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European ePractice Newsletter N. 357 – 25 January 2011

>> ePractice Journal - "Moving in 2011"

Dear members,

On behalf of the ePractice Journal and our Editor-in Chief, Trond Arne Undheim, we are reaching you to extend our appreciation to our peer reviewers that have been very greatly committed, extremely supportive and immensely resourceful throughout the peer reviewing process! Our peer reviewers' prompt, concrete and factual feedback has equally enabled our authors and epractice Journal team to publish issues of high excellence. In this respect, we kindly ask from our existing peer reviewers to renew their commitment and invite any interested parties to join our efforts in publishing our upcoming issues by reaching us at epractice@eurodyn.com. The forthcoming issues are:

- eGovernment for the Economic Crisis (call is available at <http://www.epractice.eu/en/node/288847>)
- The Openness of Government (call is available at <http://www.epractice.eu/en/node/288847>)
- Megatrends in eGovernment (call will be available shortly)
- Surviving in the Online Identity World (call will be available shortly)
- Lessons learned from large Scale IT (call will be available shortly)

Thank you for your attention in this matter.
The ePractice Journal Team

>> ePractice.eu assisted workshop - Fiction or reality? 50% of public procurement above the EU public procurement threshold should be carried out electronically

This [ePractice.eu assisted workshop](#) will be held in Brussels on **24 March 2011**. It will focus on the progress and acceptance of eProcurement: Which tools are available for various countries? How much traffic do the applications have to handle? What are the measurable benefits? Are there still any problems and obstacles? A 'Call for presentations' and a 'Call for Open Space-topics' are open until **26 January 2011**. For more information and free-of-charge registration, please visit the workshop's page announcement at: <http://www.epractice.eu/en/events/2011-eprocurement>.

>> Workshop reports available

The ePractice workshop report on '[eInclusion Days-Inclusive eGovernment](#)' is now available online and can be accessed by visiting the announcement's section '**Presentations & Documents**' at

http://www.epractice.eu/en/workshop/329856/workshop_presentation_documents?page=1, under file name SMART 0109 SC01-eInclusion Days-Inclusive eGovernment workshop report.doc.

The Assisted workshop report on '[Innovative Public Services for an Inclusive Society](#)' is now available online and can be accessed by visiting the announcement's section '**Presentations & Documents**' at http://www.epractice.eu/en/workshop/353775/workshop_presentation_documents, under file name ADD-ME Wrap-up & Conclusions_0.doc.

Latest Cases

- [Project Tele Ulcer Care](#) | 19 January 2011 | Denmark
- [Online integration services for third country nationals](#) | 18 January 2011 | Hungary | Italy | Netherlands | Spain | United Kingdom
- [E-Learning for Visually Impaired Persons](#) | 17 January 2011 | Austria | Denmark | Finland | France | Germany | Netherlands

Project Tele Ulcer Care

Project Tele Ulcer Care tests home treatment of diabetic foot ulcers with the objectives of enhancing the quality of ulcer treatment, of economising labour in hospitals and nursing and finally improving communication across sectors.

The project, running from 1 January 2010 to 31 March 2011, aims at providing a faster and better coordinated care for patients with diabetic foot ulcers, with the intention of reducing complications and hospitalisations. The long term objective is national implementation of tele-care.

By means of tele-care, the visiting nurse is able to communicate with a physician/medical specialist and transfer images by use of a web-based ulcer record and a cell phone with camera.

The project is financed by the PWT Fund (Public Welfare Technology) and is a pilot project based in the two regional municipalities of Zealand and Southern Denmark, including four local municipalities in each region.

The project's demonstration phase started as planned on 1 October 2010 and the participating municipalities and hospitals are now testing tele-medical treatment of patients with diabetic foot ulcers. In the preceding successful phases of the project, collaboration was organized, cooperation agreements were made, an evaluation design was developed, the equipment was purchased and the involved health professionals were trained in the use of the Electronic Ulcer Record.

We now enjoy experiencing the demonstration of telemedicine in the regions of Southern Denmark and Zealand.

The Ambitions of the project are:

- To improve the quality of the treatment of patients;
- To enhance the patients' quality of life through a reduction in the time spent on waiting and commuting;
- To economise labour and reduce the consumption of resources in the municipalities and hospitals;
- To establish a direct, patient-centred cooperation between municipalities and hospitals;
- To enhance visiting nurses' job satisfaction through new tasks and competences.

Online integration services for third country nationals

The "Online integration services of third country nationals" project was co-funded by the Integration Fund INTI of Directorate-General for Justice, Freedom and Security (currently divided into Directorate-General Home and Affairs Directorate-General Justice and Fundamental Rights). The project's objective was to undertake an exchange of experience and identification of good practice with the overall aim of developing a local/regional dimension to the implementation of the Common Basic Principles adopted by the Justice and Home Affairs Council in November 2004 and incorporated into the EC Communication on A Common Agenda in 2005.

In terms of the concrete action, it sought to establish an Integration Exchange between ten partners which aims to:

- identify and develop good practice in relation to programmes for integration/induction developed at a local/regional level and
- establish local online platforms of services, information and resources for supporting the integration of Third Country Nationals

To achieve this overall aim this proposal has the following specific objectives:

- To establish eight Local Action Groups (LAGs), local vehicles that bring together local/regional/national experience which in turn creates the "capital" for the peer review and development workshops;
- To establish local online platforms which would provide a "portal" for local services, information and resources;
- To develop of a good practice resource pack and linked case studies with the aim of pooling the experience within the partnership and beyond in order to create an online resource that can be useful in disseminating good practice.

E-Learning for Visually Impaired Persons

The main objective of this project is to enable blind people and people with visual handicaps the access to e-learning courses in the following way:

- Evaluation of the already existing e-learning courses in all countries of the partner-organization through unique measures which take into account the specific needs of persons having visual handicaps; these measures would be:
 - the accessibility of all components in an e-learning environment;
 - the methodological adaptation of provided e-learning courses;
 - the availability of special educated Tele-Coaches corresponding to the methodological needs and the technical necessary assistant devices commonly used by visually impaired persons.
- The publication of the result of this evaluation with a detailed description of the available courses and service providers of e-learning services for visually impaired persons on a national and trans-national level through websites, conferences, trade press and trade fair. This initiative is also addressed to service-providers, distributors and developers of e-learning, platforms, media and software as training centres for people with visual handicaps and their self-help organisations (e.g. Federations for the blind). Information on e-learning courses in the project partners' countries will be provided through a web-based platform, where such data will be rated and structured by level of accessibility, variety and focus graduation of the courses provided.
- The development of innovative guidelines for service-providers developers of multimedia and e-learning platforms. These guidelines consider the essential elements of an e-learning platform which are the learn-management-system, video conference system and the multimedia learning-contents.

Editor's Choice of the week: [VPHOP – Osteoporotic Virtual Physiological Human](#)

Latest News

- [BG: Ministry of Health funds the development of the National Health Information System](#) | 25 January 2011 | Bulgaria
- [UK: National Archives launches a directory of commercial tools and services to preserve digital information for the public sector](#) | 25 January 2011 | United Kingdom
- [EU: PEPOL seeking Partner for Support though Pilot Phase Implementation](#) | 24 January 2011 | Austria | France | Germany | Greece | Italy | Norway | Sweden | United Kingdom | Pan european
- [EU/HR: Croatia signs eCall Memorandum of Understanding](#) | 24 January 2011 | Croatia | EU Institutions
- [PT: More than 146 000 medical consultations scheduled online in 2010](#) | 24 January 2011 | Portugal
- [EU: 'Clean Vehicle' portal to identify greener and more energy-efficient vehicles](#) | 21 January 2011 | EU Institutions
- [UK: Scotland - New Patient Management System went live in NHS Borders](#) | 20 January 2011 | United Kingdom
- [EU: SSEDIC brings Europe one step closer to a single digital community](#) | 20 January 2011 | Austria | Belgium | Czech Republic | Denmark | France | Italy | Malta | Netherlands | Norway | Spain | United Kingdom | EU Institutions
- [DE: Public service number 115 expands to the Eastern states of Germany](#) | 19 January 2011 | Germany
- [ES: Andalusia - Virtual health space created](#) | 19 January 2011 | Spain

BG: Ministry of Health funds the development of the National Health Information System - 25 January 2011

As the Monitoring Committee for the 'Human Resources Development' Operational Programme (OP) decided at its [7th Meeting](#) on 26 November 2010, the Ministry of Health will fund with BGN 10 million (approx. €5 million) the development of a National Health Information System.

The project will be implemented under Priority 6 - 'Improving the efficiency of labour market institutions and of social and healthcare services of the OP 'Human Resources Development' 2007-2013. The national Health Information System will include all contractors who collaborate with the Ministry. It is envisaged that this system will be connected to the system of the National Health Insurance Fund (Национална здравноосигурителна Каса - [НЗОК](#), in Bulgarian). The aim is to increase the efficiency of the health system and enable patients to choose health care providers.

