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European ePractice Newsletter N. 297 - 06 October 2009

>> Public Prize of the 4th European eGovernment Awards 2009 - Online Voting is now open!

The European eGovernment Awards, ePractice.eu and the European Commission invite members of the ePractice.eu community to vote for their favourite cases among the [52 European eGovernment Awards 2009 finalists](#). The 4th European eGovernment Awards Public Prize is awarded to the finalist receiving the highest number of votes. Cast your votes for the Public Prize by 18 October 2009 and you might be one of the five lucky portal members to receive **free admission to the 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference** in Malmö, Sweden (19-20 November 2009). In addition, all voters who cast their votes before 11 November 2009 - the final online voting deadline - will have a chance at winning some of our **other prizes**: USB phone chargers and computer screen cleaners.

In order to find additional information, please read the online voting rules at www.epractice.eu/en/awards/rules.

Latest Cases

- [Simple Procedures Online for Cross-border Services](#) | 14 September 2009 | Austria | France | Germany | Greece | Italy | Netherlands | Poland | United Kingdom
 - [www.jugend2help.gv.at - its your life - its your government](#) | 10 September 2009 | Austria
 - [Gwynedd Council Takes Advantage of Collaborative Procurement](#) | 9 September 2009 | United Kingdom
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Simple Procedures Online for Cross-border Services

This is a Pilot project launched by the European Commission which aims to remove the administrative barriers that European businesses face before offering their services abroad. SPOCS is expected to further enhance the quality of electronic procedures completion and has been designed for businesses that have an interest in cross-border activities. It will allow them to meet all the administrative obligations through a single contact point that will be available online all EU Member States by the end of 2009.

It will initially involve at least two professional categories of service providers and its results will be widely promoted to raise awareness and to encourage innovative solutions for administrative simplification. A special effort will be placed on the dissemination of open specifications, the sharing of knowledge and best practices, as well as the encouragement for further cooperation.

A wide range of organisations is represented among the partners in order to ensure that the value chain - from decision makers to service providers and IT solutions - is well balanced, and to allow contributions from different backgrounds.

www.jugend2help.gv.at - its your life - its your government

jugend2help.gv.at represents an eParticipation procedure for young citizens for the development of relevant concepts for the Austrian citizen platform "HELP.gv.at" following the "Multi-stage model for citizen participation" (former: 3-step model for citizen participation):

1. contribution or deliberation,
2. evaluation and concept-elaboration,
3. prioritisation, and
4. integration.

The project focuses on young people living in Austria including all young Austrians and also those who are somehow related to Austria. jugend2help.gv.at was a project initiated by the Austrian Chancellery with partners from the public sector, developed by the Federal Computing Centre of Austria.

Gwynedd Council Takes Advantage of Collaborative Procurement

Gwynedd Council has embarked on a major long-term programme to increase the use of electronic procurement throughout the authority, with the aim of saving a large slice of its £90 million (103 million euros) annual spend on goods and services. The Council believes that the xchangewales eTrading for Schools system will be a distinct advantage to the education sector.

xchangewales eTrading for Schools is an online service that allows individual schools to select value for money goods and services from a range of electronic catalogues through a secure, simple ordering portal, which can be integrated with existing schools' finance management systems. ProcServe was appointed by the Welsh Assembly Government to deliver this key part of the eProcurement platform for the xchangewales programme.

One of the main objectives for Gwynedd Council is to introduce eProcurement into the county's 120 schools, who currently buy goods and services in a variety of ways, including manual paper ordering. The initial pilot at two secondary and six primary schools was completed in March 2009. Implementation to all secondary schools in Gwynedd was concluded in July 2009, and the remaining 100 primary schools will be coming on board throughout the rest of this year.

