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## European ePractice Newsletter N. 405 – 31 January 2012

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### Assisted Events

#### >> Assisted Seminar - Writing for the Internet - New Approaches to Producing Concise & Compelling Texts

This seminar will take place in Maastricht, Netherlands on **6-7 February 2012**. It will introduce participants to issues including:

- The organisation of information online and the structure of websites;
- Which text formats to use for various online platforms and tools;
- Which creative strategies and techniques are recommended for writing and revising texts;
- Safe and effective use of multimedia and social media.

For more information, please visit the [ePractice announcement](#) or the [main event's page](#).

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#### >> Assisted Event - eProcurement: Benefits - Costs - Savings

This workshop will take place in Austria, on **21 March 2012**. It will focus on benefits, costs and savings of eProcurement in the pre-awarding phase. The topics to be addressed include: Process costs, Security & Identification, Supranational procurement processes, and Technique & Language.

For more information, please visit the [ePractice announcement](#) or the [main event's page](#).

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### ePractice Workshops

#### >> CIP Workshop: Funding opportunities in ICT for Health, Ageing Well & Inclusion

This event will take place in Brussels, Belgium on **17 February 2012**. In the frame of the Competitiveness & Innovation Programme ICT Policy Support Programme (CIP ICT PSP) and as a follow-up to the [CIP Info Day](#) (3 February 2012), the European Commission is organising this one-day information and networking workshop dedicated to [Theme 3 of the CIP ICT PSP](#) (ICT for Health, Ageing Well and Inclusion).

The workshop provides an excellent opportunity for prospective programme applicants to put their questions directly to the European Commission, present their ideas to stakeholders, meet potential partners and learn more about the state of the art and the broader policy context.

For more information, please visit the [ePractice announcement](#).

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## Event Participation

>> ePractice.eu will be presenting at [ICDS 2012](#) that will take place in Valencia, Spain on **30 January 2012 - 4 February 2012**.

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## Latest Cases

- [Strokeback - Telemedicine for Stroke Rehabilitation](#) | 20 January 2012 | Germany | Greece | Hungary | United Kingdom | EU Institutions
  - [EuroMatrixPlus: Bringing Machine Translation for European Languages to the User](#) | 18 January 2012 | Bulgaria | Czech Republic | France | Germany | Ireland | Italy | United Kingdom | North America
  - [GS Soil: Assessment and strategic development of INSPIRE compliant Geodata-Services for European Soil Data](#) | 18 January 2012 | Austria | Belgium | Bulgaria | Czech Republic | Denmark | Finland | France | Germany | Greece | Hungary | Ireland | Poland | Portugal | Romania | Slovakia | Slovenia | Spain | United Kingdom
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## Strokeback - Telemedicine for Stroke Rehabilitation

Stroke is a disease with very high socio-economic impact. In average the healthcare expenditure cost for Strokes across different countries in Europe and USA is 3% of their entire healthcare expenditure. This includes inpatient treatment cost, outpatient hospital visits and long-term rehabilitation and care. Analysis showed that costs of long-term care have increased from 13% to 49% of overall costs in average in recent years. Therefore there is an urgent need for devising an effective long-term care and rehabilitation strategy for Stroke patients, which will involve the patients actively in the process while minimising costly human intervention. The *StrokeBack* project intends to develop an automated remote rehabilitation system by blending advances of ICT and practical clinical knowledge that will empower the patients and their immediate carer for effective application of the rehabilitation protocol in home settings.

*StrokeBack* will combine state-of-the-art monitoring devices forming a wireless Body Area Network that enable simultaneous measurement of multiple vital parameters and currently executed movements that are particularly of interest from a Stroke rehabilitation point of view. The measured parameters will be fused using advanced feature extraction and classification algorithms processed on-body, which will denote the accuracy of the executed exercise. The training parameters along with vital data will be stored in a patient health record to which the responsible clinicians and therapists have access so that they can dynamically update the rehabilitation programme.

By employing manual intervention only when actually necessary, it will eliminate costly human intervention and thereby significantly reduce the associated costs. The increased rehabilitation speed as well as the fact that the rehabilitation training can be done at home directly improves quality of life of patients. To sum up, *StrokeBack* will increase rehabilitation speed while reducing cost.

## **EuroMatrixPlus: Bringing Machine Translation for European Languages to the User**

Europe faces a growing economic and societal challenge due to its vast diversity of languages, and machine translation technology holds promise as a means to address this challenge. The goals of EuroMatrixPlus are:

1. To continue the rapid advance of machine translation technology, creating example systems for every official EU language, and providing other machine translation developers with our infrastructure for building statistical translation models.
2. To continue and broaden the controlled systematic investigation of different approaches and techniques to accelerate the scientific evolution of novel methods, including both selection and cross-fertilization. The aim is to arrive at scientifically well understood novel combinations of methods that are proven superior to the state of the art.
3. To focus on bringing machine translation to the users, in addition to focusing on scientific advances. Because our statistical models are derived from example translations, we believe that there is potential for a synergistic relationship in which users suggest improvements to the system by post-editing its output, and the system improves itself by learning from user feedback.
4. To contribute to the growth and competitiveness of the European MT research scene and infrastructure through its open international competitive shared tasks and living community supported surveys of resources, tools, systems and their respective capabilities.

In bringing MT to the users, EuroMatrixPlus focuses on two different types of users: (a) professional translators and translation agencies working for private corporations, administrations, and other organisations, and (b) lay users who create content on a volunteer basis by translating foreign materials into their own languages. The project will investigate how these users can benefit from state of the art machine translation, and conversely, how machine translation can benefit from user corrections.

EuroMatrixPlus will create an openly accessible sample application that enables users to automatically translate news stories and web pages from any European language into any other, and whose corrections will be exploited as data for improving translation technology.

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## **GS Soil: Assessment and strategic development of INSPIRE compliant Geodata-Services for European Soil Data**

INSPIRE provides the framework for the establishment of a European Spatial Data Infrastructure. The cross-border use and applicability of data requires that specific standards and rules are fulfilled by data providers. Such rules are currently being developed as data specifications. Soil as a theme in the INSPIRE annex III is included in this process, and was selected as the target theme for the EU best practice network GS SOIL „Assessment and strategic development of INSPIRE compliant Geodata-Services for European soil data“. The project contributes to the harmonization and provision of interoperable soil geodata in Europe. The main deliverable of the project is the web portal <http://gssoil-portal.eu/>, which provides information, data management tools and links to data sources. Examples are the soil specific multilingual thesaurus, a metadata editor and catalogue service, provision of WMS and prototype WFS.

The best practice network is co-funded by the European Community programme eContentplus, by the European Commission DG Information Society and Media in the duration from June 2009 - May 2012.

The network consortium comprises 34 partners from 18 EU member states. Project Coordinator is the Coordination Center PortalU at the Lower Saxony Ministry of Environment and Climate Protection (Germany). Overall 24 partners out of the consortium are soil data providers and will make the data available for the project. Hence, a complex and high quality data basis in a European context is assured. Beyond that, European institutions are also involved via the advisory board, as the European Environment Agency and the Joint Research Center of the EC.

The partners will establish and operate a network of services for spatial datasets and metadata. This network includes distributed services for data transformation, discovery, view and download. The final result of the project will be a central GS SOIL Portal, where European soil data from heterogeneous sources will be bundled. In order to ensure cross-border usability of the portal and related services, aspects of multilingualism and data interpretation will be considered thoroughly.

The project will extensively support the implementation of the INSPIRE requirements on basis of available experience in selected European countries and regions on different organizational levels. The planned results of the project are :

- A consolidated soil-related theme catalogue and consolidated soil-related theme content-framework standards,
- An INSPIRE compatible metadata profile for spatial soil datasets, dataset series and services,
- Generic application schemes for soil information,
- A web portal (GS SOIL Portal) which provides access to all project soil data, including
  - a view service which provides access to spatial soil data,
  - discovery and view of the INSPIRE conform metadata for the provided soil maps,
  - interoperable spatial soil datasets (for exemplary soil products),
  - case studies on cross-boarder delivery of harmonised soil data access,
  - Best practice guidelines for
    - creating and maintaining metadata for soil database ,
    - and for data harmonization.