Under the OP 'Human Resources Development', the Ministry will invest in the development of an electronic record of medical devices acquired with public funds; the project is worth BGN 150 000 (approx. €76 000) and aims to improve control of these products across the country. The records will be maintained by the [Bulgarian Drug Agency](#) and will include the type and price of medical devices that are available. This system is expected to increase transparency and control of the state and patients over these products.

Moreover, medical experts' records will also be set up. The project will cost BGN 800 000 (approx. €409 000). This will enable data exchange between all Labour Expert Medical Commissions (трудова-експертна лекарска комисия - ТЕЛК), Expert National Medical Commissions (национална-експертна лекарска комисия - НЕЛК, in Bulgarian) and institutions that cooperate with the National Health Insurance Fund, the National Social Security Institute (Национален Осигурителен Институт - [НОИ](#), in Bulgarian) and the Ministry of Labour and Social Policy of the Republic of Bulgaria ([Министерство на труда и социалната политика на Република България](#), in Bulgarian). This will lead to greater transparency in the work of medical committees and provide people with social benefits on the basis of medical expertise.

Last but not least, the Ministry will fund with BGN 550 000 (approx. €281 000) the development of a National Information System of Haematology. It will create electronic records of donors and recipients of blood and blood products. The information system will include the National Centre for Haematology, four regional centres, an institutional centre in the Military Medical Academy (Военномедицинска академия - [ВМА](#), in Bulgarian), 23 units of Haematology at the state general hospitals and 38 laboratories. The development of the system will improve the quality and reliability of activities and services and optimise their management.

Further information:

- [Original News Article - Bulgarian Ministry of Health \(in Bulgarian\)](#)
 - [Operational Programme 'Human Resources Development' 2007-2013](#)
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UK: National Archives launches a directory of commercial tools and services to preserve digital information for the public sector - 25 January 2011

On 6 January 2011, the UK's National Archives launched the first ever public sector directory of commercial services and solutions to help secure the long-term survival of digital information.

Most public sector information is now created digitally and it is the Government's responsibility to manage this ever-growing mass of digital data. Active intervention is needed to ensure key digital information remains accessible and useable over time.

As part of a project to safeguard its digital public records, the National Archives has developed the [Digital Continuity Framework](#), which was launched on the same day in partnership with the national procurement partner for all UK public services.

The framework provides access to guidance that can help public sector bodies understand and manage their information. The services and solutions in the framework include data conversion and migration services, data storage consultancy and digital archiving solutions.

The Digital Continuity Framework is available to anyone in central government or the wider public sector. It will run for two years, and there is an option to extend the service after this time.

Jessie Owen, Head of Digital Continuity at the National Archives, said: "The public sector has a duty to operate transparently, legally and accountably. It can't do that without usable information - and keeping information usable is much more of a challenge in this digital age. That's why we created the Digital Continuity Framework - to give the public sector easy access to the technical tools and services that can help them to use their information in the way that they need, for as long as they need."

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Further information:

- [Original news article - UK National Archives](#)
 - [Digital Continuity Framework - UK National Archives](#)
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EU: PEPPOL seeking Partner for Support though Pilot Phase Implementation - 24 January 2011

The PEPPOL (Pan-European Public Procurement Online) project announced on 24 January 2011 a call for proposals for a consultancy partner to provide support throughout the remaining pilot implementation phase of the project. The deadline for submission of proposals is 1 March 2011. A total budget up to €2 million is available, foreseen for the new partner with a European Commission (EC) contribution of up to 50 % or €1 million and an equal investment by the partner.

The PEPPOL infrastructure is expected to become the backbone for eProcurement in Europe. From now and until the middle of 2011, a growing number of production pilots will be creating an integrated community between the project's consortium members, PEPPOL in order to perform real business. The recruitment of non-PEPPOL

consortium members as pilot participants is evolving and by the of the first semester of 2011, a substantial number of pilots performing real business through PEPPOL, among both PEPPOL and non-PEPPOL consortium members, is expected. By the middle of 2012, the PEPPOL Community is expected to expand beyond those recruited by PEPPOL to recruitment by commercial market driven adoption.

The new consortium partner is expected to strengthen PEPPOL outreach and involve non-PEPPOL consortium members in operational piloting activities. He will work with the existing PEPPOL technical development, operations and pilot recruitment teams for a 12 month period from May 2011 to April 2012 including a proposed six month extension of the project period (pending EC approval). The selected partner will have as its main tasks to:

- coordinate and support the setup, running and monitoring of pilot projects;
- provide technical support for the existing PEPPOL pilot recruitment team;
- coordinate and support the development and integration of pilots with recruited eProcurement communities, Contracting Authority and Economic Operators involved in piloting;
- maintain engagement and support of the recruited eProcurement communities in fulfilling their business and organisational objectives through the PEPPOL connection.

The chosen partner will come from the private sector and can be either one company or a consortium (of both private and public organisations) of companies, but with one main point of contact with PEPPOL. A total budget up to € 2 million is foreseen for the new partner with up to 50 % or € 1 million EC contribution and an equal investment by the partner. The deadline for submission of proposals is March 2011. An online information meeting on the call for proposals will be held on 1 February 2011.

Background Information

The European Commission's CIP programme large scale pilot project PEPPOL is a major cross-border eProcurement initiative intended to provide standards-based IT infrastructure and services to set up and run pan-European public procurement operations online. PEPPOL supports the implementation of highly efficient business and public procurement by paving the way with best practice content standards, common processes and an open exchange infrastructure across Europe. It will help reduce administration costs and can thus support the austerity plans of national governments.

PEPPOL will facilitate the electronic exchange of orders, invoices and catalogues between buyers and suppliers in different Member States or eProcurement communities. It also includes the classification of goods and services and the submission of company attestations required for bidding. The validation of electronic signatures issued by certificate authorities throughout Europe will also be addressed.

Many EU countries have established successful electronic procurement platforms in their public administrations to make tendering of public sector contracts simpler and more efficient. While acceptance of these systems is growing, most solutions are implemented solely on a national or regional level, with limited access to other communities. PEPPOL will enable the connection of existing eProcurement communities and allow the private sector to bid for public sector contracts anywhere in the EU, an important step towards achieving the European single market.

Further Information:

- [Original news article - PEPPOL project](#)
- [PEPPOL project Call for Proposals document](#)

EU/HR: Croatia signs eCall Memorandum of Understanding - 24 January 2011

On 20 December 2010, Croatia signed the European Union's [Memorandum of Understanding \(MoU\)](#) to implement [eCall](#), the pan-European in-vehicle emergency call system.

Director Damir Trut of the National Protection and Rescue Directorate signed the MoU, making Croatia the first candidate country amongst the signatories, and the 24th European country overall. Furthermore, it is involved in the pilot project to pre-deploy the eCall service in Europe.

eCall enables a car involved in an accident to automatically dial [Europe's emergency number 112](#) and call the nearest emergency centre. Once activated, the system reports the car accident and transmits its exact location. The introduction and use of eCall for deployment of emergency assistance will save lives and reduce social burden by improving the notification of road accidents and speeding up emergency service response. It is estimated that eCall could reduce road fatalities by 5 % per year when fully deployed, and mitigate the consequences of severe accidents in around 10 % of cases due to quick communication and timely response times by the emergency services.

To date, there are 23 eCall MoU signatories, among which 20 are EU Member States (Austria, Belgium, Cyprus, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, Germany, Greece, Italy, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Malta, Portugal, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, Sweden, Spain and the Netherlands), as well as Iceland, Norway and Switzerland. The Russian Federation has also indicated a willingness to cooperate with the eCall initiative.

Background information:

The purpose of the MoU is to secure the realisation of an interoperable in-vehicle emergency call service supplied, introduced and operated across Europe. It does not represent a legally binding agreement; rather, it is an expression of the individual and collective commitment of the signatories to work in partnership in order to realise a shared objective to the benefit of everyone.

Further information:

- [Original news article - Europe's Information Society](#)
- [Memorandum of Understanding for Realisation of Interoperable In-Vehicle eCall](#)
- [About eCall](#)
- [European emergency number 112](#)
- [Related ePractice news article - EU: European Commission urges EU countries to implement eCall voluntarily](#)
- [Related ePractice news article - EU: Five more Member States endorsed eCall in-car system](#)

PT: More than 146 000 medical consultations scheduled online in 2010 - 24 January 2011

Over 180 000 Portuguese enrolled in the online booking appointments system at health centres and more than 146 000 medical consultations were scheduled through the web during 2010.

Launched in January 2010, the [eAgenda](#) online service for booking medical appointments aims to facilitate the scheduling of appointments with family doctors and allows users to choose the day and time that suits them best, from the comfort of their homes. The eAgenda can be accessed via the portal of the Central Administration for the Health System (Administração Central do Sistema de Saúde - [ACSS](#), in Portuguese).

