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European ePractice Newsletter N. 290 – 04 August 2009

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Welsh Housing Association Leading the Way in Procurement

Welsh Housing Association, Grŵp Gwalia was the first Welsh Public Sector organisation to go live with the Welsh Assembly Government's sponsored eTrading solution: xchangewales. xchangewales is a ground breaking programme that allows all public sector organisations in Wales to source, tender, evaluate, order and pay for goods and services at a click of a button. The electronic tools and web based services help to improve efficiency, increase productivity and lower the cost of doing business.

The Challenge: Equality & Compliance

Four years ago, Grŵp Gwalia carried out an analysis of their financial management systems. Their Procurement and Business Management department were given the remit to identify an eProcurement package and to implement the solution into the organisation. The initial driver stemmed from the inherent problem of operating such a geographically widespread organisation with diverse business units. This led to an inequality between the business units in the service that was offered by the central Procurement team through a lengthy paper requisition and authorisation process. Furthermore, the items that the business units received would often differ from requisition to requisition as there was no visibility as to what would be finally procured.

On producing the business case, it was clear that xchangewales and ProcServe would offer Grŵp Gwalia the solution to combat these challenges through an online catalogue system which would ensure a smoother procurement cycle, product visibility to users and compliance to the Group's financial regulations. The business case for eProcurement also centred on:

- Improved management information, including more accurate budgetary information.
- Securing more spending power through collaboration.
- Compliance to internal business rules surrounding procurement.
- Easing the bottlenecks and delays within the procurement cycle - start thinking about procurement as strategic to the success of the organisation instead of a back office function.

Basic Skills in English for Deaf Adults

BASE is the acronym for Basic Skills in English for Deaf Adults. This project is co-funded by the European Commission through the Education, Audiovisual and Culture Executive Agency (EACEA) under the 2008 Call of the Life Long Learning Programme (Grundtvig).

For Deaf people who have Sign Language as their first language, it is difficult to participate in a globalised society, built on digital communications. Digital communication depends mostly on the written word. So, Deaf people need to be competent in a written language and especially in written English which is the main language of world communications. Unfortunately, people who are Deaf from birth and who have less than 30% hearing, often fail to achieve basic competence in written language, because language in most countries is taught through phonetic methods, i.e. through sound.

We want to give all Deaf adults a new opportunity to learn to read and write, making use of recent developments in and understanding of bilingual education.

The BASE project will create a multimedia course in Basic Skills in English for Deaf Adults, developed with a practical and tested methodology, with appropriate materials and testing procedures to give profoundly Deaf people the opportunity to acquire working competence in a major written language (English).

Turin map sharing

MappaTO is a web application designed to offer citizens a web 2.0 instrument to customize and share maps on the City of Turin website. Using Google Maps technology, MappaTO allows users create maps with points of interests, paths and other areas. Moreover citizens can make their maps private or public, changeable or unchangeable. If every citizen can see public maps, only identified people can create and share their own maps. Identification and authorization are provided by Torinofacile system, the portal where it's possible to find all online municipal services and where a citizen can register and acquire an individual digital identity to spend on the city portals in order to be securely identified. All the categories and some of the maps are directly provided by the City of Turin back office editors, but the service is totally open to the citizens input.

MappaTO functionalities are essentially these:

- Point out and categorize City points of interest, paths and areas;
- Give City Administration a chance to publish and share categorized thematic maps;
- Give citizens a chance to publish and share their own maps;
- Encourage users collaboration and other users map building inside the local community;
- Map exportation to Google Earth and Tom Tom systems.

It's important to mark that the project is designed in a way that the maps infrastructure can be easily changed and Google cartography can be replaced, for instance, by a Microsoft or a Yahoo one.

Editor's Choice of the week: [ECDL for People with Visual Disabilities in Greece](#)

Latest News

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FR: New Website for the National Commission for Information Technology and Civil Liberties - 4 August 2009

At the beginning of July 2009, the French [National Commission for Information Technology and Civil Liberties](#) (Commission Nationale de l'Informatique et des Libertés - CNIL) presented its newly re-designed website with a range of updated services and online activities.