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**Editor's Choice of the week:** SOCIABLE Project <http://www.epractice.eu/en/cases/sociable>

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## Latest News

- [EU: "Open source not yet very popular in healthcare organisations"](#) | 31 January 2012 | United Kingdom | Pan european
  - [ES: 'Datos.gob.es' wins award for most user friendly PSI portal in EU](#) | 31 January 2012 | Spain
  - [EU: Open Forum Europe: Cloud computing a way out of vendor lock-in](#) | 31 January 2012 | Pan european | EU Institutions
  - [EU: Open source software assists European citizens to petition the EU](#) | 30 January 2012 | EU Institutions
  - [EU: Draft guide on ICT standards and procurement aims to reduce vendor lock-in](#) | 30 January 2012 | EU Institutions
  - [EU: ADMS Public Review to close on 6 February 2012](#) | 30 January 2012 | EU Institutions
  - [NL: Patient's view of an operation procedure to be publicised via social media](#) | 27 January 2012 | Netherlands
  - [FI: Social and health care IT projects are performing well](#) | 26 January 2012 | Finland
  - [EU: Helping public authorities procure ICT based on Standards - Survey open](#) | 25 January 2012 | EU Institutions
  - [EU: Telecentre-Europe organises Get Online Week 2012](#) | 24 January 2012 | Pan european
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## **EU: "Open source not yet very popular in healthcare organisations" - 31 January 2012**

**The use of free and open source software is not yet very common in Europe's healthcare organisations, says Thomas Karopka, chair of the International Medical Informatics Association. However, several online and offline networks of healthcare specialists interested in this type of software are slowly becoming**

**stronger. "We're progressing, for instance, towards an open source ecosystem in the domain of ambient assisted living."**

According to Mr Karopka, 'eHealth Open Source', a group on a business-related social networking site is one of the most active. Many of the members are based in the United Kingdom: "Free and open source approaches are receiving more and more attention among the medical informatics community in the UK."

A second example of an active online group is formed by some forty organisations and healthcare specialists working on interoperability, that signed the so-called '[Lecce Declaration](#)', calling for the development and use of open standards in ambient assisted living.

This should lead to the use of free software tools specialised in 'ambient assisted living', the use of technology to allow elderly, disabled and sick people to remain more or less independent from healthcare providers, as opposed to staying in care centres.

Mr Karopka is one of the organisers of a workshop on the topic, taking place in the city of Luxembourg, from 18 to 20 April 2012. The workshop is part of the conference '[Med-e-Tel 2012](#)'.

Last year one of the presentations given at Med-e-Tel was on the [Open Health Assistant](#), a tool that manages devices that monitor weight, blood pressure, temperature, glucose levels and even pill boxes.

The tool is published under the Apache public software license, version 2, and is developed by a Spanish IT company specialised in health care solutions. Karopka: "Other interesting solutions are available at [Medfloss.org](#), a portal for free and open source in health care."

It is the third time that this open source track takes place at Med-e-Tel. Karopka says the programme committee has received more than ten abstracts for potential presentations. "The deadline for submitting is 3 February 2012, and we will announce the workshop schedule shortly after."

#### **Further information:**

- [Original news article - Joinup platform - European Commission](#)
- [Lecce Declaration](#)
- [Related ePractice event notice - LU: Med-e-Tel 2012](#)
- [Open Health Assistant](#)
- [Medfloss](#)

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## **ES: 'Datos.gob.es' wins award for most user friendly PSI portal in EU - 31 January 2012**

**On 24 January 2012, the Spanish website '[Datos.gob.es](#)' received the [LAPSI Award](#) for the most user friendly public sector information (PSI) portal design in the EU.**

The portal was recognised during the 2nd Public Conference of the European Thematic Network on Legal Aspects of Public Sector Information ([LAPSI](#)) held in Brussels. LAPSI is an EU-funded network which brings together experts from EU Member States for high-level policy discussions and strategic action on all legal issues concerning access to and re-use of PSI.

The objective of the LAPSI Award is to support any initiative which can be beneficial to PSI re-use policies for moving forward. The award features the winning portal's innovativeness, accessibility, ease of navigation and commitment to disclosure. Furthermore, it recognises the leading role of Spain and the General State Administration in particular in fostering a culture of open data and PSI re-use. Also worthy of recognition is the professional community, businesses and concerned citizens who encourage the opening of public data, given that key private sector associations and concerned civil society organisations were consulted in the portal's design process.

In addition, the award reflects the Spanish infomediary sector's potential (companies that reuse information). This sector develops new products and services through PSI re-use, generating € 550-650 million turnover in 2010 while directly employing 5 000-5 500 people.

As part of the 'Aporta' project which is aimed at placing Spain at the European forefront in re-using PSI, the Datos.gov.es portal features the [PSI Catalogue](#) of the General State Administration. It also provides general information, educational materials and news updates on PSI re-use.

By virtue of 'Aporta', technical documents on which the portal is based have been developed in collaboration with the CTIC Foundation (Centre for the Development of Information and Communication Technologies in Asturias) and they will soon become available to all stakeholders for free reuse.

The portal is one of the tools foreseen in the [Royal Decree](#) (1495/2011) of 24 October 2011 implementing the Law on the re-use of PSI for the public sector (37/2007).

**Further information:**

- [Original news article - eGovernment portal \(in Spanish\)](#)
- [Datos.gob.es \(in Spanish\)](#)
- [LAPSI](#)
- ['Aporta' project](#)
- [Characterization Study of the Infomediary Sector](#)
- [Related ePractice news article - ES: Council of Ministers adopts Royal Decree implementing Law 37/2007 on the re-use of public sector information](#)
- [Background information - ePractice eGovernment Factsheet for Spain](#)

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## **EU: Open Forum Europe: Cloud computing a way out of vendor lock-in - 31 January 2012**

**European public administrations can avoid being locked-in by IT vendors when moving to cloud computing that is firmly based on principles of transparency, open access and open standards, says Open Forum Europe (OFE), an organisation advocating the use of open standards in ICT.**

The group supports the European Commission's strategy for cloud computing, it says in a press release published on 26 January 2012. OFE writes it shares the vision of Neelie Kroes, the Vice-President of the European responsible for the Digital Agenda.

"VP Kroes' focus on the role of the public sector strikes the right tone", OFE writes in the press release. The group agrees with her that governments should play an active role and set a good example "As she points out, public procurement of IT represents a massive chunk of Europe's IT industry. OFE consistently has stated this is the single most important way that government can influence market behaviour."

The advocacy group also announces that it will soon publish an update of its procurement monitoring report. "(This) will again illustrate how a significant, and not diminishing, proportion of the public sector continue to ignore EC guidelines and EU legislation."

OFE concludes that many government agencies and departments across the continent remain the victims of lock-in. "A change in public procurement behaviour is undeniably required."

OFE thinks that the Commission's cloud computing strategy offers could lead the public sector out of this problem.

In her speech at the World Economic Forum in Davos, Switzerland earlier the same day, Kroes invited public authorities and industry, users and suppliers of cloud computing to join the European Commission to come up with

common requirements. This partnership "will look at standards, it will look at security, it will look at ensuring competition, not lock-in."