According to data released at the website of the [Technological Plan](#), between January 2010 and December of the same year, there were 182 877 registered users in the online booking system and 146 465 medical consultations were scheduled online.

The Ministry of Health acknowledged that there are still some weaknesses in the system, but finds these data satisfactory. "The numbers are very encouraging. We are promoting a revolution in users' access to the National Health Service", said Manuel Pizarro, the Portuguese Secretary of State for Health.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Citizen's portal \(in Portuguese\)](#)
 - [Central Administration for the Health System \(in Portuguese\)](#)
 - [Related ePractice news article - PT: 'eAgenda' service goes live nation-wide](#)
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EU: 'Clean Vehicle' portal to identify greener and more energy-efficient vehicles - 21 January 2011

Launched on 4 December 2010 by the European Commission, the 'Clean Vehicle' website aims to ensure a level of demand for clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles and encourage manufacturers to invest in the development of vehicles with low energy consumption, as well as low levels of CO2 and pollutant emissions.

The portal will be of great help as the [2009/33/EC Directive](#) on the promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles requires that from December 2010 all purchases of vehicles for public transport services take into account energy consumption, CO2 emissions and pollutant emissions levels. It provides information on legislation for clean and energy-efficient vehicles in all EU Member States; furthermore, it provides access to technical data in the largest vehicle database in Europe and facilitates joint procurement.

Siim Kallas, the Vice-President of the European Commission, responsible for Transport, said: "This directive and this website will give a boost to clean and energy-efficient technologies by showing the real cost of using vehicles. Not only should the initial purchase cost be considered, but also the vehicle's lifetime energy consumption and pollutant emissions. In line with our policy to price in all costs, it makes sense to go for the greener option. This website will be a great aid in identifying these greener and more efficient vehicles."

The directive requires the public sector to use their purchasing power to promote clean and energy-efficient vehicles. It thereby represents an important stepping stone to attaining the EU's 2020 goals on energy efficiency, CO2 emissions and renewable energies. The aim is to stimulate the market towards clean and energy-efficient vehicles and to prompt development and investment by the industry. Increased sales will help reduce costs through economies of scale and will result in progressive improvement in the energy and environmental performance of the whole available vehicle fleet.

The cost of energy consumption and environmental impact of vehicles are of major importance to professional and private users. This is why the new portal covers everything from passenger cars, to light- and heavy-duty vehicles to buses. It provides information on the different technologies and on energy consumption and emissions of the vehicles available on European markets. It gives an overview of existing procurement rules and incentive schemes for clean and energy-efficient vehicles in the different Member States and offers support to joint public procurement.

The development of the Clean Vehicle Portal was managed by the [Executive Agency for Competitiveness and Innovation](#) (EACI).

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Europa Press Releases Rapid](#)
 - [Clean Vehicle](#)
 - [2009/33/EC Directive on the promotion of clean and energy-efficient road transport vehicles](#)
-

UK: Scotland - New Patient Management System went live in NHS Borders - 20 January 2011

Five NHS Boards (NHS Greater Glasgow and Clyde, NHS Lanarkshire, NHS Ayrshire and Arran and NHS Grampian) formed in January 2008 a consortium to procure a new Patient Management System for Scotland; after almost 3 years of work, NHS Borders was the first one to go live in December 2010.

Patient management systems are used to provide healthcare staff with information about patients and their medical history. The new system stores information electronically so that it is available to the health care staff whenever and wherever they need it. It will store a full record for patients attending hospital from referral or unscheduled admission through their inpatient and outpatient care and eventual discharge and allow the information to be shared securely across the staff providing patient care and with GPs, which will improve communication.

Dr Ross Cameron, Medical Director, who chaired the project board implementing the programme in NHS Borders said, "Our staff have worked very hard to put everything in place in time for the go live date. In total some 60 plus people have worked with us to deliver this on time. Each and every one has played an important role in making this possible."

The TrakCare project is supported by NHS Scotland. The Scottish Health Secretary, Nicola Sturgeon said: "NHS Borders are the first to go live with this new patient management system that's capable of being implemented anywhere in Scotland. Until now health boards have had different systems in place, even within the same board. Ensuring boards are able to use the same system will make it easier for information to be shared securely when a patient is being treated by more than one health board."

She added: "The new system benefits patients and staff by providing better management of bookings and appointments, faster treatment decisions, faster test results, better information sharing, and freeing up staff to carry out more direct patient care. With NHS Lothian already deploying a version of the same system and four other boards in Scotland working towards their own implementation, this represents a major advance towards a Scotland-wide patient management system with huge advantages to the delivery of patient care."

Mr. Kerry Stratton, the Global Healthcare Managing Director of the system provider concluded, "We were grateful to win the national contract earlier this year, and Borders going live is a perfect start to the delivery phase for the rest of Scotland, based on a standardised model for software and process that embodies Scotland's eHealth strategy."

Further information:

- [Original News Article - eHealthNews.eu Portal](#)

EU: SSEDIC brings Europe one step closer to a single digital community - 20 January 2011

Scoping the Single European Digital Identity Community (SSEDIC), a thematic network for the EC's Digital Agenda for Europe (DAE), was established in December 2010 to provide a platform for all electronic identity (eID) stakeholders; it will enable them to collaborate in preparing the agenda for a Single European Digital Identity Community, as envisaged by Key Action 16 in the DAE.

Today, many barriers still affect the vision of a single digital community in the EU. The interoperability challenges faced by national eIDs - the way citizens, government and businesses can identify themselves securely online - means that access to numerous EU public services, markets and other transactions are not possible among Member States, thus forcing people to look beyond the EU. A single digital community will be a major transformational impetus to further enhance the economic strength and political cohesion of European society as the next logical step following the achievements of the single market.

The DAE aims to unite the EU in a flourishing digital economy by 2020, outlining policies and actions to maximise the benefits for all Member States. To achieve these goals, it works closely with national governments, relevant organisations and companies, including SSEDIC, which consult on a frequent basis in order to deliver recommendations, timelines and technical roadmaps. SSEDIC will build on thematic consultations and work carried out by other projects and pilots, including the eID management (eIDM) Expert Working Group, **STORK** (Secure idenTity acrOss boRders linKed) and **PEPPOL** (Pan-European Public Procurement Online).

The EC says that the network will identify the actions and the timetable for the successful launch in 2013 of a European-scale initiative on eIDM, spanning from research to deployment. It also added that eIDM, in the context of

the future digital society, will be the basis for trustworthy services and interactions (in domains such as eGovernment, eHealth, eCommerce, finances, transport, travel, web 2.0 communities and the Internet) encompassing virtual and tangible entities.

SSEDIC will identify the actions and the timetable for the DAE, as well as deliver a stakeholder planning resource to assist its implementation. The network will also establish a series of stakeholder groups in the government, society, business, leisure, finance and transport sectors. Each group will consider, through further consultation, the political, economic, social, technical, legal and environmental aspects of a single digital community. For the duration of the project, SSEDIC will build a community of high level European and international experts through a series of workshops, papers, online and physical conferences, in addition to other key EC events.

SSEDIC was launched following its inaugural meeting on 16 December 2010 at the '[Lift-off towards Open Government](#)' conference hosted by the Belgian Presidency in Brussels. Led by NESTOR Tor Vergata University of Rome, the three-year project brings together 35 partner stakeholders from across the EU.

Further information:

- [Original press release - Scoping the Single European Digital Identity Community](#)
- [Scoping the Single European Digital Identity Community](#)
- [Related ePractice Publication - EU: A Digital Agenda for Europe - Commission Communication](#)
- [Related ePractice Event Notice - BE: Lift-off Towards Open Government Conference](#)

DE: Public service number 115 expands to the Eastern states of Germany - 19 January 2011

Since 1 December 2010, **115**, the single phone number for contacting government authorities in Germany has been in operation in Magdeburg, the capital city of Saxony-Anhalt. The 115 service has also been expanded to various federal states located in the East of Germany.

The city of Magdeburg in collaboration with the state of Saxony-Anhalt joined the 115 service. Commenting on this, the Federal Government Commissioner for Information Technology and Secretary of State, Cornelia Rogall-Grothe said: "The provision of the 115 service in new states is an important step towards the development of the D115 network and the planned transition from the pilot phase of 115 to a regular operation in spring 2011."

The D115 network is now expanding in more regions of Lower Saxony and North Rhine-Westphalia such as: the city of Wolfsburg - the second municipality in Lower Saxony - and then Oldenburg. From now on, the district of Wesel - along with the city of Moers - will be providing their citizens with the 115 service.

In addition, other federal agencies have joined the D115 network, including the Federal Office for Migration and Refugees as well as the Federal Railway Authority. Approximately another 50 federal agencies will be connected to the 115 service by the end of 2011. This means that the citizens of the participating municipalities can now obtain information about several federal issues such as integration programmes or compensation for train delays.