Editor's Choice of the week: [Visualize Model Driven Programming](#)

Latest News

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- [EU: New ETSI standard for EU-compliant electronic signatures](#) | 30 September 2009 | Pan european
- [DE: Infrastructure and Benchmarking regulations embodied in the Basic Law](#) | 30 September 2009 | Germany
- [DE: eGovernment 2015 - Ideas for a national eGovernment strategy](#) | 30 September 2009 | Germany
- [INT: Radiocommunication to combat climate change](#) | 30 September 2009 | International Organizations
- [CH: Air traffic control radar display published as open source](#) | 30 September 2009 | Switzerland
- [ES: Andalusia to distribute open source laptops to schools](#) | 30 September 2009 | Spain
- [IT: A new project on the safe use of the Internet is launched](#) | 29 September 2009 | Italy
- [DE: Interior minister: 'Open source reduces vendor lock-in and monopolies'](#) | 29 September 2009 | Germany
- [ES: eGovernment boost for Catalan universities](#) | 29 September 2009 | Spain

EU: Public Prize Online Voting in now open! Vote and win free admission to the Ministerial eGovernment Conference - 5 October 2009

Practicing what they preach, the European eGovernment Awards, ePractice.eu and the European Commission invite members of the ePractice.eu community to vote for their favourite cases among the [52 European eGovernment Awards 2009 finalists](#). The 4th European eGovernment Awards Public Prize is awarded to the finalist receiving the highest number of votes.

There are four categories for the European eGovernment Awards 2009, including the Public Prize. The themes of the categories are in line with the European Union's framework and reflect the priorities of the fifth Ministerial eGovernment Conference. As in 2007, category 4 is the Public Prize and therefore not subject to expert evaluation.

The Public Prize is based on a vote by ePractice.eu members for the best case from among the 52 shortlisted finalists. As such, the Public Prize represents a unique opportunity to be part of the process, help the European Commission to select the best practices and support your preferred finalists in winning one of the prestigious European eGovernment Awards.

Vote and win!

Cast your votes for the Public Prize by 18 October 2009 and you might be one of the five lucky portal members to receive **free admission to the 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference** in Malmö. In addition, all voters who cast their votes before 11 November 2009 - the final online voting deadline - will have a chance at winning some of our **other prizes**: USB phone chargers and computer screen cleaners.

The winners will be chosen randomly in two separate draws: One for free admission to the Ministerial eGovernment Conference and one for our other prizes. All winners will be notified by e-mail. All portal members who vote online for their three favourite cases from among the [52 finalists](#) will be eligible for the draw, excluding European Commission and ePractice.eu staff and contractors.

If a winner of the free admission to the 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference fails to confirm his/her attendance within five working days after being notified, the invitation will be offered to another voter. Note that the invitation includes admission to the conference only, i.e. all costs regarding travel and accommodation will NOT be covered.

The [5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference](#) will be held on 19-20 November 2009 in Malmö (Sweden). This high-level conference offers a unique learning and networking opportunity, bringing together more than 1 000 prominent public and private decision-makers and experts from across Europe and beyond. This is a unique opportunity to be granted admission to this high-profile event: attendance is limited and by invitation only!

How to vote?

Votes can be cast only online, using the voting facility on the ePractice.eu site. In order to vote, you must be a registered member of ePractice.eu (membership open to all) and have the minimum required user profile. Please read the [online voting rules](#) here before starting to vote.

Voters are asked to cast votes for **three finalists from at least two countries** to strengthen the European dimension of the Public Prize. If you vote for three cases from the same country, your votes will be disqualified.

Online voting closes on **11 November 2009 at 18:00 CET**.

Further information:

- [List of the 52 European eGovernment Awards finalists](#)
- [Online voting rules](#)

ES/PT: Collaboration agreement signed on validation services for eCertificates - 5 October 2009

The Spanish State Secretary for the Public Service, Carmen Gomis, and the Portuguese State Secretary for Administrative Modernisation, Maria Manuel de Lemos Leitão Marques, signed on 22 September 2009 a collaboration agreement concerning the validation of the digital certificates of both their countries.

The purpose of the agreement is to make it possible for any citizen of one of the two countries to use his/her national eCertificates for communicating and dealing with the Public Administration of the other country, since the latter will validate such certificates. The integration of both national systems will enable this validation.