**Further information:**

- [Original news article - Joinup platform - European Commission](#)
- [OFE's press release](#)
- [Speech of Neelie Kroes - 'Setting up the European Cloud Partnership' \(Davos, Switzerland, 26 January 2012\)](#)

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## **EU: Open source software assists European citizens to petition the EU - 30 January 2012**

**OCS (OnLine Collection Software), the European Commission's open source software written for the European Citizens' Initiative, will make it easier for citizens to bring legislative proposals to the Commission, European officials said at a conference in Brussels on 26 January 2012.**

The European Citizens' Initiative allows EU citizens to participate directly in the development of EU policies, by calling on the European Commission to make a legislative proposal. The initiative was officially opened by Commission Vice-President Maroš Šefčovič at the European Citizens' Initiative - Warm up Conference'. To propose legislation to the European Commission, groups will have to gather at least one million signatures from at least seven out of the 27 member states.

The European Commission (EC) officials involved in making OCS hope that interested open source developers will build mobile applications linking to OCS, and that they write software that integrates social media.

To lower the threshold for petitioning, the EC's [ISA Programme](#) (Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations) developed OCS. The tool helps users to record, store and submit signatures.

Using OCS for this will be more efficient than collecting signatures on paper. The tool can also streamline data collection and verification. The EU countries have different laws relating to petitioning, for instance on how to identify voters, and OCS handles such variations by producing customised and pre-completed forms.

The tool also makes it easier to get national governments to certify the accuracy and safety of software systems used for gathering signatures, according to the programme managers involved.

The EC will help the member states by showing IT auditors how to check if OCS is installed and run securely. And in countries that do not keep up-to-date lists of voters or where the rules for authenticating citizens make petitioning complex, statistically significant samples will be allowed. One of the involved developers said: "If you use our software, the certification procedure should be a lot easier."

The software is offered free of charge, but it is up to the organisers of petitions to provide a hosting solution.

The OCS tool comes complete with support for all 23 official languages of the European Union. A conference attendee asked the European Commission if it would support other European languages such as Welsh, Catalan or Galician. Francisco García Morán replied: "It is open source, so if a community shows sufficient interest, other languages can be added." Mr García Morán is the Director General for Informatics (DIGIT), the DG responsible for the ISA programme.

OCS has been [available](#) on the Joinup software forge since 23 December 2011. The ISA Programme will help open source developers to build extensions, explained Declan Deasy, Director for Information Systems and Interoperability Solutions. "If there is sufficient interest, we will foster an OCS community."

**Further information:**

- [Original news article - Joinup platform - European Commission](#)
  - [The European Citizens' Initiative \(ECI\)](#)
  - [OnLine Collection Software for ECI](#)
  - [Related ePractice news article - EU: Shape the European Citizen Initiatives by contributing early](#)
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## **EU: Draft guide on ICT standards and procurement aims to reduce vendor lock-in - 30 January 2012**

"The appropriate use of standards will help alleviate lock-in", says a [draft guideline](#) prepared for the European Commission, on the link between ICT standardisation and public procurement. The draft text was published on 21 December 2011.

According to a survey carried out in preparation for the guideline, around 40 % of public administrations report some degree of vendor lock-in. "This can prevent authorities from switching to optimal solutions and making best use of public funds."

IT systems designed for citizens' use that are based on proprietary technologies which cannot be implemented by competitors, will restrict the choice that citizens have in the way they interact with the public authority, the guide explains. "For example, a public website that can only be accessed through a specific Web browser will oblige citizens to use that specific browser. This can have a number of undesirable effects, including limiting competition in the ICT market."

Symptoms of lock-in include the use of specific brand names of products in tender descriptions and requests for backward compatibility with proprietary systems, of which only a few suppliers have knowledge. These practices can limit competition in the IT market.

The draft text explains that procuring ICT that is based on standards accessible to all ICT suppliers can help promote competition. "This will reduce the risk of public authorities becoming excessively dependent on a single vendor for the provision of ICT products or services beyond the timeframe of the initial procurement contract".

The guide is for the use of public authorities in learning to use standards in order to reduce lock-in.

The draft guideline was published shortly after a [workshop](#) held in Brussels on 12 December 2012.

The European Commission also launched on 23 January 2012 a [new consultation](#) aimed at gathering views on the guideline and on the impact of practical implementation options. Those interested in the survey can submit their input until 14 February 2012.

**Further information:**

- [Original news article - Joinup platform - European Commission](#)
- [Digital Agenda, Action 23](#)
- [Related ePractice news article - EU: Helping public authorities procure ICT based on Standards - Survey open](#)

## EU: ADMS Public Review to close on 6 February 2012 - 30 January 2012

On 6 January 2012, the [Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations \(ISA\)](#) programme of the European Commission launched the public review of the Asset Description Metadata Schema (ADMS). The review will last until 6 February 2012 (inclusive).

The Asset Description Metadata Schema (ADMS) is a common way to describe semantic interoperability assets including metadata schemas, controlled vocabularies and code lists.

Better documenting semantic assets can help improve interoperability of eGovernment initiatives across Europe, and possibly beyond. ADMS will also be a key element of the upcoming federation of semantic asset repositories in Europe.

From mid 2012, the ISA Programme-funded [Joinup](#) platform will make available a large number of semantic interoperability assets, described using ADMS, through a federation of asset repositories of Member States, standardisation bodies and other relevant stakeholders.

People willing to take part in the public review are invited to [download](#) the ADMS specification from the Joinup platform and comment on it, by either using the [ADMS Forum](#) (registration required) or by sending an e-mail to the ADMS editor, [Makx Dekkers](#).

All comments will be registered in an issues list that will be discussed by the Working Group in early February 2012. Resolutions of those issues will be shared on Joinup, and will lead to a final version of the specification that will be submitted to the European Commission for endorsement by the European Union Member States. During the first two quarters of 2012, the specification will be tested in a pilot implementation with four existing repositories. The results of that pilot will also be shared with the wider community through Joinup.

### Background information:

The Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations programme (ISA) facilitates the efficient and effective cross-border electronic collaboration between European public administrations.

### Further information:

- [Original news article - ISA](#)
- [ADMS Brochure](#)
- [Joinup - European Commission](#)

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## NL: Patient's view of an operation procedure to be publicised via social media - 27 January 2012

**For the first time in the Netherlands, the treatment of a patient with a heart rhythm disorder can be followed via social media, it was announced on 12 January 2012. The aim is to provide information to the public in an accessible manner and to show how rewarding healthcare innovation can be for both patients and society.**

The treatment will take place at [Catharina Hospital](#) in Eindhoven, a city in southern Netherlands. The progress of the patient Ad Langendonk and his cardiologist from the hospital, Dr Lukas Dekker, can be followed via a social networking site for a month from 10 January 2012. On 27 January 2012, the disorder will be treated with a minimally invasive procedure known as catheter ablation. This treatment is designed to improve the patient's quality of life, and is rapidly increasing in popularity after a large amount of research and development over the last decade. Together, the patient and doctor will describe the events before, during and after the catheter ablation.

The treatment can be followed 'live' via a [dedicated web page](#), with the medical team at Catharina Hospital updating the progress. In this way, people will be able to see the direct impact that healthcare innovation can have on a

patient's quality of life. Users can also contact the patient or his cardiologist with questions about heart rhythm disorders and how they are treated.

Dr Dekker said: "Innovation is the only means by which we can offer solutions to future healthcare issues. We need to keep an eye on costs, but this needs to be done in a balanced way. There is no denying that innovations such as this one are the future. It therefore remains vital to keep investing."

He added: "To stimulate that investment, it is important to increase awareness. That is why I am so enthusiastic about this initiative. In this way, people are brought together, discussions are encouraged and ideas exchanged. Most importantly, the disease is given a face, which gives people a more personalised insight into the issues. Visitors share the journey of the patient and feel as if they are part of it every step of the way."

"Discussions about healthcare innovation are often complex and abstract, but ultimately healthcare is all about people," said Will Ickenroth from the health and well-being company which is participating in the project. "The value of healthcare and the importance of innovation to people and to society as a whole becomes much clearer when you visit a hospital or have a conversation with physicians and patients. Together with the Catharina Hospital and Ad Langendonk, we are launching this unique initiative to show this from a patient's personal perspective."