The 115 service is in operation from Monday to Friday, from 8:00 to 18:00. 75 % of the calls are answered within 30 seconds by the service centre staff and the aim is that 65 % of the requests are resolved during the initial contact. For the rest of the calls, a response is received within 24 hours during regular operating hours, by email, fax or phone.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - D115 Project \(in German\)](#)
- [Related ePractice Article - DE: Public service number 115 expands to Rhineland-Palatinate municipalities](#)

ES: Andalusia - Virtual health space created - 19 January 2011

'Internet & salud: Migrando hacia la red 2.0' (Internet & Health: Moving to Web 2.0, in English) is the name of the project which will analyse the development of web 2.0 in the field of health through an observatory and a website www.misaludenred.org. The aim of this project is to promote discussion between professionals and users on health issues.

In 2008 the portal <http://campus.easp.es/internetysalud> was created as "a space that integrates all the projects of the Internet & Health Group, to give them greater visibility and reach, and to facilitate the immediate transfer of results to society," said team member Jaime Jiménez Pernet.

Two concrete and tangible results have been reached:

- a virtual laboratory to investigate the move to web 2.0 in the area of health issues - the <http://www.misaludenred.org/> website;
- the Observatory of health-related web 2.0 "that has the same objective as other observatories in the field of innovation, that is, the gathering of information and the preparation of description reports on the development of web 2.0 in the field of health," Jiménez Pernet explained.

The 'misaludenred.org' website is a platform for creating, developing and evaluating virtual communities on specific health issues. It consists of several spaces for the exchange of information, experience and recommendations between users, based on 'social software' - groups and forums, blogs and wikis, tagging tools (collaborative tagging), and repositories of multimedia resources (pictures, audio and videos). The platform furthermore has several RSS feeds.

Since early 2010, 'misaludenred.org' has been piloted by the discussion group on motherhood issues called 'For respected birth'. Currently available are seven communities whose focus themes have been prioritised according to the results of former studies conducted by the Internet and Health Group: teenagers, carers of cancer patients, clinicians and researchers and virtual community managers.

"The aim is to involve the users by using a strategy of 'researching by doing' in the frame of misaludenred.org." The platform can be expanded and it is open to professional groups and patients looking for an interaction space on the Internet.

As for the Observatory of health-related web 2.0, several reports have been published through 'misaludenred.org' and via social networking and micro blogging sites. "This is the case of the report on the presence of Spanish hospitals in social media (also available at <http://redessocialesenhospitales.wordpress.com/>)" Jiménez Pernet explained. He added that this study sought to measure the level of integration of web 2.0 tools and social media in Spanish hospitals, by using descriptive methodologies, both qualitative and quantitative.

"In the frame of other projects such as the identification of virtual communities on the themes of motherhood and cancer, we developed mixed methodologies which gather network analysis techniques and netnographic methodologies (the Netnography is the branch of sociology that deals with the analysis of the free behavior of individuals on the Internet.)" "In the coming months [beginning of 2011] we will publish new reports on health issues such as emergency contraception, body images and healthy aging, among others," Jiménez Pernet concluded.

Further information:

- [Original news article - Sinc platform \(in Spanish\)](#)
- ['misaludenred.org' \(in Spanish\)](#)

New Factsheets

The 2nd Editions of the eInclusion factsheets for Denmark, Hungary and Poland 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

- [EU: Unchartered Waters - The State of Open Data in Europe](#) | 12 January 2011 | Denmark | Finland | France | Germany | Italy | Netherlands | Norway | Spain | Sweden | Pan european
 - [IT: Report on Italian eGov 2010](#) | 20 December 2010 | Italy
 - [EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Scenarios for usage of the REACTION platform](#) | 19 September 2010 | Austria | Belgium | Denmark | Germany | Greece | Hungary | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | EU Institutions
 - [EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Technical Requirements for Medical Data Management](#) | 19 September 2010 | Austria | Belgium | Denmark | Germany | Greece | Hungary | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | EU Institutions
 - [EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Communication standards within Body Area Networks \(BAN\) and Personal Area Networks \(PAN\)](#) | 19 September 2010 | Austria | Belgium | Denmark | Greece | Hungary | Spain | Sweden | Switzerland | United Kingdom | EU Institutions
 - [DE: Government 2.0 in Beta phase](#) | 16 June 2010 | Germany
 - [GL: The symbolic dimension of ICT and collective self-realisation](#) | 13 December 2009 | France | Asia | North America
-

EU: Unchartered Waters - The State of Open Data in Europe - 12 January 2011

Description (short summary):

Opening up government data to the public has been part of the European policy agenda since the introduction of the [Re-use of Public Sector Information \(PSI\) Directive](#) in 2003. European Member States continue to lean towards a cautious approach of making their data available to citizens. This is partly caused by conflicting legal frameworks, cultural norms and the idea to recover the costs of data production. At the same time and inspired by activities in the United States and the United Kingdom, the open data movement has emerged in many countries around the globe. They have a simple demand: Government agencies should put as much of their data online as possible in a machine-readable format so that everyone can re-use it since they were paid for by taxes.

This study analyses the current state of open government data offerings in nine selected European Member States. Since none of the countries studied has implemented an open data portal, this study compares a range of data offered online by the national Statistics Offices. These data offerings fulfill a number of open data principles defined by the open data movement but significant challenges remain. This study underlines that the development of data catalogues and portals should not be seen as means to an end.

Number of pages:

EN Version: 37

DE Version: 38

IT: Report on Italian eGov 2010 - 20 December 2010

Description (short summary):

In December 2009 the Standing Committee for Technological Innovation in the regions and local authorities instructed DigitPA and the Department for the Digitisation of Public Administration and Technological Innovation,

Italian Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation to conduct with the assistance of the central government, the regions and the local authorities, a survey on the status of processes and digital services with high impact on citizens, businesses and public administration, and of related enabling ICT infrastructure. The results of the investigation were integrated in the present report and unveiled by Minister Brunetta on 20 December 2010. A summary of some of the results follows:

- Citizen-to-Government relation:

The diffusion of Certified Electronic Mail (Posta Elettronica Certificata - PEC, in Italian) within the Public Administration has seen an important increase, multiplying by three in a few months to reach 20 000 PEC addresses in December 2010. Moreover, the analysis of the web presence of local governments shows some website proliferation. Indeed, approximately 98 % of the running websites have been registered by regional/local government authorities - regions, provinces and communes.

A successful tool is the centre network Linea Amica, (the 'Friendly Line'), which provides citizens with information and assistance in their relations with the Public Administration. Linea Amica comprises over 600 participating authorities and it processes over 200 000 cases a day. Among other projects promoted by the Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation is the 'Mettiamoci la faccia' ('Show your face') project, which allowed the systematical improvement of the citizens' satisfaction as to government services.

- Health:

In all Italian regions, major projects were launched such as the electronic health records, the Unified Booking Centres (Centri Unificati di Prenotazione - CUP, in Italian) and the network of doctors. However, the spread of services for the customer-patient is still uneven, e.g. the possibility of using online services for consultation bookings, paying the patient's share of the health service or collecting a medical report.

- Services for companies

The situation still appears unsatisfactory. A bit more than a third of Italian municipalities provide online services for companies. In the case of the Unique Window for Production Activities (Sportello Unico per le Attività Produttive - SUAP, in Italian), an important aspect of the entry into force during 2011 of the obligation to use electronic channels, less than a third of the municipalities have prepared themselves to granting online access. The situation is of course better in the chief municipalities - about 40 % of these have an online SUAP.

The survey also highlights progress and weaknesses in other fields such as: Schools and Universities; Civil justice and online services; the use of ICTs to support mobility (Infomobility); Public databases; Technological equipment, network and infrastructure services of the Public Administration; Broadband infrastructure coverage.

Number of pages: 427

EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Scenarios for usage of the REACTION platform - 19 September 2010

Description (short summary):

The [Remote Accessibility to Diabetes Management and Therapy in Operational healthcare Networks \(REACTION\) project](#) aims to research and develop an intelligent service platform that can provide professional, remote monitoring and therapy management to diabetes patients in different healthcare regimes across Europe.

The project will develop an integrated approach to improved long-term management of diabetes. Included will be continuous blood glucose monitoring, clinical monitoring and intervention strategies, prediction of related disease indicators, risk assessment, and, ultimately, automated closed-loop delivery of insulin.

A range of REACTION services will be developed targeted to insulin-dependent type I diabetic patients, and complementary services will be targeted at the long-term management of all diabetic patients. This developmental goal will inevitably have to include consideration of the co-morbidities prevalent in most diabetes patients.

The purpose of this deliverable is to document and describe the requirements collected in the project which encompass the needs and priorities of the users as well as the wider exploitability and scalability requirements. The deliverable provides top-level user requirements in the form of workflows, case management principles and vision scenarios of future use of the REACTION platform.

