives. European Ministers will come together to measure progress, refresh the Riga vision, and gain valuable insights from cutting-edge initiatives.

As the draft conference programme is continually being updated, sessions and speakers may still be subject to change. A preliminary programme outline is available [online](#) as well as in [PDF](#) format.

The event will be complemented by a large scale [exhibition](#) of around 100 stands, which will be open from 30 November until 2 December 2008. The exhibition will feature among others a projects showcase, a digital story gallery, country pavilions, an experience space, commercial displays, an eInclusion theatre and the eInclusion Awards finalists village. The latter one will host the finalists of the [European eInclusion Awards](#) competition, which is organised within the framework of European Commission's "e-Inclusion: Be part of It" initiative and is aimed at celebrating the best and most imaginative uses of Information and Communications Technologies (ICTs) to reduce digital and social exclusion.

Country: Austria

City/Location: Vienna

Organiser: Jointly organised by the European Commission and the hosting Austrian Government, in cooperation with the French Presidency of the Council of the European Union

Event website: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/e-inclusion/2008/index_en.htm

Event email: EINCLUSIONEVENT2008@ec.europa.eu

FR: Open World Forum – Paris 2008

1 - 2 December 2008

FLOSS, Innovation and Competitiveness

The Open World Forum aims to bring together the best of Free, Libre and Open Source Software (FLOSS) at an international level, with keynote presentations, community and technical seminar tracks, covering a wide range of issues, from high-level business strategies to profound technical insights.

The Forum will also play host to a number of associated events and meetings: opportunities for international communities and experts on the use of Open Source to explore business models, public policies, competence centers, governance and legal issues, interoperability, quality metrics, R&D initiatives and next-generation software forges. A special session will feature Brazil as a special guest.

Bringing together international experts working on future planning, scenarios and recommendations, the event will deliver the 2020 FLOSS Roadmap covering all these areas. The first ever worldwide initiative of its kind, the Roadmap will be delivered and debated at the Forum.

More details on the Forum's programme are available in the provisional agenda at the following page <http://www.openworldforum.org/en/program/>. This agenda is currently being finalised and will be made final by 30 September 2008.

The Open World Forum is supported by two worldwide consortiums (OW2 and QualiPSo), several European and French associations, public organisations and competitiveness clusters (Adullact, AFUL, April, Silicon Sentier, Cap Digital and System@tic Paris Region). Participation to the Forum is open and free of charge. Registration is to be performed [online](#).

Country: France

Event website: www.openworldforum.org

Event email: fml@items-int.eu

ES: ableTech'08

10 - 11 December 2008

ableTech'08 – First International Conference on accessible and assistive technologies for dependent people

After four successful editions, ableTech has taken a qualitative leap by going international, with the aim of becoming a key event for sector players. Attendees will be able to gain first-hand knowledge of those international innovative projects breaking ground in the social and technological spheres.

This event aims to be a forum where international stakeholders from the sector of accessible and assistive technologies can exchange their experiences in order to learn from the best practices of other countries. During the two days conference, delegates will debate the following issues:

- To provide a vision of the current situation and trends of the Assistive Technologies Sector and the ageing economy;
- To bring together the different agents in order to be able to exchange experiences and contrast the needs with the existing products and systems;
- To identify the needs of people with disabilities and elderly people for their everyday lives and for improving their quality of life.

Furthermore, within the main conference, the European Project CompanionAble will organise a workshop aimed at sharing experience with other European projects involved in Cognitive Robotics and Ambient Intelligence Technologies and developing a closer collaboration between the various Consortia Partners involved in Research and Innovation on such technologies. Over 350 participants are expected. Registration has started since 15 September 2008. Participation is free of charge for people with disabilities (in case of early registration, i.e. prior to 31 October) and students. For other interested persons, the attendance fee ranges from €150 to €250. Registration is to be performed by sending an email to abletech08@marsans.es.

More details on this event can be found on the dedicated [brochure](#). This Conference has been organised with the support of Public Administrations, Technology oriented organisations, as well as Professional and user organisations. Cooperation efforts have been done with relevant European Projects related.

Country: Spain

City/Location: Bilbao

Organiser: TECNALIA

Event website: www.abletech.org

Event email: abletech08@robotiker.es

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