#### **Background Information:**

Almost 300 000 Dutch people currently suffer from a heart rhythm disorder, and this number is expected to rise to about 1 million by 2050. The treatment for atrial fibrillation - the particular heart rhythm disorder which Ad Langendonk has - costs around €580 million per year.

Heart rhythm disorders have a highly detrimental effect on the patient's quality of life. However, innovative treatment methods, such as the catheter ablation procedure, will aid in providing efficient and affordable care for sufferers.

#### **Further information:**

- [Original news article - eHealthNews.eu](#)
- [Web page dedicated to Ad Langendonk's case \(in Dutch\)](#)

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## **FI: Social and health care IT projects are performing well - 26 January 2012**

**A recently released audit report by the National Audit Office of Finland covering the period 2003-2009 reveals that IT projects in the field of social services and healthcare did not achieve satisfying performance results. However, many of the shortcomings mentioned in the report have already been corrected based on an internal audit of the Ministry of Social Affairs and Health.**

In contrast with the conclusions of the National Audit Office's report, the Ministry announced that significant results have been achieved at national level. Electronic prescription, electronic health records and the possibility for patients to view their own data in such records have been made available in several municipalities. Adoption is expanding gradually, and municipalities are getting equipped with the appropriate systems while user trainings are provided.

Only the best local projects have been turned into nationwide projects, based on their adaptability to diverse options and situations.

The social and health care IT projects are aimed at establishing an information system that is both local and regional. Some of the services are implemented at national level, some at local level, so that the varying needs of the Finnish regions can be taken into account. Cooperation between regions is ensured by common standards.

While healthcare service providers are responsible for their own systems, they must use the same content and communication standards in order to join the national information system. Healthcare centres and hospital districts

traditionally acquired patient information systems independently, but since 2000, regional cooperation in the procurement of such systems has gradually become more common.

In the future, the nationwide social and healthcare information system will be developed as part of the information management package of the dedicated government programme.

**Further information:**

- [Original news article - Ministry of Social Affairs and Health \(in Finnish\)](#)
- [Related ePractice news article - FI: eArchiving system for electronic patient records - First pilot at Kuopio city](#)

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## **EU: Helping public authorities procure ICT based on Standards - Survey open - 25 January 2012**

A short [online survey](#) has been launched on behalf of the Information Society and Media Directorate General of the European Commission to gather views on possible ways in which public authorities could be helped to procure ICT goods and services that are based on greater use of Standards. The survey will be open until 14 February 2012.

Action 23 of the [Digital Agenda for Europe](#) aims at providing guidance on ICT standardisation and public procurement. [Draft guidelines](#) entitled 'Guide for the procurement of standards-based

ICT - Elements of Good Practice' are now ready, advising public authorities on how to make the best use of available standards when commissioning hardware, software and IT services from external suppliers. The guidelines are illustrated with best practices from all over Europe.

With this survey, the European Commission is seeking views on how useful these guidelines might be, as well as views on practical implementation measures. Responses from all interested parties are invited, for all sections of the questionnaire.

One of the main objectives of public procurement is to be as open as possible and to elicit bids from a good number of competitive suppliers. However, when a public authority is highly dependent on a single vendor for its ICT systems there will be a lack of competition and value for money might not be achieved in the long term. Symptoms of possible lock-in include using specific brand names of products in tender descriptions and requesting backward compatibility with proprietary systems of which only a few suppliers have knowledge. The appropriate use of Standards will help alleviate lock in.

Another advantage of using Standards is that they help achieve interoperability, which is defined as the ability of two or more systems to exchange information and use the information that has been exchanged. This is important in the context of the European Commission's ISA (Interoperability Solutions for European Public Administrations) programme which facilitates electronic collaboration between public authorities. It becomes easier to share information across ICT systems if their architectures are based on common Standards. (Actions 24, 26 and 27 of the Digital Agenda).

The Digital Agenda is Europe's strategy for a flourishing digital economy by 2020. It outlines policies and actions to maximise the benefits of ICT for all. Several actions are related to improved standard-setting procedures and increased interoperability. Europe must ensure that new IT devices, applications, data repositories and services interact seamlessly anywhere. The new standard setting process that is in the making will allow referring to more standards in public procurement. A multi-stakeholder platform will develop a list of standards that can legally be used in public procurement bid (Action 21 of the Digital Agenda).

#### Further information:

- [Original news article - Europe's Information Society Thematic Portal](#)
  - [Online survey - European Commission](#)
  - [Related ePractice news article - EU: Draft guide on ICT standards and procurement aims to reduce vendor lock-in](#)
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## EU: Telecentre-Europe organises Get Online Week 2012 - 24 January 2012

**Get Online Week 2012 is a campaign organised by Telecentre-Europe between 26 and 30 March 2012, supported by the European Commission and a number of international organisations.**

Get online week 2012 will bring together Telecentres in at least 50 countries across and beyond Europe to support at least 200 000 people in their online journeys. This year the Telecentre networks involved will use new learning products that will support the themes like:

- intergenerational learning,
- youth employability,
- active aging,
- civic participation
- social engagement.

In 2011, 112 000 people were reached by the campaign in which Neelie Kroes, the European Commission Vice President and Commissioner Responsible for the Digital Agenda, hailed Telecentre staff as 'heroes' in their work to help people get online and gain confidence in using computers and the internet.

#### Further Information:

- [Original news article - Telecentre Europe Get Online Week Campaign 20112](#)
  - [Related ePractice News: 'EU: 100 000 Europeans to get online in a week'](#)
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## New Factsheets

The 4th Edition of the eGovernment factsheet of the European Union is now available online. We invite you to visit the [relevant section](#) for regular and/or ad hoc updates related to the factsheets.

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## Upcoming Workshops and Events

- [NL: Smart Cities 2012](#) | 1 February 2012 - 2 February 2012 | Netherlands
- [PT: HEALTHINF 2012](#) | 1 February 2012 - 4 February 2012 | Portugal
- [Assisted Seminar: Writing for the Internet - New Approaches to Producing Concise & Compelling Texts](#) | 6 February 2012 - 7 February 2012 | Netherlands
- [UK: VIGOR++ Workshop 2012](#) | 7 February 2012 | United Kingdom
- [FR: TIC Santé Conference 2012](#) | 7 February 2012 - 8 February 2012 | France
- [BG: 7th Balkan Conference on eHealth](#) | 9 February 2012 | Bulgaria
- [DK: 9th Scandinavian Workshop on E-government](#) | 9 February 2012 - 10 February 2012 | Denmark
- [DK: Public Procurement Days 2012](#) | 9 February 2012 - 10 February 2012 | Denmark
- [AT: 5th IASTED International Conference on Telehealth](#) | 15 February 2012 - 17 February 2012 | Austria
- [AT: BioMed 2012](#) | 15 February 2012 - 17 February 2012 | Austria

- [CIP Workshop: Funding opportunities in ICT for Health, Ageing Well & Inclusion](#) | 17 February 2012 | Belgium
  - [ES: II National Congress of Interoperability and Security-CNIS](#) | 22 February 2012 - 23 February 2012 | Spain
  - [UK: Electronic Prescribing in Hospitals](#) | 28 February 2012 | United Kingdom
  - [AT: BioNanoMed 2012](#) | 1 March 2012 - 2 March 2012 | Austria
  - [Assisted Workshop: eProcurement: Benefits - Costs - Savings](#) | 21 March 2012 | Austria
  - [CH: The European eID Interoperability Concepts and Compliance Conference](#) | 27 March 2012 - 28 March 2012 | Switzerland
  - [AT: CeDEM12](#) | 3 May 2012 - 4 May 2012 | Austria
  - [DK: eHealth Week 2012](#) | 7 May 2012 - 9 May 2012 | Denmark
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## **NL: Smart Cities 2012 - 1 February 2012 - 2 February 2012**

### **Smart Cities 2012 - Power, Water, Transport, Waste: Intelligent Infrastructures for the Information Age**

This event will show how to utilise cutting-edge technologies, integrated urban planning approaches and sustainable methodologies to transform urban spaces into better places to live. The most pressing issues currently facing Europe's cities will be discussed:

- improving land-use,
- easing congestion,
- maximising resource efficiency
- reducing the environmental impact of the urban spaces.