Number of pages: 108

Related ePractice publications:

- [EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Technical Requirements for Medical Data Management](#)
- [EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Communication standards within Body Area Networks \(BAN\) and Personal Area Networks \(PAN\)](#)

EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Technical Requirements for Medical Data Management - 19 September 2010

Description (short summary):

The [Remote Accessibility to Diabetes Management and Therapy in Operational healthcare Networks \(REACTION\) project](#) aims to research and develop an intelligent service platform that can provide professional, remote monitoring and therapy management to diabetes patients in different healthcare regimes across Europe.

This document continues along the path set by [D2-1](#) and [D2-5](#), which began with the generation of scenarios for usage of the REACTION platform. [D2-1](#) described the requirements, needs and priorities of the users. The short and medium-term expectations for primary care and inpatient care, derived from two workshops in Chorleywood and Graz, were outlined. [D2-5](#) presented the methodology, process and results of the initial requirement analysis and engineering phase of WP2 related to the user centric requirements for engineering and validation. The main results of [D2-5](#) was the generation of approximately 280 initial user requirements which forms the foundation for further work on the REACTION project.

This deliverable is based to a large extent on those initial user requirements and covers the task of analysing the technical requirements for a specific medical data management model for the REACTION platform. There are over 130 technical requirements for a REACTION data management model which have been collected, revised, and analysed for this deliverable.

Number of pages: 85

Related ePractice publications:

- [EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Scenarios for usage of the REACTION platform](#)
- [EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Communication standards within Body Area Networks \(BAN\) and Personal Area Networks \(PAN\)](#)

EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Communication standards within Body Area Networks (BAN) and Personal Area Networks (PAN) - 19 September 2010

Description (short summary):

The [Remote Accessibility to Diabetes Management and Therapy in Operational healthcare Networks \(REACTION\) project](#) aims to research and develop an intelligent service platform that can provide professional, remote monitoring and therapy management to diabetes patients in different healthcare regimes across Europe.

The aim of this document is to present a brief analysis, in the context of the REACTION project, of the communication standards and technologies within Body Area Networks (BAN) and Personal Area Networks (PAN).

The current document presents an overview of the communication technologies and standards which apply to body area and personal area networks, their main characteristics and a brief comparison of their key properties in relation to REACTION project. In addition, the document presents an overview of other networking issues of BAN and PANs, relevant to REACTION, such as device and service discovery, P2P technologies and networks of smart objects.

Also, the document includes an overview of the Hydra middleware which is going to be used in the REACTION project. The Hydra middleware will be the connecting software component between the sensors, devices and the back-end systems, and a key module for the integration of these to a functioning system. As such, its role to the formulation and communication in BAN and PANs is crucial and we focus on its architecture and its abilities on discovery and management of devices, as many protocols and standards will have to be implemented in Hydra in order to be used in REACTION.

Finally, the document presents Continua Health Alliance and the ISO/IEEE 11073 standard, as a means to seamlessly integrate the various different communication protocols and enable interoperability in using them, resulting in an architecture which does not care nor is restricted by the current communication technologies. Although it addresses issues of higher layers than the communication technologies which is the core of this document, it is important to present why the adoption of higher layer standards can homogenise the lower layers and improve the interoperability of the various system components.

The deliverable aims to assist the architectural and technical decisions and to be used in the design procedures of the various sub-systems of the project.

Number of pages: 159

Related ePractice publications:

- [EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Scenarios for usage of the REACTION platform](#)
- [EU: REACTION Project Deliverable - Technical Requirements for Medical Data Management](#)

DE: Government 2.0 in Beta phase - 16 June 2010

Description (short summary):

After years of sluggish progress, eParticipation is increasingly being prioritized by German and international policy makers. Web 2.0 applications are supposed to facilitate the citizen-government interaction.

Following a web-based data collection of web-portals, eParticipation offerings and use of Web 2.0 applications in Germany's 50 largest cities and 16 federal states in the areas of urban planning, budgetary planning, complaints/suggestions and citizen services within a four-step policy cycle were analyzed. The results underline that informational integration of citizens in government outweighs consultative approaches. Therefore, this study concludes that-for the 66 cases studied-German Government 2.0 activities are still in beta phase.

Number of pages:

EN Version: 21

DE Version: 22

GL: The symbolic dimension of ICT and collective self-realisation - 13 December 2009

Description (short summary): Natives of China, the Hmong are an ethnic minority which, in the course of its history, has often experienced migration and cohabitation with larger populations and cultures. 30 years after their installation in West, mainly in the United States and in France, discourses referring to the Hmong are multiplying on Internet through sites, newsgroups or blogs.

What is the future of minority identities in a context of the transnationalisation of cultures? What does it mean for a community like the Hmong to connect on the global communication network that is the Internet? Using the idea of 'shared community', this paper will analyse how the symbolic universe of information and communication technologies articulates with the aspirations of collective self-realisation of a diaspora such as the Hmong.

Number of pages: 27

Upcoming Workshops and Events

- [BE: ETNO Innovation Day 2011 on eHealth](#) | 25 January 2011 | Belgium
 - [BE: CPDP 2011 - Event on eHealth and Privacy](#) | 25 January 2011 | Belgium
 - [IT: BIOSTEC 2011](#) | 26 - 29 January 2011 | Italy
 - [IT: HEALTHINF 2011](#) | 26 - 29 January 2011 | Italy
 - [IT: 2nd International Workshop on Medical Image Analysis and Description for Diagnosis Systems](#) | 28 - 29 January 2011 | Italy
 - [BE: C-Health Symposium 2011](#) | 3 February 2011 | Belgium
 - [UK: ARTP Annual Conference 2011](#) | 3 - 5 February 2011 | United Kingdom
 - [DE: Forum and Workshop in the Medical Device & Technology Test Expo 2011](#) | 8 - 10 February 2011 | Germany
 - [US: 'Medicine Meets Virtual Reality' Conference](#) | 8 - 12 February 2011 | North America
 - [US: SPIE Medical Imaging 2011](#) | 12 - 17 February 2011 | North America
 - [UK: Mobile and Wireless Healthcare conference 2011](#) | 16 February 2011 | United Kingdom
 - [AT: BIOMED 2011](#) | 16 - 18 February 2011 | Austria
 - [US: Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society 2011 - HIMSS11](#) | 20 - 24 February 2011 | North America
 - [ES: INTERA Congress 2011](#) | 21 - 23 February 2011 | Spain
 - [DE: 13th eHealth Conference](#) | 22 February 2011 | Germany
 - [FR: eTELEMED 2011](#) | 23 - 28 February 2011 | France
 - [FR: Fifth International Conference on Digital Society](#) | 23 - 28 February 2011 | France
 - [CA: ITCH 2011](#) | 24 - 27 February 2011 | North America
 - [TR: Turkey Healthcare Infrastructure Investment & Finance Summit 2011](#) | 24 - 25 February 2011 | Turkey
 - [EU: Get Online Week 2011](#) | 28 - 5 March 2011 | Pan european
 - [Assisted workshop: Fiction or reality? 50% of public procurement above the EU public procurement threshold should be carried out electronically](#) | 24 March 2011 | Austria
-

BE: ETNO Innovation Day 2011 on eHealth - 25 January 2011

European Telecommunications Network Operators (ETNO) Association's Innovation Day 2011 - 'eHealth: an answer to EU healthcare and demographic challenges' - Interactive conference and exhibition

Healthcare is one of the sectors that can benefit the most from broadband-enabled innovation. eHealth applications and solutions which are currently developed and marketed throughout the EU by ETNO members have the potential

to increase quality and efficiency of healthcare and improve its access for all. eHealth applications will encourage more people to connect to broadband and thereby contribute to the success of the Digital Agenda.

The ETNO Innovation Day 2011 will see the participation of Neelie Kroes, Vice-President of the European Commission for the Digital Agenda.

The themes of the conference are:

- How can eHealth applications contribute to meeting the healthcare challenge: address civilisation and chronic diseases (diabetes, cardio-vascular diseases) and improve access to healthcare?
- How can eHealth solutions address demographic and ageing challenge?
- What are the main obstacles to the take-up of eHealth applications?
- What are the business models that would enable a wide deployment of eHealth applications? What conditions need to be met to ensure the commercial success of eHealth?
- In line with the digital agenda, what actions are needed at the EU and national levels to enable a wider usage of eHealth applications by medical community and users?

The draft programme has been made available at the event website.

Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: diEU@etno.be

Event website: <http://www.etno.eu/Default.aspx?tabid=2283>

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: European Telecommunications Network Operators' Association (ETNO)

BE: CPDP 2011 - Event on eHealth and Privacy - 25 January 2011

Event on eHealth and Privacy in the frame of the Annual Conference Computers, Privacy & Data Protection (CPDP 2011)

CPDP 2011 is a three-day conference where academics, practitioners, policymakers and activists can meet, exchange ideas and discuss emerging issues of information technology, privacy, data protection and law. The Event on eHealth and Privacy takes place on the morning first day of the conference.