The new website has become more interactive and dynamic, by offering its users the opportunity to get more involved in personal data issues, informing them about the risks of disclosing personal information and by providing them with professional advice. The CNIL now makes all latest news as well as its agenda available to its users, explains its control system, sanctions and limitations, announces its sources and partners, and presents its challenges in the context of globalization of exchanges of all technological innovations.

Both the graphic design and the navigational tools have been re-designed around the major topics, thus keeping a balance between liberty and responsibility issues. The 'Information about Rights' section has been enriched with a practical component entitled "Your Rights in Questions". The new 'Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ)' answers to citizens' main concerns about their rights. Fundamental messages are simplified and presented in slideshows and images in an attempt to assist the better understanding of these issues. A variety of tags enhances the multiplicity of subjects in the context of Informatics and the relevant Liberties. The performance of the search engine has also been improved thanks to a systematic categorization of the topics.

Targeted information is from now on proposed in areas devoted to different audiences (citizens, reporters, correspondents, politicians, the press). The editors of the website can benefit from the services of an extranet, i.e. forum, document templates, FAQ, etc. that facilitate the carrying out their daily activities. With already 6 000 visitors per day, the website has already achieved the establishment of a close relationship with its users and is actually perceived as the reference media for the protection of personal data and privacy.

Further information:

- [Original Article - National Commission for Information Technology and Civil Liberties - Official Website](#) (in French)
 - [National Commission for Information Technology and Civil Liberties Website](#) (in French)
-

EU: SEMIC.EU - 200th asset and national NACE implementations - 3 August 2009

The 200th interoperability asset in the repository of the Semantic Interoperability Centre Europe (SEMIC.EU) covers aspects of the judicial sector. The German contribution was published amidst a wave of new contributions.

[XJustiz](#) is a building block for electronic legal relations. It contains data standards for, among others, addresses of trial participants, scheduled trial sessions, insolvency and telecommunications data. Developed by the Commission for Data Processing and Rationalisation of the German federal government and state governments, the standard is recommended for use in electronic communication on legal matters throughout Germany.

Recently added were also national implementations of [NACE](#), the Nomenclature of Economic Activities in the European Communities. The national classifications are all based on Rev. 2 of NACE. Thus far, national NACE

implementations have been made available from [Italy](#), [Romania](#), [Czech Republic](#), [Estonia](#), [Finland](#), [France](#), [Slovakia](#), [Slovenia](#), [Sweden](#), [Greece](#), and [Austria](#).

Further information:

- [SEMIC.EU portal](#)
-

ES: Digitisation of civil registries completed in Navarra - 3 August 2009

The 'Registro Civil en Linea' (Civil Registry Online) Programme has digitised over 1 300 volumes of the five Register Offices of the region of Navarra, Northern Spain.

The digitisation of all the hand-written volumes produced since 1950 does not only modernise the Register Offices' internal processes, it also guarantees improved quality services for citizens. For instance, in order to obtain the birth certificate required to issue an ID card, citizens currently have to visit the Register Office once only, instead of two times previously.

The Programme moreover makes it possible for other public authorities such as the Social Security to access - upon the citizen's authorisation - the necessary information for carrying out their mission (e.g. payment of benefits).

Apart from simplifying and enhancing the quality and efficiency of the services delivered by the Register Offices, this Programme contributes to implementing the provisions of the [Law on Citizens' Electronic Access to Public Services](#). The latter requires that all services be accessible online for citizens by 1 January 2010 at the latest.

The 'Registro Civil en Linea' Programme

The Programme aims at the digitisation of Spain's 8 109 registers. It was instigated in May 2006 by the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade through State-owned company 'Red.es', along with the Ministry of Justice.

The budget of the initiative at national level is €80 million. It is co-funded by the European Regional Development Fund (ERDF) of the European Union (EU).