It brings together key decision-makers from cities, municipalities and local governments, including mayors, administrators and urban planners, as well as senior-level executives from utilities, energy suppliers, service providers and transport operators with responsibility for strategic development, sustainability, infrastructure and network management, finance and regulation. It also encourages leading cross-industry players - from architects and designers to financial institutions and investors - to attend and incorporate their perspectives on how best to transform today's cities into the intelligent cities of tomorrow.

Registration for the event is available [online](#).

**Event email:** [contact@smartcitiesglobal.com](mailto:contact@smartcitiesglobal.com)

Event website: <http://www.smartcitiesglobal.com/events/amsterdam/>

Country: Netherlands

City/Location: Amsterdam

Organiser: GDS International

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## **PT: HEALTHINF 2012 - 1 February 2012 - 4 February 2012**

### **HEALTHINF 2012 - International Conference on Health Informatics**

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.

HEALTHINF is a forum for debating all these aspects. Furthermore, this conference is also a meeting place for those interested in understanding the human and social implications of technology, not only in healthcare systems but in other aspects of human-machine interaction such as accessibility issues.

The conference topics are:

- 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
- Datamining
- Decision Support Systems
- Wearable Health Informatics
- Mobile Technologies for Healthcare Applications
- Evaluation and Use of Healthcare IT
- Physiological Modeling
- Cognitive Informatics
- Affective Computing
- 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 Services
- eHealth for Public Health
- Clinical Problems and Applications
- Data Visualisation
- Pattern Recognition and Machine Learning

**Event email:** [healthinf.secretariat@insticc.org](mailto:healthinf.secretariat@insticc.org)

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

Country: Portugal

City/Location: Vilamoura

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

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## **Assisted Seminar: Writing for the Internet - New Approaches to Producing Concise & Compelling Texts - 6 February 2012 - 7 February 2012**

The internet has brought about many changes to daily life, both professionally and privately. It is changing the way public administrators communicate and organise information online. The internet allows us to reach broader audiences and make content accessible to citizens and businesses. Consequently, writers of texts to be published

on the internet need to keep their messages short and simple, and use language effectively. In addition, the manner in which information is organised is pivotal to how readers access and use online resources.

The seminar introduces participants to issues including:

- The organisation of information online and the structure of websites;
- Which text formats to use for various online platforms and tools;
- Which creative strategies and techniques are recommended for writing and revising texts;
- Safe and effective use of multimedia and social media.

### **Target Group**

The seminar is intended for public officials at all levels who have an interest in online communication or who need to produce texts for the internet.

### **Learning Methodology**

Good practice examples of communication and websites will be highlighted, including case studies from UN programmes (e.g. UNESCO, FAO and UNU). The techniques presented will enable participants to produce more concise and reader-friendly content, with an additional focus on broad dissemination via a range of social media channels. Participants will have the opportunity to put new insights into practice right away. The seminar comprises group discussions as well as workshop exercises.

### **Objectives**

After the seminar participants will be able to:

- Identify and describe the different segments of their online audiences;
- Understand the key characteristics of web accessibility and user-friendly design;
- Revise a writing sample to make it more appropriate for the web (e.g. articles, blogs);
- Produce short pieces of writing that employ the principles of effective web writing;
- Commission and produce original multimedia and data visualisations to highlight, explain and promote a range of complex texts;
- Employ safely and effectively a range of social media;
- Produce content as part of a team.

Event website: <http://seminars.eipa.eu/en/activities09/show/&tid=4888>

Country: Netherlands

City/Location: Maastricht

Organiser: EIPA - European Institute of Public Administration

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## **UK: VIGOR++ Workshop 2012 - 7 February 2012**

### **VIGOR++ Workshop 2012 - New Diagnostic Tools for Bowel Diseases**

This workshop will explore advances in the integration of clinical data and Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI) analysis, classification and visualisation within the concept of the [Virtual Physiological Human \(VPH\)](#). These are enabling the development of a multi scale, personalised gastrointestinal (GI) tract model-based diagnostic tool deployable on a cloud computing platform. Results aim to demonstrate accurate detection and grading of Crohn's disease that affects 700 000 people in Europe alone.

Attendees have a wide range of backgrounds representing all parts of the supply chain including:

- researchers in universities and hospitals

- diagnostics and device companies
- public health authorities
- private healthcare providers
- market analysts and patient groups.

Participants will benefit from a programme featuring leading experts, focused on best practices, smart algorithms, practical tips and take-home messages that will help them improve their research and patient outcomes. In addition the Workshop will offer opportunities to learn about the:

- latest screening protocols used for the diagnosis bowel diseases from medical professionals;
- newest algorithms designed to process efficiently and accurately multi-scale data;
- paradigm shift in GI modelling in the context of Virtual Physiological Human and prepare your strategy;
- innovative ICT systems handling medical data in real-time by attending the planned demonstrations;
- emerging portals that empower patients towards self-care.

People interested in participating must send their application to [workshop@vigorpp.eu](mailto:workshop@vigorpp.eu).

**Event email:** [workshop@vigorpp.eu](mailto:workshop@vigorpp.eu)

Event website: <http://www.vigorpp.eu/events.php?NID=50#>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: VIGOR++

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## **FR: TIC Santé Conference 2012 - 7 February 2012 - 8 February 2012**

### **TIC Santé Conference 2012 - 'Developing Health ICT competencies for better care'**

In the context of the [Digital Hospital Programme](#), Health ICT competencies are a necessary facilitator of the deployment and efficient use of the digital solutions proposed and implemented in health and medico-social institutions.

Like its previous editions, this two-day event will present various approaches and promote discussions between experts, professionals and users of the health system. In particular, it will revolve around four lines of work:

1. Health ICT: Tools or competencies?
2. Health ICT competencies to provide better care and to improve the treatment process
3. Health ICT competencies to train healthcare professionals and to improve their continuing education
4. Health ICT competencies of patients and homecare workers to improve both care and life quality

The event is aimed at a professional audience, trainers, supervisory staff, decision makers in the health and medico-social sectors and experts in the field of health ICT. It will consist of conferences, roundtables, workshops and lessons learnt meetings. The programmes of [day 1](#) and [day 2](#) can be consulted online.

The registration form may be found [here](#).

**Event email:** [colloque2012@formaticsante.com](mailto:colloque2012@formaticsante.com)

Event website: <http://www.colloqueticsante.fr/>

Country: France

City/Location: Issy-les-Moulineaux, near Paris

Organiser: FORMATICSanté Association, under the patronage of the State Secretary for Healthcare and the Minister for Higher Education and Research

## BG: 7th Balkan Conference on eHealth - 9 February 2012

### 7th Balkan Conference on eHealth - 'eHealth - Technologies for Management Transparency and Patient Care'

In the current context of fast demographic changes and of stagnating budget frames, pressure is rising for: more qualitative and optimised healthcare; the more active introduction of technologies for health; sustainable healthcare focused on patients at every stage of their lives.