On 15 March 2010, during the eHealth week, the [Barcelona Declaration 'European co-operation on eHealth'](#) was accepted by the Member States of the EU. It addressed the following points: political and strategic involvement; work on trust and acceptance; legal and ethical clarity; ensuring the protection of personal data; solutions for interoperability; connecting the eHealth policy with competition, innovation and research and also with cohesion and inclusion policy. The Declaration addresses a number of important legal issues for eHealth, especially privacy issues.

These issues will come back in the topics that are discussed in depth during the panels at the eHealth event. The detailed ehealth event programme may be found [here](#).

Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: info@cpdpconferences.org

Event website: <http://www.cpdpconferences.org/index.html>

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: Vrije Universiteit Brussel, the Université de Namur, the Universiteit van Tilburg, the Institut National de Recherche en Informatique et en Automatique and the Fraunhofer Institut für System und Innovationsforschung

IT: BIOSTEC 2011 - 26 - 29 January 2011

4th International Joint Conference on Biomedical Engineering Systems and Technologies - BIOSTEC 2011

The purpose of BIOSTEC is to bring together researchers and practitioners, including engineers, biologists, health professionals and informatics/computer scientists, interested in both theoretical advances and applications of information systems, artificial intelligence, signal processing, electronics and other engineering tools in knowledge areas related to biology and medicine.

BIOSTEC is composed of four co-located conferences; each of which is specialised in at least one of the aforementioned main knowledge areas. The four sub-events are as follows:

- **BIODEVICES 2011**, International Conference on Biomedical Electronics and Devices. The purpose of the International Conference on Biomedical Electronics and Devices is to bring together researchers and practitioners from electronics and mechanical engineering, interested in studying and using models, equipments and materials inspired from biological systems and/or addressing biological requirements. Monitoring devices, instrumentation sensors and systems, biorobotics, micro-nanotechnologies and biomaterials are some of the technologies addressed at this conference.
- **BIOINFORMATICS 2011**, International Conference on Bioinformatics Models, Methods and Algorithms. The purpose of the International Conference on Bioinformatics Models, Methods and Algorithms is to bring together researchers and practitioners interested in the application of computational systems and information technologies to the field of molecular biology, including for example the use of statistics and algorithms to understanding biological processes and systems, with a focus on new developments in genome bioinformatics and computational biology. Areas of interest for this community include sequence analysis, biostatistics, image analysis, scientific data management and data mining, machine learning, pattern recognition, computational evolutionary biology, computational genomics and other related fields.
- **BIO SIGNALS 2011**, International Conference on Bio-inspired Systems and Signal Processing. The purpose of the International Conference on Bio-inspired Systems and Signal Processing is to bring together researchers and practitioners from multiple areas of knowledge, including biology, medicine, engineering and other physical sciences, interested in studying and using models and techniques inspired from or applied to biological systems. A diversity of signal types can be found in this area, including image, audio and other biological sources of information. The analysis and use of these signals is a multidisciplinary area including signal processing, pattern recognition and computational intelligence techniques, amongst others.
- **HEALTHINF 2011**, International Conference on Health Informatics. The purpose of the International Conference on Health Informatics is to bring together researchers and practitioners interested in the application of information and communication technologies (ICT) to healthcare and medicine in general and to the specialised support to persons with special needs in particular. Databases, networking, graphical interfaces, intelligent decision support systems and specialised programming languages are just a few of the technologies currently used in medical informatics. Mobility and ubiquity in healthcare systems, standardization of technologies and procedures, certification, privacy are some of the issues that medical informatics professionals and the ICT industry in general need to address in order to further promote ICT in healthcare. In the case of medical rehabilitation and assistive technology the use of ICT has had important results in the enhancement of the quality of life, contributing to a full integration of all citizens in the societies they are part of.

Registration to this open event requires the payment of a fee. Details on registration and fees are to be announced in the near future on the event's website. Registration to one of the four conferences gives free access to the other three. The important dates of the event are available [here](#).

Event email: biostec.secretariat@insticc.org

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

Country: Italy

City/Location: Rome

Organiser: Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication (INSTICC)

IT: HEALTHINF 2011 - 26 - 29 January 2011

HEALTHINF 2011 - International Conference on Health Informatics, part of the International Joint Conference on Biomedical Engineering Systems and Technologies (BIOSTEC)

The purpose of the conference is to bring together researchers and practitioners interested in the application of information and communication technologies (ICT) to healthcare and medicine in general and to the specialised support to persons with special needs in particular.

Databases, networking, graphical interfaces, intelligent decision support systems and specialised programming languages are just a few of the technologies currently used in medical informatics. Mobility and ubiquity in healthcare systems, standardisation of technologies and procedures, certification, privacy are some of the issues that medical informatics professionals and the ICT industry in general need to address in order to further promote ICT in healthcare. In the case of medical rehabilitation and assistive technology the use of ICT has had important results in the enhancement of the quality of life, contributing to a full integration of all citizens in the societies they are also part of.

Some of the conference topics to be discussed include but are not limited to:

- eHealth
- Telemedicine
- Medical and Nursing Informatics
- Design and Development Methodologies for Healthcare IT
- Interoperability
- Semantic Interoperability
- Confidentiality and Data Security
- Knowledge Management
- Databases and Datawarehousing
- Decision Support Systems
- Wearable Health Informatics
- Mobile Technologies for Healthcare Applications
- Therapeutic Systems and Technologies
- Healthcare Management Systems
- Human-Machine Interfaces for Disabled Persons
- Development of Assistive Technology
- ICT, Ageing and Disability
- Practice-based Research Methods for Healthcare IT
- Electronic Health Records and Standards
- Software Systems in Medicine
- Pervasive Health Systems and Service
- eHealth for Public Health
- Clinical Problems and Applications

Further information about the conference topics may be found [here](#).

Event email: healthinf.secretariat@insticc.org

Event website: <http://www.healthinf.biostec.org/>

Country: Italy

City/Location: Rome

Organiser: The Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication (INSTICC)

IT: 2nd International Workshop on Medical Image Analysis and Description for Diagnosis Systems - 28 - 29 January 2011

2nd International Workshop on Medical Image Analysis and Description for Diagnosis Systems (MIAD 2011)

The 2nd International Workshop on Medical Image Analysis and Description for Diagnosis Systems (MIAD 2011) is organised in conjunction with 4th International Joint Conference on Biomedical Engineering Systems and Technologies - [BIOSTEC 2011](#).

MIAD 2011 aims to bring together researchers and practitioners working in medical and biomedical images processing domain. The workshop will also offer the opportunity to fill the gap between academic researchers, practitioners and industrial parts.

Authors were encouraged to submit papers describing original work, including methods, techniques, advanced prototypes, recent advances in acquisition devices (CT-Scan, MRI, 3D Ultrasound, molecular imaging), applications, diagnosis systems and tools. The call for papers is now closed.

Event email: biostec.secretariat@insticc.org

Event website: <http://www.biostec.org/MIAD.asp>

Country: Italy

City/Location: Rome

Organiser: Institute for Systems and Technologies of Information, Control and Communication (INSTICC)

BE: C-Health Symposium 2011 - 3 February 2011

C-Health Symposium 2011

Belgium should be proud of the digitisation of its health care; however, medical information still remains fragmented. The eHealth symposium launches C-Cegeka, a new health portal that provides users with a full range of medical services regarding hospital, primary and secondary care. Cegeka can provide a complete circle of digital care. The patient is again at the centre.

The conference programme can be viewed [here](#).

Registration can be performed [online](#) or by sending an email at: symposium2011@cegeka.be.

Event email: symposium2011@cegeka.be

Event website:

<http://www.cegeka.be/NL/Algemeen/Events/EventType/EventView/EventId/12003/EventDateID/12270>

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Antwerp

Organiser: C-Cegeka

UK: ARTP Annual Conference 2011 - 3 - 5 February 2011

Association for Respiratory Technology & Physiology (ARTP) Annual Conference 2011

This event will benefit:

- Commissioners of health and social care services;
- Telecare service providers;
- Telehealth service providers;

- Health professionals, including: General Practitioners (GPs), Community Matrons and Occupational Therapists (OTs);
- Technology suppliers and developers;
- Telecare and telehealth project managers;
- Researchers and academics.

The conference programme can be viewed [here](#).

Registration can be performed by completing the relevant [form](#).

Event email: conference@artp.org.uk

Event website: <http://www.artp.org.uk/en/events/artp-conference/index.cfm>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: Glasgow

Organiser: Association for Respiratory Technology & Physiology

DE: Forum and Workshop in the Medical Device & Technology Test Expo 2011 - 8 - 10 February 2011

Forum and Workshop in the Medical Device & Technology Test Expo 2011

At the Medical Device & Technology Test Expo attendees will find the tools and resources they need to get ahead of the competition and reduce the chances of costly product recalls and alerts.