Its first phase consists of the computerisation and interconnection of all Spanish registers, to proceed to the digitisation of all the hand-written volumes produced since 1950. The Autonomous Community (region) of Navarra has thus joined the group of regions (Asturias, Castilla la Mancha, Ceuta, Extremadura, Galicia, Melilla, and Murcia) which have already completed their civil registries' digitisation.

From their part, the Communities of Andalucía, Castilla y León and Valencia are close to achieving full digitisation. The computerisation of the registers of the remaining Autonomous Communities will take place afterwards under the second phase of the programme.

Further information:

- [Original press release - red.es \(in Spanish\)](#)
 - [Law on Citizens' Electronic Access to Public Services \(in Spanish\)](#)
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SI: eService available for organizers of public events and demonstrations - 3 August 2009

The Slovenian Ministry of Interior launched an e-service through which organizers of public demonstrations and events will be able to electronically give notice/submit the announcement of an event or a demonstration to the police or fill out an application requesting official permission from the authorities, when necessary.

Organizers of public demonstrations and events can electronically give notice to the police stations of their municipalities in order to be granted official permission as foreseen by the Slovenian law. The application is electronically submitted -via an [online form](#)- to the police station, at least three days before in case of a public demonstration and at least five days in advance for a public event.

Additionally, organizers can electronically ask for permission for a public event from their local administrative units. The main reason for the requirement of permission in order to carry out a demonstration or a public event, such as sporting events and competitions- is for the state to ensure that citizens' lives are not in any kind of danger, for instance fire.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Government of the Republic of Slovenia - Ministry of the Interior- Official Website](#) (in Slovenian)
- [Additional Information to the Press Release - State Portal of the Republic of Slovenia - Ministry of Public Administration Website](#)

DK: Updated Digital Signature is underway by the end of 2009 - 3 August 2009

By the end of 2009 an updated and more secure digital signature is expected to replace the existing one in Denmark.

Five years of experience in the use of the current digital signature has shown that there is a considerable margin for improvement. The new digital signature will apply to all public and private services, including banking. For instance, the digital signature can be used in order for a citizen to pay his/her bills in the bank, change address or deliver his/her tax return.

Unlike the existing digital signature, the new one also requires -apart from a username and password- access to the private key, providing a one-time code, which is one of the most secure means of encryption. This will allow the citizen to use the digital signature from any computer without having to install the private key first.

As aforementioned, the new digital signature is expected to be implemented by the end of 2009 in order to ensure a more consistent access to e-government, banking and other private corporate networks. However, holders of the existing digital signature will have the option to upgrade it to the new one; yet, since the current digital signature is valid for two years before it is renewed, it can be used until the last quarter of 2011. After the issuance of the first new digital signature the existing type of e-mail signature will be abandoned.

Further information:

- [Original News Article - Centre for Digital Signature - Official Website](#) (in Danish)

IE: eumatters.ie brings Irish citizens closer to EU activities - 3 August 2009

[eumatters.ie](#) is a new website, launched on 30 June 2009 by the Irish Department of Foreign Affairs, having as a main objective the provision of information about Ireland's membership in the European Union.

The website has been designed in a user-friendly navigation structure, in order to be easily accessible and reply to citizens' queries about Ireland in relation to the European Union. In particular, the 'Your Questions' section allows users to submit questions, which will be answered and then published on the [Frequently Answered Questions](#) page. In addition, there is a number of other sections on the website, namely: [The EU and You](#), [Ireland and the EU](#), the [EU in the World](#), [Recent Features](#), etc.

This initiative is also a response to independent research findings stating that people's objective knowledge of the activities of the EU is lower in Ireland than in the majority of the other EU member states. During the launch of the portal, the Minister for Foreign Affairs, Mr. Micheál Martin, T.D. indicated the following: 'Our ambition is that this website will become the place where clear and reliable information about EU issues and their relevance to Irish people can be found. It will seek to highlight the relevance of EU programmes, policies and initiatives to Irish people.' This website also addresses the commitment in the [Programme for Government 2007-2012](#) with the aim to improve the quality of communication between the European Union and its citizens.