#### The topics that are going to be addressed are:

- European ideas for eHealth development by 2020, the EU Directive on cross-border healthcare - has the time come for eHealth law in the EU and the member states?
- Bulgaria's centralised national eHealth system project - concept and phases of realisation. How does the institutional exchange of ideas and information support the creation of sector strategy for eHealth?
- Hospital information systems, centralised national systems - "from scratch" concept vs. centralised connectivity of all existent solutions. Shared experience;
- Unification of the information systems - health funds' part in the process
- Public Private Partnerships (PPP) or IT activities outsourcing - new options for structural eHealth improvement;
- Common medical information exchange standards - regional and national challenges, achievements and projects in the field of medical information exchange on local and national levels;
- Registers - building and support;
- Interoperability and certification of health information systems;
- Health information systems continuity;
- eExchange of patient data. Legal aspects in defining levels of access and data protection;
- Repeated access to patient data - the technological view on authentication and security. Security standards for data transfer:
- eEducation and IT certification of medical professionals;
- Picture Archiving and Communication System (PACS) systems and telemedicine services on the basis of existing infrastructure. RFID technologies;
- Electronic health record and ePrescription - main challenges before the introduction in Bulgaria and the region;
- Communication aspects in eHealth;
- eReporting to the benefit of effective hospital management and centralised control over the expenses.

#### This event aims to gather:

- Representatives of public and private health institutions, including hospitals, clinics, sanatoriums, laboratories, medical centers - Chief Executive Officers (CEOs), General Managers (GMs), Information Technology (IT) managers and Chief Information Officers (CIOs), Medical Managers, Administrative Managers
- Representatives of health-insurance companies and funds - General Managers, Managing Directors, Administrative, Operative, Financial, IT Managers
- Representatives of state structures - political offices decision-makers, heads of ministries' directorates, heads and CEOs of health-insurance funds, social security institutes, Members of Parliament (MPs)
- Consultants, analysts, etc.

Registration for the event is available [online](#).

Event email: [stoyan\\_yordanov@idg.bg](mailto:stoyan_yordanov@idg.bg)

Event website: <http://events.idg.bg/en/119/>

Country: Bulgaria

City/Location: Sofia

Organiser: eHealth Bulgaria Foundation, IDG Bulgaria IT Forums

## DK: 9th Scandinavian Workshop on E-government - 9 February 2012 - 10 February 2012

### 9th Scandinavian Workshop on eGovernment (SWEG 2012) - 'User-centric eGovernment'

This event is a forum for discussing current eGovernment research issues. The workshop is dedicated to open discussions about the current status of eGovernment research and future directions. The focus is thus on informal discussion rather than on formal conference presentations.

With the diffusion of ICT in the public sector in countries across the world, and the widespread inclusion of digitalisation in government strategic plans, it is now time for eGovernment research to shift its focus to the citizen role in eGovernment processes. The emergence of social media, the evolution of Web 2.0 platforms, together with rising expectations from citizens as users of digital services, highlight the need to adopt a user-centric view of eGovernment design, management, and implementation.

#### The focus of invited submissions thus includes, but is not limited to:

- Social media and eGovernment services
- Citizen-centric eGovernment maturity models
- eDemocracy and eParticipation
- Transparency and openness in eGovernment services
- Engaging stakeholders eGovernment research
- User-driven eGovernment design, management, and implementation
- Challenges of open-source and open-standard solutions in eGovernment
- Methods and concepts of participatory eGovernment processes
- Innovative design and prototypes of eGovernment services.

Event email: [sweg2012@cbs.dk](mailto:sweg2012@cbs.dk)

Event website: <http://www.cbs.dk/Forskning/Konferencer/Scandinavian-Workshop-on-E-government/9th-Scandinavian-Workshop-on-E-government>

Country: Denmark

City/Location: Copenhagen

Organiser: Copenhagen Business School (CBS)

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## DK: Public Procurement Days 2012 - 9 February 2012 - 10 February 2012

### Public Procurement Days 2012 - Modernisation, Innovation and Growth

Denmark will hold the Presidency of the Council of the European Union in the first half of 2012. One important aspect during the Presidency will be the modernisation of the current legal European Union Public Procurement framework. With this conference the Danish Competition and Consumer Authority and the Law Department at Copenhagen Business School wish to address various subjects regarding public procurement rules in order to determine if modernisation of the procurement framework will inspire more innovation and growth.

#### The conference will be split in three parts:

- Modernisation: A revision of the European Union Public Procurement Directives is one of twelve key actions identified in the Single Market Act, which will help to leverage growth and employment in Europe.
- Growth: Public procurement plays a key role in the Europe 2020 Growth strategy. Increase of cross-border trade both within European Union and with third countries is essential to improve competition and to get best value for money.
- Innovation: It is the common understanding that the private sector creates more innovative solutions. This section of the conference seeks to elaborate on how the public sector can involve a private party through the use of Public-Private Partnership's (PPP), concessions and pre-commercial procurement.

Further information on the conference programme may be found [here](#) while registration is available [online](#).

**Event email:** [ppd.jur@cbs.dk](mailto:ppd.jur@cbs.dk)

Event website: <https://conference.cbs.dk/index.php/ppd2012/procurement/index>

Country: Denmark

City/Location: Copenhagen

Organiser: Law Department - Copenhagen Business School, Danish Competition Authority

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## **AT: 5th IASTED International Conference on Telehealth - 15 February 2012 - 17 February 2012**

### **5th International Conference on Telehealth of the International Association of Science and Technology for Development (IASTED)**

The healthcare industry is constantly changing to incorporate new advances in science and to address new needs within society. Recent developments in communication technology have greatly facilitated the exchange of information and expertise. Telehealth is an emerging field in which health services are transmitted over a long distance using technologies such as videoconferencing, the Internet, store-and-forward imaging, streaming media, satellites, and wireless communications. Telehealth promises to impact the ways that clinical health care, health-related education, public health, and health administration are approached. Telehealth 2012 is intended to be an international forum for researchers and practitioners interested in the advances in and applications of Telehealth to exchange the latest research, results, and ideas in these areas.

The call for papers topics include, but are not limited to:

- Clinical applications of telehealth (consultations, home care, chronic disease management etc)
- Other applications of telehealth (health data management, legal, policy and regulatory aspects, privacy, health promotion etc)
- Telehealth technologies and interoperability (visualisation, web-based telehealth, robotics, simulation etc)

Further information on the call for papers may be found [here](#).

**Event email:** [calgary@iasted.org](mailto:calgary@iasted.org)

Event website: <http://www.iasted.org/conferences/home-765.html>

Country: Austria

City/Location: Innsbruck

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

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## **AT: BioMed 2012 - 15 February 2012 - 17 February 2012**

### **9th IASTED International Conference on Biomedical Engineering - BioMed 2012**

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, Microelectrical Mechanical Systems (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.

This event will bring together leading experts in the fields of biomedical engineering. The topics of interest to be covered by BioMed 2012 include, but are not limited to:

- Health care technology (Lasers in Medicine, Therapeutic Engineering, Patient Monitoring etc)
- Medical Devices, measurement and instrumentation (Biomechanics, Intelligent Instrumentation, Biomaterials etc)
- Medical imaging, image processing and signal processing (Nuclear Medicine, Data Representation and Visualisation, Ultrasound Imaging etc)
- Modelling, simulation, systems and control (Surgery Simulation and Simulators, Biomedical Computing, Sports and Ergonomics Simulation etc)
- Molecular bioengineering (Bioinformatics, Computational Systems Biology, Drug Delivery and Pharmacokinetics etc)

Registration for the event is available [online](#).

**Event email:** [calgary@iasted.org](mailto:calgary@iasted.org)

Event website: <http://www.iasted.org/conferences/home-764.html>

Country: Austria

City/Location: Innsbruck

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

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## **CIP Workshop: Funding opportunities in ICT for Health, Ageing Well & Inclusion** **- 17 February 2012**

**Please note: The event has now reached its maximum capacity of 100 persons. Registered participants above this number will be added on a waiting list and informed via email in due course.**

**Priority for attendance will be given to attendees wishing to present their project and hold consultations with European Commission representatives.**

### **OVERVIEW:**

In the frame of the Competitiveness & Innovation Programme ICT Policy Support Programme (CIP ICT PSP) and as a follow-up to the [CIP Info Day](#) (3 February 2012), the European Commission is organising a one-day information and networking workshop dedicated to [Theme 3 of the CIP ICT PSP](#) (ICT for Health, Ageing Well and Inclusion).