In parallel to the Expo, an open technology Forum and Workshop will take place over the three days, highlighting areas of key interest to engineers and technicians working in the medical device and technology industry.

The programme of the forum can be viewed [here](#) and of the workshop [here](#).

Event email: info@totalworldmedia.com

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

Country: Germany

City/Location: Cologne

Organiser: Total World Media Ltd

US: 'Medicine Meets Virtual Reality' Conference - 8 - 12 February 2011

Medical Education Conference for Physicians (MMVR18-NextMed) - 'Medicine Meets Virtual Reality'

MMVR is organized to be an educational environment that stimulates communication and collaboration among scientists, engineers, physicians, surgeons, educators, students, military, government, and industry. It supports the development and adoption of advanced medical technologies for medical care and education. Its goal is improved precision, efficiency, and outcomes in patient care, practitioner training, and public health. The MMVR curriculum, by combining rigorous assessment with speculative vision, aims to create forward-thinking solutions to health problems.

Presentations are chosen to educate participants on:

- Simulation advances that, supported by haptics and modeling, are transforming medical education, procedural training, psychotherapy, rehabilitation, and other areas of healthcare;
- The novel imaging, visualisation, and data fusion techniques that are revolutionizing diagnosis and therapy.
- Robotics and sensors that extend the reach of healthcare providers in patient assessment and treatment.
- Intelligence networks that inform provider decision-making and foster a collaborative medical environment.

- Broader goals, accomplishments, and challenges in the development and application of novel devices and methods for medical care and education.

The initial event programme may be found [here](#). Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: MMVR18@NextMed.com

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

Country: North America

City/Location: Newport Beach, California, United States

Organiser: MMVR Organising Committee

US: SPIE Medical Imaging 2011 - 12 - 17 February 2011

Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE) Medical Imaging Symposium 2011

The symposium covers a wide range of topics on medical image acquisition, processing, analysis, display, understanding, perception, storage and transmission, including but not limited to the following:

- imaging physics, systems analysis and modeling;
- emerging image acquisition technologies (e.g., electrical impedance imaging, microwave imaging, optical tomographic imaging);
- tomographic image reconstruction;
- ultrasonic acquisition and processing technologies;
- magnetic resonance imaging (MRI);
- X-ray computed tomography;
- image processing and analysis;
- computer-aided detection and diagnosis;
- quantitative-based image analysis and interpretation;
- computational models;
- image-guided therapies;
- visual rendering of complex datasets;
- visual perception and observer performance;
- physiological and functional interpretation of image data;
- clinical evaluations of new technologies;
- image data management (storage, retrieval, transmission);
- medical informatics.

Information about registration may be viewed [here](#).

Event email: MeetingInfo@SPIE.org

Event website: <http://spie.org/x12166.xml>

Country: North America

City/Location: Lake Buena Vista (Orlando), Florida

Organiser: Society of Photo-Optical Instrumentation Engineers (SPIE)

UK: Mobile and Wireless Healthcare conference 2011 - 16 February 2011

Mobile and Wireless Healthcare conference 2011: 'Improving access to care at the point of need'

With an ageing population, rising unemployment and more people struggling with debt, the NHS is facing increased demand for its services. More care is being delivered out in the community, and without the technology to enable remote working, home care or monitoring, there will be an even greater pressure on the Primary Care Trusts (PCTs) already strained resources.

Aimed at Information and Communications Technology (ICT) and service delivery teams in the NHS, the conference will provide both practical advice and guidance with key topics including:

- New approaches to working;
- Inspiring innovation;
- Healthcare in the cloud;
- Reaping the benefits of telehealth and telecare.

The conference programme can be viewed [here](#).

Registration can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee.

Event email: mobilewireless@medivents.co.uk

Event website: <http://www.guardian.co.uk/mobile-wireless>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: Birmingham

Organiser: Guardian Conference Team

AT: BIOMED 2011 - 16 - 18 February 2011

The Eighth IASTED International Conference on Biomedical Engineering - Biomed 2011

In recent years, with the aid of engineering and information technology, biomedical engineering has emerged as a high-tech field, generating innovation in such areas as medical imaging, bioinformatics, MEMS and nanotechnology, new biomaterials and sensors, medical robotics, and neurobiology.

Scientists and engineers in this field have recently been working towards such advances as developing artificial organs that mimic natural human organs, conducting telemedicine, performing surgeries with robots, creating a laboratory-on-a-chip, and controlling robots through natural animal brain matter.

Biomed 2011 will be an international forum for researchers and practitioners to exchange the latest research, results, and ideas in biomedical engineering.

The topics of interest to be covered 2011 include, but are not limited to:

- Healthcare Technology;
- Medical devices, measurement and instrumentation
- Medical imaging, image processing and signal processing
- Modeling, simulation, systems and control
- Biomolecular engineering.

Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: calgary@iasted.org

Event website: <http://www.iasted.org/conferences/home-723.html>

Country: Austria

City/Location: Innsbruck

Organiser: The International Association of Science and Technology for Development (IASTED)

US: Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society 2011 - HIMSS11 - 20 - 24 February 2011

HIMSS11 - Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS) 2011 - Annual Conference and Exhibition

Healthcare today requires that healthcare IT leaders to be prepared for the many challenges they face. HIMSS11 educational offerings feature industry leaders presenting on a variety of topics designed to provide attendees with the tools and resources they need to effect change in a dynamic industry.

To meet the needs of this ever changing industry, HIMSS has added general education topic categories like American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA) and Meaningful Use, Business Intelligence, Health Reform, Human Computer Interface, Interactive Health Communications, and Workforce Development to an already dynamic line-up.

The pre-conference education offers attendees hands-on learning about various ARRA topics such as meaningful use, quality, certification, interoperability, as well as effective strategies for project management, change management, and others.

The complete event brochure may be viewed [here](#). Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: [Contact Information](#)

Event website: <http://www.himssconference.org/index.aspx>

Country: North America

City/Location: Orlando, Florida

Organiser: Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society (HIMSS)

ES: INTERA Congress 2011 - 21 - 23 February 2011

The first International Technology Robotics Applications (INTERA) Congress 2011

The first INTERA (International Technology Robotics Applications) Congress will call a meeting of technical experts and researchers from the industry of robotic applications and the academic robotic world. This Congress will be an opportunity to disseminate the current state of robotic research and its applications in different fields.

The program will include oral presentations, posters and simulations.

Information about the registration fees will be available at the homepage of the event.

Event email: congresointera2011@gmail.com

Event website: <http://156.35.46.38/intera2010/html/>

Country: Spain

City/Location: Oviedo, Asturias

Organiser: Infobótica Research Group of the University of Oviedo in collaboration with the University of Oviedo foundation

DE: 13th eHealth Conference - 22 February 2011

13th eHealth Conference - Optimisation of processes between hospitals and suppliers via electronic communication

The 13th eHealth Conference will present best practice cases from companies and hospitals as well as background information from experts, the strengths and weaknesses, opportunities and challenges of the 'e' projects in the healthcare industry.

The event will highlight the following main topics:

- Unique Device Identification (UDI)-labeling of medical devices;
- Auto-ID systems in the health industry;
- eStandards in the supply chain;
- Optimisation of electronic procurement processes;
- Interface Medical - Hospital IT.

The event programme as well as information about the registration process may be viewed [here](#).

Event email: kunze@bvmed.de

Event website: <http://www.medinform.de/events/date/medinform220211.html>

Country: Germany

City/Location: Frankfurt/Main

Organiser: MedInform

FR: eTELEMED 2011 - 23 - 28 February 2011

eTELEMED 2011 - The Third International Conference on eHealth, Telemedicine and Social Medicine

eTELEMED 2011 is collocated with other International Conferences part of [DigitalWorld 2011](#); all the conferences will be held from 23 to 28 February 2010.

The conference programme is likely to comprise the following tracks:

- eHealth technology and devices
- eHealth data records
- eHealth information processing
- eHealth systems and communications
- eHealth systems and emergency situations
- Telemedicine/eHealth applications
- Telemedicine/eHealth services
- Social and financial aspects
- Classical medicine and eHealth integration
- Preventive eHealth systems
- Challenges of large-scale, cost-effective eHealth systems
- Nurse team applications
- Personalised eHealth
- Clinical telemedicine
- Rural and wilderness eHealth
- Environmental and travel telemedicine

The detailed programme will be made available on the event website at <http://www.iaaria.org/conferences2011/ProgramTELEMED11.html>.

The registration form is available [here](#). Participation requires the payment of a fee; the available rates range from €565 to €815.