The 'EU matters' website is part of the Department of Foreign Affairs [Communicating Europe Initiative](#) (CEI) which has been operating since 1995. This year CEI is providing funding for a wide range of projects around the country serving as a tool for raising public awareness of the EU and of Ireland's EU membership.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Department of Foreign Affairs - Official Website](#)
- [EU matters Official Irish website](#)
- [Communicating Europe Initiative](#)
- [Programme for Government 2007-2012](#)

UK: Birmingham City Council launched e-Petitions website - 3 August 2009

Live since 15 June 2009, the new easy-to-use 'ePetitioner' system is accessible either by logging onto www.birmingham.gov.uk/petitions or directly via <http://epetition.birmingham.public-i.tv>.

The new facility incorporates both paper and electronic petitions. Monthly progress reports of petitions submitted will be received by the City Council, which already accepts a large number of paper petitions from Councillors on behalf of local residents.

'ePetitioner' allows its users to support a petition by adding their name and address online. Information about the subject is also provided, to put the petition in context and help one to decide whether to sign. The users can also see who else has supported the petition (name and area only).

ePetitioner moreover makes it possible to put one's petition live on the Internet, rather than just on paper. This way, the petition and supporting information can be made available to a potentially much wider audience, giving the instigator the opportunity to gather more names to support the petition.

Councillor Paul Tilsley, Deputy Leader of Birmingham City Council, said: "The introduction of an e-petition facility promises to be major step forward for the city of Birmingham."

The Council says it is "committed to embracing modern technologies and enabling citizens to make the most of the digital age."

Funding for the system would be supplied by the European Union, which would also foot the bill for any amendments and upgrades that are needed over the next two years.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Birmingham City Council's online newsroom](#)
 - [Birmingham City Council's e-Petitions site](#)
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Latest Publications

- [EU: e-Gov 2.0: The keys to success - best practices and success factors](#) | 25 June 2009 | Pan european
 - [INT: OECD Policy Guidance on Radio Frequency Identification \(RFID\)](#) | 18 June 2008 | International Organizations
-

EU: e-Gov 2.0: The keys to success - best practices and success factors - 25 June 2009

Description (short summary):

This white paper aims to support e-Government projects and to assist public authorities in devising and reinforcing their e-Government policies.

Specifically, it identifies and examines the foundations of a successful e-Government programme and looks at ways in which public support can be obtained for what some refer to as "the modernisation of the State", i.e. the adoption of the "2.0" citizen-centric approach.

The authors have opted to present the results of their study as follows:

1) e-Government 2.0: building the pathway to success

This chapter highlights the lessons learned from seven representative case studies of the most successful e-Gov programs from across the world to identify the keys to success and the applications valued most highly by citizens and businesses. They examine examples of eGov programs in the following areas:

- The Sovereign role of the State: e-ID and forms of identity
- The Fiscal sector
- The Social sector
- The Health sector
- Community-based services and personal services
- The Financial sector
- The Public sector and the modernisation of the civil register

2) What do citizens expect from e-Gov 2.0?

In examining citizens' attitudes to these programs, the authors consider, among other things, the results of working groups organized by the CLCV (the French National Consumers Association) on the theme of trust and distrust in citizens' views of e-Government.

This chapter also deals with the cognitive relationship the citizen has with his/her understanding of traceability, a subject that remains elusive and whose inextricable relationship with our choice to have an open world of freedom and responsibility is still widely misunderstood.

3) The keys to successful implementation of an e-Government 2.0 programme

This is a more theoretical chapter, which reviews all the decisive factors in the design, implementation and running of an e-Government programme. Particular attention is paid to data protection and to the conditions required to increase uptake and build public confidence in e-Government. This chapter also reviews feedback from working groups on the distribution and generalization of e-Government services through major partners such as banks or telecoms operators.

4) Conclusion: from e-Government to Citizen-centric government?