The workshop provides an excellent opportunity for prospective programme applicants to put their questions directly to the European Commission, present their ideas to stakeholders, meet potential partners and learn more about the state of the art and the broader policy context.

The event will take place on **17 February 2012** at the European Commission's **Borschette Conference Centre** in **Brussels** from **09:00 – 17:15**.

### **WORKSHOP FORMAT:**

The workshop has been designed to optimise the opportunities for participants by **incorporating information sessions, parallel showcasing sessions, networking opportunities and one-to-one meetings**. Check out the **Agenda below** and plan your day.

## INFORMATION SESSION:

During the **morning session** the European Commission will present the seven objectives on ICT for Health, Ageing Well and Inclusion, putting them into the wider policy context and answering questions from interested participants who wish to submit projects for funding.

## SHOWCASING IDEAS:

During the **afternoon session** there will be two parallel sessions for potential applicants to showcase their ideas to potential partners in a 5 minute slot using 3 presentation slides. Kindly note that due to time restrictions, the number of presentations will be strictly limited, therefore potential presenters should:

1. **Register early** (only those with a valid registration via ePractice will be eligible to present)
2. **Prepare maximum 3 slides** highlighting: who you are, your project idea - and which objective it relates to, who you are looking for
3. **Submit slides by 10 February 2012 at the latest**

**Successful applications will receive a confirmation in advance of the event.**

**Note that:** Presentations must clearly address one of the 7 Objectives falling under [Theme 3](#) and be strictly limited to 3 slides and a maximum of 5 minutes. Presenters may be asked to modify presentations which do not entirely fulfil these criteria. **Presentations which are submitted late or which include more than 3 slides will be rejected.**

## INDIVIDUAL CONSULTATIONS:

Registered participants also have the opportunity to sign up for a **ten minute one-to-one appointment** with a Commission representative to discuss their ideas. Appointments will be scheduled on a first-come first-served basis (see "how to register" below) and take place during the afternoon session. Applicants will be informed in advance of the time of their consultation.

## NETWORKING & PARTNER SEARCH:

As well as being able to meet potential partners face-to-face at the workshop itself, participants can also take part in some **pre-workshop networking** from 1 February 2012 via the [IDEAL-IST](#) website.

## HOW TO REGISTER:

Participation at the event is free, but requires prior registration. We strongly recommend that you **register early to reserve your place**. As there are a limited number of seats, places will be allocated on a first-come, first-served basis.

To proceed with your registration please **log in** and **click on the orange 'Participate in this event'** button on the right hand side of this page.

Once registered online, participants will be contacted by email by the ePractice Communication Team with options to showcase ideas and book one-to-one appointment(s) with European Commission representatives.

## Deadlines to remember:

- Submission of final presentations (3 slides): **10 February 2012**
- Registration to workshop via ePractice: **14 February 2012**
- Workshop date: **17 February 2012**

For further assistance and queries please feel free to contact the ePractice Communication Team [Eleni.Galyfianaki@eurodyn.com](mailto:Eleni.Galyfianaki@eurodyn.com) and [Vassilia.Orfanou@eurodyn.com](mailto:Vassilia.Orfanou@eurodyn.com).

Country: Belgium  
City/Location: Borschette Conference Centre, Brussels  
Organiser: European Dynamics & European Commission

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## **ES: II National Congress of Interoperability and Security-CNIS - 22 February 2012 - 23 February 2012**

### **II National Congress of Interoperability and Security - CNIS**

The event is organised by Club de Innovación with the collaboration and support of the Spanish Federation of Municipalities and Provinces ([Federación Española de Municipios y Provincias - FEMP](#)), the Ministry of Finance and Public Administrations ([Ministerio de Hacienda y Administraciones Publicas](#)), the National Cryptologic Center - Computer Emergency Response Team ([CCN/CERT](#)) and the Spanish Royal Mint ([Fábrica Nacional de Moneda y Timbre - FNMT](#)).

The new Interoperability and Security national frames are coming into effect representing a challenge for Civil Services as they must make a step forward the implementation of [Law 11/2007](#) along with the rest of the regulations related to their internal management and relationship with citizens. National frames are rules which shall apply immediately even though civil services will have a stipulated period at their disposal to adapt themselves.

After the success of last year's edition, the 2<sup>nd</sup> National Congress of Interoperability and Security will debate and share opinions over the practical application of these National Structures (NS).

The offering solutions and presentation of real experiences from the different Civil Services will especially be emphasised. Participants will also profit from the know-how of leader CIEs which offer the best projects in Interoperability and security up to date.

#### **The objectives of the Conference are the following:**

- Achieve a determined step forward in the application of both the [Royal Decree 3/2010](#) dated August 2001 which establishes the National Security Structure for Electronic Administration and [Royal Decree 4/2010](#) dated August 2001 which regulates National Interoperability Structure for Electronic Administration.
- Analyse the current situation issues, identify tendencies and offer solutions.
- Allow political, technical and legal civil services' staff to become familiar with new regulations imperatives and compliance conditions.
- Offer information, training, and a discussion forum for all agents involved in NS compliance.
- Incorporate Service supplying CIEs and providers to the project of achieving NS compliance.
- Reach a common criteria between both administrations bounded to apply the NS and service providers.
- Provide practical help in the implementation of the NS in every level of the Civil Services.

#### **The target audience of the conference is:**

- Public Sector: Policy makers (CEO's, General Managers and Assistant General Managers of the different administrations) or Technical Managers (Area Directors and Heads of Computing services and systems, human resources organisation responsible) or Legal Responsible (Clerks, Comptrollers, General intervention responsible, Head of Legal Services).
- Private Sector: Business software, hardware, consulting, counseling, or CEOs, General Managers, Directors of Public Management, Sales Directors, Account Managers for Public Administration.

Interested participants may register [here](#).

**Event email:** [info@cnis.es](mailto:info@cnis.es)

Event website: [www.cnis.es](http://www.cnis.es)

Country: Spain

City/Location: Madrid  
Organiser: Club de Innovacion

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## **UK: Electronic Prescribing in Hospitals - 28 February 2012**

### **Electronic Prescribing in Hospitals - 'Moving Forward'**

**This conference provides delegates with the opportunity to hear from a variety of healthcare professionals on topics including:**

- Electronic Patient Records and Electronic Prescribing: National Update and Looking Beyond the National Programme
- Developing the business case for Electronic Prescribing
- Electronic Prescribing: Learning from experienced implementers
- The Wirral Experience: Lessons from 15 years of implementation
- The Burton Experience
- The Winchester and Eastleigh Experience
- Realising the Clinical Benefits and engaging Clinical Staff
- Implementing Electronic Prescribing in Practice: Rapid Rollout
- Electronic Prescribing, Medication Errors and Patient Safety
- Electronic Prescribing: moving into more complex areas
- Electronic Prescribing: Next Steps

Registration for the event is available [online](#).

**Event email:** [info@healthcareconferencesuk.co.uk](mailto:info@healthcareconferencesuk.co.uk)

Event website: <http://www.healthcareconferencesuk.co.uk/electronic-prescribing-in-hospitals>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: Healthcare Conferences UK

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## **AT: BioNanoMed 2012 - 1 March 2012 - 2 March 2012**

### **BioNanoMed 2012 - 3rd International Congress - Nanotechnology in Medicine and Biology**

**The suggested topic for the congress is Nanotechnology Enables Personalised Medicine - New Frontiers in Medicine and Biology - Application of Nanotechnology in:**

- Cancer: Magnetic Nanotherapy, Receptor based Targeting
- Nanostructured Materials for Regenerative Medicine: Dentistry, Cardiovascular Science, Neurology, Orthopedics
- Diagnostics and Therapy: Molecular Imaging, Nano-Magnetic Resonance Imaging (MRI), Nano-Sensing, Drug Delivery
- Multidisciplinary Nano-Technologies: NanoBio-Photonics, NanoBio-Electronics, Nano-Toxicology
- Nanotechnology Enables Personalised Medicine

**There will be also two Special Sessions:**

- How to bridge the Gap between Engineers, Clinical Scientists and Doctors
- Commercialisation of NanoMedicine Products / Processes

The conference addresses clinical physicians as well as nanoscientists with a background of pharmacology, biology, physics, chemistry and engineering involved in the development and clinical application of nanomedicine. The conference is also of interest for policymakers, experts from industry in the field of life sciences as well as all those investigating the potential of future emerging technologies.