Event email: petre@iaaria.org

Event website: <http://www.iaaria.org/conferences2011/eTELEMED11.html>

Country: France

City/Location: Gosier, Guadeloupe, France

Organiser: International Academy, Research and Industry Association (IARIA)

FR: Fifth International Conference on Digital Society - 23 - 28 February 2011

ICDS 2011 - The Fifth International Conference on Digital Society

ICDS 2011 is collocated with other International Conferences part of [DigitalWorld 2011](#); all the conferences will be held from 23 to 28 February 2010.

The conference programme is likely to comprise the following tracks:

- Citizen-centric disruptive and enabling technologies
- Internet and Web Services
- eGovernment services in the context of digital society
- eCommerce and eBusiness
- Citizen-oriented digital evidence
- Consumer-oriented devices and Services
- Intelligent computation
- Networking and telecommunications
- eDefense for security and protection
- Enforced citizen-centric paradigms
- Computational advertising
- Management and control
- Digital analysis and processing
- Mobile devices and biotechnologies
- Software and system robustness for digital society
- Consumer-oriented digital design
- Social networking
- ICT support and applications for eCollaboration

The detailed programme will be made available on the event website at: <http://www.iaaria.org/conferences2011/ProgramICDS11.html>.

The registration form is available [here](#). Participation requires the payment of a fee; the available rates range from €565 to €815.

Event email: petre@iaaria.org

Event website: <http://www.iaaria.org/conferences2011/ICDS11.html>

Country: France

City/Location: Gosier, Guadeloupe, France

Organiser: International Academy, Research and Industry Association (IARIA)

CA: ITCH 2011 - 24 - 27 February 2011

An international conference addressing Information Technology and Communications in Health (ITCH 2011)

'Health Informatics: International Perspectives' is the working theme for the 2011 international conference being held in Victoria, BC, Canada. Health informatics is now a global phenomenon, supporting the organisation and delivery of healthcare across the globe, both in developing and developed countries.

With the establishment of the Middle East Association of Health Informatics (MEAHI), IMIA (the International Medical Informatics Association) now provides regional coverage of all parts of the world. This is reflected in international conference activity in both developed and developing countries with strong IMIA involvement. Recent successful examples include Helina 2009 in Grand Bassam (Ivory Coast), Nursing Informatics 2009 in Helsinki (Finland) and the Collaborative Meetings in Health Informatics 2009 in Hiroshima (Japan). This year Medinfo 2010 takes place in Cape Town, South Africa, and will, as usual, offer a forum in which to report a wide range of developments across the spectrum of health informatics.

Health Informatics: International Perspectives will provide an opportunity to focus on international comparisons. Major lessons will be there to be learnt by both developed and developing communities as health informatics becomes ever more central to the organisation and delivery of healthcare across the globe.

The following workshops will be held on 24 February 2011:

- Open Health Informatics - Developing Electronic Health Records (EHR) using Open Source Software and Agile Methodologies;
- Privacy, Security, and Information Sharing Agreements: A Primer for EHR Stakeholders;
- Promoting Good Practices for Primary Health Care Electronic Medical Record Systems;
- Usability Engineering Workshop;
- An introduction to the WHO-HMN (World Health Organisation-Health Metrics Network) tools and work in emerging and developing countries;
- Practical Framework for Guiding Health Information Technology Evaluation;
- Extracting and encoding information from patient records and clinical guidelines: introduction to open-source Natural language processing for biology (BioNLP) tools;
- Clinical Simulation of Health IT Use.

The event programme will be made available [here](#).

Registration can be performed by completing the [registration form](#), saving it locally and sending it to the event email indicated hereafter.

Event email: itch@uvic.ca

Event website: <http://itch.uvic.ca/>

Country: North America

City/Location: Victoria, British Columbia, Canada

Organiser: School of Health Information Science, University of Victoria

TR: Turkey Healthcare Infrastructure Investment & Finance Summit 2011 - 24 - 25 February 2011

Turkey Healthcare Infrastructure Investment & Finance Summit 2011

The Turkish health system is in transition. As a part of the government's Health Transformation Programme, institutional and organisational reforms are underway that aim to assure universal access to health insurance and health services. Considering Medical Tourism, Turkey is on the rise. It was recently estimated by Turkish Statistical Institute that recently, there were 165 000 visitors to the country for healthcare and that they brought the country around \$360 million (approx. €268 million).

The Turkey Healthcare Infrastructure Investment & Finance Summit will bring together interested companies, financial institutions and government representatives with financeable healthcare projects in the region and will explore the critical issues for successful development and structuring of public-private partnerships (PPP) and private equity healthcare infrastructure investments across the region.

Taking a practical approach, the Summit will enable attendees and speakers to explore key issues, network and build personal relationships with key business and political decision-makers and to explore business opportunities in the development of healthcare infrastructure investment.

The main themes will focus on recent trends and current needs in the Turkish healthcare infrastructure industry, PPP opportunities and challenges, the Turkish Health Transformation Programme and its development, joint investment opportunities in the region, while, similarly, the Summit will highlight issues related to med-tech development, new medical technology, project development and e-health opportunities. Moreover, as Medical Wellness Tourism is on the rise and more and more accessible for foreigners in the region, the discussions will be similarly dedicated to the new market trends in wellbeing ventures. The detailed event programme and the list of speakers may be found [here](#).

The audience will consist of leading European, US and Middle East-based companies; large SMEs; technology-based companies, facility designers and constructors; trade financiers, investment officers, private equity investors, financial officers, legal firms, consulting and engineering companies, insurers, export credit agencies, multilateral institutions, financial institutions and PPP practitioners; central, regional and local Government Officials, etc.

Registration can be performed by completing and returning the dedicated [form](#).

Event email: register@euroconvention.com

Event website: http://www.euroconvention.com/events.php?action=details&event_id=48

Country: Turkey

City/Location: Istanbul

Organiser: Euroconvention Conferences, with the support of the British Chamber of Commerce of Turkey

EU: Get Online Week 2011 - 28 - 5 March 2011

Get Online Week 2011

Following the success of [Get Online Day 2010](#) when almost 70 000 people were reached, Telecentre-Europe is organising a new campaign - Get Online Week 2011. This event is a Europe wide campaign to get new computer users online. It helps to get people through the doors of their local telecentres, enabling staff to build people's confidence to move on into more structured learning.

The Get Online Week 2011 campaign aims to:

- bring people online (focus on the offline Europeans, those who have never accessed Internet before);
- raise awareness with the press and the stakeholders of digital inclusion benefits;
- promote and increase usage of telecentres across Europe;
- demonstrate telecentres eInclusion impact at the European level.

The expected outcomes of the Get Online Week 2011 are:

- Over 100 000 beneficiaries from at least 20 nations;
- Over 1000 telecentres involved;
- High PR and visibility across Europe and in each individual participating nation.

Further information about the event can be found online in a detailed [presentation](#).

Registration to the event is free-of-charge and can be performed [online](#).

Event email: info@telecentre-europe.org / laurentiu.bunescu@telecentre-europe.org

Related ePractice News Article: [EU: 100 000 Europeans to get online in a week](#)

Event website: <http://getonlineweek2011.wordpress.com/>

Country: Pan european

City/Location: Various cities throughout Europe

Organiser: Telecentre-Europe

Assisted workshop: Fiction or reality? 50% of public procurement above the EU public procurement threshold should be carried out electronically - 24 March 2011

After 2 successful meetings, jointly organised with ePractice about the topic of the preawarding phase in eProcurement, auftrag.at proudly invites again – to present your case in the wonderful surroundings of Vienna.

The workshop will focus on the progress and acceptance of eProcurement: Which tools are available for various countries? How much traffic do the applications have to handle? What are the measurable benefits? Are there still any problems and obstacles?

The workshop targets contracting authorities, service providers and members of the administration of the European Union.

The following objectives are to be reached during the workshop:

- Key data of eProcurement for usage and benefits are presented by practitioners
- The biggest obstacles for electronic procurement are defined
- New developments in procurement solutions are presented

Content:

- Use of eProcurement solutions in practice:
 1. Functional volume of the eProcurement solution in your organisation/country
 2. Quantity structure of use number of electronic announcements, users, tenders
 3. Experiences
 4. Lessons learnt
 5. Involvement in international initiatives like STORK, PEPPOL, etc.
- Problems and obstacles:
 1. Legal
 2. Organisational
 3. Technical
- Future development:
 1. How do you think eProcurement will develop in the next years?
 2. What is necessary to boost the topic?
 3. Personal resume to the topic of eProcurement

In parallel to the presentations a panel will be organised to discuss the crucial enablers or hurdles for the electronic transaction of procurement processes in an open space. Please feel free to suggest any topics to be outpointed and discussed during the meeting.

A “**Call for presentations**” and a “**Call for Open Space-topics**” is open till 22 January, 2011. Everyone who is interested in sharing his experience and presenting a case is invited to contact us by e-mail to office@auftrag.at.

Country: Austria

City/Location: Vienna

Organiser: Auftrag.at & ePractice

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