The lessons learned from past experiences shall be reviewed in order to understand the essence of an e-Government approach and the conditions required to ensure success for public authorities and citizens alike, through a modern relationship that benefits from the advantages of e-Services but also from a host of structural elements and from the knock-on effects of the modernisation of the State.

The white papers consists of a series of observations and interpretations. In no way do they constitute absolute truths or universally-applicable methods to be followed to the letter. The case studies, feedback and recommendations in this report are intended purely to guide the choices of each State when it comes to deciding on priorities and paths to follow, and to highlight the key elements that have, in many advanced states, brought real success, recognised by their own citizens and in some cases beyond their borders.

Number of pages: 88

INT: OECD Policy Guidance on Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) - 18 June 2008

Description (short summary):

This report contains policy and practical guidance principles to enhance business and consumer benefits from the use of RFID while proactively taking into account information security and privacy issues. It is supported by a report on economic aspects of RFID that reviews major fields of applications, economic impacts and country initiatives and a report that analyses information security and privacy challenges as well as possible measures and safeguards to address them.

Number of pages: 118

ePractice Workshops

- [eGovernment good practices transfer between regional authorities: experiences and challenges of Interreg IVC Capitalisation projects](#) | 24 September 2009 | Belgium

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Upcoming Events

- [BA: Medical Informatics in a United and Healthy Europe - MIE 2009](#) | 30 August - 02 September 2009 | Bosnia and Herzegovina
- [AT: Eighth international EGOV conference 2009](#) | 30 August - 02 September 2009 | Austria
- [IT: AAATE 2009 Conference](#) | 31 August - 02 September 2009 | Italy
- [AT: 2009 Conference on Electronic Democracy – EDem2009](#) | 07 - 08 September 2009 | Austria

- [RO: E-Health and Bioengineering Conference 2009](#) | 17 - 18 September 2009 | Romania
 - [FR: Smart Event 2009](#) | 22 - 25 September 2009 | France
 - [PL: International Conference on 'Education for All'](#) | 22 - 25 September 2009 | Poland
 - [NL: ISSE 2009](#) | 06 - 08 October 2009 | Netherlands
-

BA: Medical Informatics in a United and Healthy Europe - MIE 2009 - 30 August - 02 September 2009

Medical informatics at current development stage belongs to highly specialized science. Simultaneously, this scientific discipline causes numerous dilemmas and confusion. Even though, human knowledge and skills are constantly expanding, it is not clear if the current technological process will be able to accommodate all kinds of existence and humankind as a whole. The Medical Informatics Europe (MIE) Congress is the main scientific event in health informatics, held every two years in Europe. Around 500-1000 participants from 32 European member countries of the European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI) attend the event. Several scientists from other parts of the world also participate.

The main theme of MIE 2009 is to develop new bridges and medical informatics between western and eastern parts of the world. For this purpose, a panel of high level scientists will be invited to participate and to give keynote speeches, tutorials and workshop discussions. Thematic tracks will contain selected full papers on specific topics, such as bio-informatics, ontological approaches, and knowledge representation; image processing and feature extraction; electronic health records and information systems. Workshops will cover debates and presentations under the leadership of EFMI working groups or established entities.

The registration is open and can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee.

Event email: loc@mie2009.org, spc@mie2009.org

Event website: <http://www.mie2009.org/index.php?NAV=home>

Country: Bosnia and Herzegovina

City/Location: Sarajevo

Organiser: European Federation for Medical Informatics (EFMI)

AT: Eighth international EGOV conference 2009 - 30 August - 02 September 2009

The international EGOV conference 2009, organized within the [DEXA conference cluster](#), presents the state of eGovernment and eGovernance research and practice, providing valuable guidance in this fast-developing sector.

The EGOV conference brings together leading researchers and professionals from all over the globe and from many disciplines. The 2008 conference attracted some 130 participants from more than 30 countries from all over the world including developing countries.