The call for papers for the congress is open until 27 November 2011. Registration for the event is available [online](#).

**Event email:** [office@bionanomed.at](mailto:office@bionanomed.at)

Event website: <http://www.bionanomed.at/>

Country: Austria

City/Location: Krems

Organiser: Danube University Krems - Department for Clinical Medicine and Biotechnology, Techkonnex - High-Tech Promotion

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## **Assisted Workshop: eProcurement: Benefits - Costs - Savings - 21 March 2012**

This workshop will focus on benefits, costs and savings of eProcurement in the preawarding phase. Last year's event enjoyed an international participation from more than 20 countries.

The organisers are addressing contracting authorities, service providers and members of the administration of EU Member States.

### **Workshop topics:**

- Process costs
- -What is the actual benefit?
- -Biggest potentials in the use of eProcurement?
- -Additional value through eProcurement
- Security & Identification
- Supranational procurement processes
- Technique & Language

The event language is English - thus all presentations should be delivered in this language.

### **Objectives of the workshop:**

- Evaluation of eProcurement in the member states are presented by practitioners
- Reference cases of PEPPOL & STORK in practical the field
- New developments in procurement solutions
- Summary of a common understanding for some topics in memorandum of the conference

Participants will have the opportunity to partake in challenging discussions and working groups covering the above mentioned topics.

This event is free of charge but registration is required through ePractice. Kindly click on the participation button on the right hand side of this page.

Event website: [www.auftrag.at](http://www.auftrag.at)

Country: Austria

City/Location: Vienna

Organiser: [auftrag.at](http://auftrag.at) ausschreibungsservice GmbH, Wiener Zeitung GmbH, ePractice.eu

## **CH: The European eID Interoperability Concepts and Compliance Conference - 27 March 2012 - 28 March 2012**

### **The European eID Interoperability Concepts and Compliance Conference - Cross-border service provision supporting national eIDs - 'Current Perspective and Initiatives in Government and Business'**

This conference acts as a neutral forum where industry, business and administrations can address specific areas of importance in the digital identity arena.

The conference will explore how the interoperability of European Identity is evolving in practice and the implications for governments, businesses and the citizen today. It will focus on key subject areas such as the emergence of federated attributes.

This year the conference will also be joined by the Trust in Digital Life (TDL) Consortium initiative that will be demonstrating various eID interoperability solutions and technologies.

#### **The following are possible subjects for the conference:**

- Specific cross border service provision compliance challenges and their possible solutions;
- Examples of how business are making use of eIDs such as national schemes;
- Case studies from the banking sector;
- Discovering the key legal, privacy implications and compliance issues of cross border eID;
- Specific cross border interoperability challenges and their possible solutions;
- Mobile Identity verification and applications;
- Revision of the eSignature Directive;
- What Federation technologies and models are deploying now and what standards are dominating?
- Monetising of identity - examples of how business is building a business case by taking advantage of external eIDs and attributes;
- The emerging importance of distributed attribute federation and possible applications;
- Identity Management in the cloud - is the Simple Cloud Identity Management (SCIM) the answer?

The call of papers is open until 9 January 2012.

**Event email:** [info@eema.org](mailto:info@eema.org)

Event website: <https://www.eema.org/Events/Default.aspx?eventId=5e56c490-c515-44c1-aa9a-480ca0364b4d>

Country: Switzerland

City/Location: Biel

Organiser: The European Association for eIdentity and security (eema)

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## **AT: CeDEM12 - 3 May 2012 - 4 May 2012**

### **CeDEM12 - International Conference for eDemocracy and Open Government 2012**

CeDEM12 brings together eDemocracy, eParticipation and open government specialists working in academia, politics, government and business.

In modern democracies, people are to be empowered by means of information and communication technologies. Transparency and access to data, new ways of interacting with government and democratic institutions cause profound changes in society. Social media and the new forms of societal behaviour, including content generation, collaboration and sharing as well as network organisation change our understanding of politics and business. Governmental and private internet services have increased the citizens' independence and flexibility. However, enthusiastic ideas and projects often failed to produce the expected results as technology is only the basis for new forms of organisation and interaction. CeDEM12 seeks to critically analyse present and future developments in eDemocracy and open government.

## CeDEM12 will present the following tracks:

- Eâ€™Participation
- Government 2.0
- Social Media and Public Administration
- ePolitics and eCampaigning
- European Citizen Initiative
- Participatory Budgeting
- Bottomâ€™Up Movements
- Open Data and Open Access

The conference proceedings will be published with the new Edition of the Danube University; additionally, the complete proceedings will be made accessible online. A selection of best research papers and case studies of CeDEM12 will be published with the Open Access eJournal of eDemocracy and Open Government. (<http://www.jedem.org>).

Useful information about important dates and paper submission may be found on the event website.

Registration for the event will open in December 2011.

**Event email:** [michael.sachs@donau-uni.ac.at](mailto:michael.sachs@donau-uni.ac.at)

Event website: <http://www.donau-uni.ac.at/cedem>

Country: Austria

City/Location: Krems

Organiser: Danube University Krems

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## DK: eHealth Week 2012 - 7 May 2012 - 9 May 2012

### **eHealth Week 2012 - A collocation of the European Commission's High Level Ministerial Conference on eHealth and the World of Health IT Conference & Exhibition (WoHIT12)**

eHealth Week is Europe's largest pan-European conference. It brings together two main events: the 10th edition of the eHealth High level Conference co-organised by the European Commission and the Danish Presidency of the Council of the European Union, and WoHIT (World of Health IT Conference & Exhibition) organised by HIMSS Europe (Healthcare Information and Management Systems Society Europe). In addition, several symposia, workshops and focus groups relevant to eHealth will take place throughout the week.

eHealth Week 2012 will be dedicated to the theme 'The continuity of care and patient centric health services through the use of innovative eHealth solutions'. Focus will be placed on the continuity of care from home to hospital and back to home, demonstrating how information can flow between these different settings. It will include topics such as patient empowerment and chronic disease management involving investment and business opportunities in healthcare IT.

The [10th High Level Ministerial Conference on eHealth](#) will provide a platform where Member States' Health ministers and state secretaries will gather to discuss and advance common actions to move forward the many initiatives in this fast-moving field in the Member States.

Designated as one of Europe's six 'lead markets' for innovation, eHealth is a rising star in the growing EU Economy. WoHIT12 will focus on shaping and developing the use, implementation, and evolution of this pillar of the new European marketplace. The WoHIT 2012 Exhibition will feature new product launches, educational sessions, vendor exhibitions, [interoperability demonstrations](#), as well as a an [SME Village](#) (new) where small to medium enterprises will exhibit and bring new ideas, solutions and products to the healthcare IT industry.

The target audience is made of: Chief Information Officers and other C-suite executives; Senior managers; High-level government officials; Academics; Healthcare practitioners, including doctors and specialists; and IT professionals.

The full registration information can be found [here](#), and the event's full programme will be made available [online](#).

**Event email:** [croosen@himss.org](mailto:croosen@himss.org)

Event website: <http://worldofhealthit.org/2012/>

Country: Denmark

City/Location: Copenhagen

Organiser: European Commission; the Danish Presidency of the Council of the European Union; and HIMSS Europe

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