The eighth EGOV conference includes, but is not limited to the following topics around eGovernment and eGovernance and other fields of ICT application in the public sector:

- Research theories and frameworks for public sector modernization with the support of ICT;
- Research methods, method integration and technique;
- Analysing and assessing contemporary research in eGovernment and eGovernance;
- Designing systems for the public sector: innovative cases and systems;
- Studying ICT usage, acceptance and performance of technology-supported public sector activities: methods and contemporary case analyses;
- Future directions in research and practice of ICT in the public sector;
- Innovation management, change management and complexity management in shaping public sector advancements;

- Transformation, customer-driven public sector reengineering and change management;
- Mass collaboration of stakeholders in government modernization: participative governance, simulation, animation, gaming and policy modeling;
- Customer-driven public sector reengineering;
- New ways of innovative developments: crowd sourcing, grid computing, social software etc;
- Economics, evaluation and stakeholders;
- Theories, concepts and solutions to deal with specific challenging topics in the application field: complexity, system dynamics, evolution, change management, mobile technologies, information preservation, trust and privacy, information management, ICT4D, information quality, adaptability and agility, integration and interoperation, systems and enterprise architecture, domain-specific social networking cases and solutions, semantic technologies, etc;
- Crises management, emergency and disaster response, public-private cooperation, transnational government;
- Education, training courses, and curricula.

The EGOV Conference Series is open to all and free of charge. The conference also includes a PhD student colloquium providing doctoral students with an international forum for presenting their work, networking opportunities and cross-disciplinary inspiration.

Moreover 2009, EGOV will be co-located for first time with [ePart, the new International Conference on eParticipation](#), which will be dedicated to topics on eParticipation and eDemocracy. ePart will start right after EGOV, 3-4 September 2009 at the conference venue.

Event email: office@dexa.org

Event website: <http://www.egov-conference.org/egov-2009>

Country: Austria

City/Location: Linz

Organiser: Organized within the DEXA 2009 Conference cluster

IT: AAATE 2009 Conference - 31 August - 02 September 2009

The main aim of the 10th European Conference for the Advancement of Assistive Technology is to bridge the gap between two complementary approaches; the meaning of eInclusion and its use in order to achieve wider inclusion objectives. The Conference will provide an opportunity to clarify the differences and the common points between those two approaches and to better define a way for the future.

A non-exhaustive list of relevant discussion topics includes:

- Technological innovation in Assistive Technology;
- The need for interdisciplinary/multidisciplinary approaches to the development of integrated solutions;
- The contribution of Assistive Technology and Design for all towards inclusion;
- Equipment interconnectivity and compatibility, covering hardware, software and wireless, to favor integrated solutions to inclusion;
- The need for standardization (formal, informal and de facto);
- Cultural aspects: e.g. acceptance of different approaches, designs and aesthetics of AT devices and inclusive living environments, high tech versus low tech, creative solutions for complex problems;
- Social aspects: penetration of AT and integrated approaches, the role of Europe in building up inclusion competence in emerging and developing countries, etc.;
- Technology transfer, towards not only AT industry, but also mainstream industry. Participation is open to all but it requires the payment of a fee.

Registration can be performed [online](#) through the conference management tool.

Over 300 attendees are expected.

Event email: p.l.emiliani@ifac.cnr.it, l.burzagli@ifac.cnr.it
Event website: <http://www.aaate2009.eu>
Country: Italy
City/Location: Florence
Organiser: Institute of Applied Physics "Nello Carrara" (IFAC)

AT: 2009 Conference on Electronic Democracy – EDem2009 - 07 - 08 September 2009

There are a number of eDemocracy applications, ranging from transparency sites and information, discussion, deliberation and consultation platforms to decision-making and voting systems, thus encompassing the entire democratic process. As technical devices have matured and feasibility is largely not considered an issue any more, other questions are now considered:

- To what extent can eDemocracy support and enrich our democracy?
- What and where are the interfaces, what methods can be used to integrate eParticipation in present public administration processes?
- How can we ensure that the greatest number of people are reached and are able to use the means of participation?
- How can the modern media support political education?
- How can the Internet increase participation in political discussion?
- What are the limitations and the risks of eDemocracy?
- How may traditional Decision Support Systems be included in the eDemocracy framework?
- How may microeconomic models (e.g. game theory) contribute to the understanding of the dynamics created by electronic citizen involvement?

The EDem 2009 aims to be opportunity to look into these questions and discuss the answers. During the conference experiences will be shared, examples of good (and maybe not so good) practice analysed, the State-of-the-Art and future scenarios will be presented and discussed.

The call for papers is open. The organisers are looking for contributions on all areas and levels of electronic democracy and participation systems. Projects can also be submitted, and, if accepted, would be presented as examples of "hands-on" demonstrations of eDemocracy and eParticipation. The main conference language is English; submissions in German are also acceptable.

Contributions from individuals from academic and professional backgrounds as well as public administration offices, public bodies, NGOs, education institutions and independent organisations are welcome.

The deadline for papers' submission is 17 May 2009. Submission may be sent in PDF format to alexander.prosser@wu-wien.ac.at or peter.parycek@donau-uni.ac.at. Submission via a Web page will be made available soon.

The conference fees are €95 for authors, €115 for those who register as participants prior to 17 July 2009, and €115 for those registering after that date. The registration facility will be made available at <http://www.ocg.at/edem2009/reg.html>.

Event email: alexander.prosser@wu-wien.ac.at or peter.parycek@donau-uni.ac.at
Event website: <http://edem2009.ocg.at/>
Country: Austria
City/Location: Vienna
Organiser: Danube University Krems and the University of Economics and Business Administration, Vienna

RO: E-Health and Bioengineering Conference 2009 - 17 - 18 September 2009

The main focus of EHB 2009, the second edition of the EHB conference, is placed on ehealth and bioengineering in general. Its goals are to promote concepts and advanced hardware and software technologies in the emerging domains of ehealth, telemedicine, medical devices/equipment, medical informatics, biomechanics, biomaterials, biotechnologies and healthcare management.

Another objective is to strengthen the interdisciplinary synergy between medical and technical researchers and practitioners, within the generous framework of medical bioengineering, in order to establish and promote advanced scientific concepts, methods and technologies for medical services and healthcare in Romania and enlarged Europe. In this respect, a special attention will be granted in the next years to targeting research to the real needs of patients, through different national and international projects and partnerships.

Last but not least, EHB 2009 represents a new "official" occasion to show that telemedicine in Romania and particularly in Iași exceeds the level of other more or less theoretical approaches and demonstrative issues. Its maturity was already proven by real time transmission and analysis of some vital biosignals of patients, performed by using the facilities offered by the first Romanian Telemedical Regional Centre located at the Faculty of Medical Bioengineering of the „Gr.T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy in Iași, which was developed by a local team within two research pilot projects - TELMES and TELEMON - financed by the Romanian Ministry of Education and Research.

The intention is therefore to promote procedures for teleconsultation, tediagnosis and telemonitoring, providing an alternative to be employed in the healthcare system that could be made available "every time and anywhere" for those persons who need such a public service.

The [topics to be covered](#) and the [full papers' submission guidelines](#) can be viewed online.

The organisers expect to attract over 200 attendees. The registration fee is 300 RON (approximately €70).

Event email: ehb2009@bioinginerie.ro Event website: <http://www.bioinginerie.ro/ehb2009>

Country: Romania

City/Location: Constanta

Organiser: "Gr. T. Popa" University of Medicine and Pharmacy Iasi, the Romanian Society of Medical Bioengineering and "Ovidius" University of Constanta

FR: Smart Event 2009 - 22 - 25 September 2009

Smart Event is as an international forum of knowledge-sharing, learning and networking in the fields of e-ID, e-mobility and Smart Security. It has proven to be a meeting place for world-class researchers, innovators, developers and business decision-makers. The event encompasses 3 international conferences covering complementary areas:

- The future of digital security technologies, e-Smart.
- The building of trusted mobile applications, Smart mobility
- The next generation of e-ID management technologies and services, World e-ID.

The relevant calls for papers are open until 13 March 2009.

Smart Event features contents combining scientific and strategic presentations of Industry experts, researchers and academics, as well as governmental and institutional representatives.

The *Smart University* advanced educational programme as well as a series of workshops and meetings complete the agenda.

Smart Event 2009 addresses high level professionals that foster research and innovation the e-ID, e-mobility and Smart Security fields. Based on a steady growing audience, the target for 2009 exceeds 800 attendees. Regardless

their activity - Academia, eGovernment, Institutions, Standardisation, Research, Integrators/Consultancy, Manufacturer/hardware, Security Solutions Providers, Content Service & Telecoms Operators – they all play an important and crucial influence on major decisions in the mobility, trusted technologies and services marketplace.

Registration will be performed online with the payment of a fee, and it will commence in April 2009.

Event email: info@strategiestm.com

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

Country: France

City/Location: French Riviera

Organiser: Strategies Telecoms and Media

PL: International Conference on 'Education for All' - 22 - 25 September 2009

The conference will be divided into three sessions. During the conference there will be an Exhibition of Assistive Technology and Adaptive Solutions.

- Universal design - more than just architecture:
 - making graphics accessible to persons with vision dysfunction;
 - accessibility of mathematical notation;
 - DAISY standard as a new tendency in creating books adapted for the blind;
 - designing outdoor activities for students with disabilities;
 - methodology of practice in mainstream classes with one child with disability taking into consideration the needs of people with sight impairment in building planning;
 - environment safe for everyone, etc.
- Beyond the borders of traditional disability:
 - the conference intends to become a platform for spreading solutions and good practices, the aim of which is to equalize the educational opportunities of the abovementioned groups of students and pupils.
- Inclusive education - can it become a fact?:
 - university studies as an example of inclusive education;
 - a blind pupil on a geography lesson - is full participation possible?
 - physical inclusion versus social inclusion in primary schools;
 - how to fight the stereotypes- social inclusion as the greatest challenge for inclusive education;
 - legal solutions - an enemy or a supporter of inclusive education;
 - methods of preparing teachers to inclusive education; who needs special education schools, etc.

Further information about the programme of the conference can be found [here](#).

The event is expected to host around 250 participants. The registration can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee.

Event email: disability@uw.edu.pl

Event website: <http://www.disability.uw.edu.pl>

Country: Poland

City/Location: Warsaw

Organiser: University of Warsaw, Office for Persons with Disabilities

NL: ISSE 2009 - 06 - 08 October 2009

Founded in 1999 as an initiative of the European Commission's Directorate General for Information Society, ISSE is intended to be "Europe's only independent, interdisciplinary security conference and exhibition".

ISSE provides a forum for sharing real life experiences and learning from experts in the field and it is renowned for its rich educational content and unbiased perspective. It is designed to educate and inform ICT security professionals, policy makers, and industry leaders on the latest developments in technology, solutions, market trends and best practice.

Now in its eleventh year, ISSE 2009 will attract over 400 representatives from across Europe providing an informal and stimulating environment for attendees to learn, share experiences and explore solutions with their European counterparts, focusing on security and related issues like cost of ownership, risk management and interoperability.

By attending ISSE 2009, participants will benefit from the following:

- Educational programme featuring the latest developments in information security, with a special emphasis on European directions and regulations.
- Expert advice on emerging threats and the key challenges ahead.
- Bespoke itinerary allowing choosing from more than 80 individual sessions.
- Hands-on demonstrations of the latest solutions from specialist suppliers.
- Complimentary entry to the ISSE Networking Event.
- Networking opportunities with peers, European security experts and leading industry suppliers.
- Complimentary lunch and refreshments.

The key security topics expected to be addressed at the conference may be viewed [here](#). Further information regarding the fees is also [available](#). Details on registering to the event can currently be provided by mailing isse@circdata.com.

Event email: nicola@revolution-events.com

Event website: <http://www.isse.eu.com/index.htm>

Country: Netherlands

City/Location: The Hague

Organiser: Revolution Events

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