This will prove particularly useful for those Spanish citizens living in border areas with Portugal and whose contacts with the Portuguese Public Administration are hence more frequent, and vice versa.

Since 2006, the Spanish Ministry of the Presidency has been operating an IT application named "[@firma](#)" which allows guaranteeing that the electronic certificate used by the citizens to perform online communications or transactions with the Public Administrations is valid. For Spanish citizens, this type of certificate can be the electronic ID card (DNle) and the digital certificates issued by the National Mint or by any national certification authority recognised by the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Trade, in line with the Law on Electronic Signature.

Portugal has been issuing an electronic ID card (named "*Cartão de Cidadão*" - the "Citizen's Card") too, and it is developing a State Electronic Certification System.

This agreement is one of the few initiatives of its kind in Europe. It is furthermore in accordance with the work being currently carried out in the framework of the European project [STORK](#) (**S**ecure **i**den**T**ity **a**cr**O**ss **b**o**R**ders **l**in**K**ed). Under STORK, Portugal and Spain along with 12 other European countries are closely and actively collaborating in view of the mutual recognition, at European level, of the electronic identity certificates that exist in the various Member States of the European Union.

The present collaboration between Portugal and Spain being very fruitful, it will stand as a pioneering example of a bilateral collaboration as to the testing of integration processes in relation to large scale interoperability pilots.

With @firma, Spain has a fully developed and operating platform for validating Spanish eCertificates. The signature of this bilateral agreement on 22 September 2009 marked the immediate launch of the collaboration for the interconnection of the Portuguese and the Spanish systems, which will enable in future the activation of the certificates' validation process between the two countries.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Spanish Ministry of the Presidency \(in Spanish\)](#)
- [@firma case in ePractice](#)
- [Factsheet of the STORK project - ePractice Library](#)

EU: EC welcomes US decision towards a more independent and accountable global Internet governance - 5 October 2009

As of 1 October 2009, the Internet Corporation for Assigned Names and Numbers (ICANN), a private sector, non-profit US organisation responsible for the definition of policies for the global coordination of the Domain Name System (DNS), will no longer be subject to unilateral control by the US Department of Commerce. It will instead be reviewed by independent panels appointed by ICANN's Governmental Advisory Committee (GAC) and ICANN itself with the involvement of governments around the world.

"I welcome the US administration's decision to adapt ICANN's key role in internet governance to the reality of the 21st century and of a globalised world," said Viviane Reding, European Commissioner for Information Society and Media. "Internet users worldwide can now anticipate that ICANN's decisions on domain names and addresses will be more independent and more accountable, taking into account everyone's interests. External review panels will periodically evaluate ICANN's performance. If effectively and transparently implemented, this reform can find broad acceptance among civil society, businesses and governments alike."

ICANN's most important reforms comprise:

- More independence from regular periodic reviews by a single government. Decisions made by ICANN affect Internet users worldwide and, therefore, it is important to reflect all of their interests.
- External accountability involving independent review panels jointly appointed by the GAC and by ICANN. The GAC is open to governments and public authorities from around the world, and advises the ICANN Board on public policy aspects of ICANN's activities. These review panels will periodically evaluate ICANN's performance in relation to their public commitments.

The "Joint Project Agreement" in the US, which until now has foreseen a unilateral overview of ICANN's decision by the US Department of Commerce, will not be extended, as of 30 September 2009. Instead, it will be replaced by a joint "affirmation of commitments" of the US Government and ICANN. It will represent an important reform of the present governance arrangements and grant a greater role to the GAC which will undertake the task of creating independent review panels covering four sectors of the Net. Those sectors will more precisely be: security and stability of the network, transparency and the preservation of users' interests, protection of holders' rights, and market organisation.

The European Commission furthermore wishes the continuation of the Internet Governance Forum (IGF), set up for a period of 5 years, with a first meeting in 2006. It constitutes a unique place in the area of Internet governance where related topics are discussed by a wide range of stakeholders worldwide.

The European Commission which, since 2005, has repeatedly called for reform of the governance of the Internet's key global resources, is therefore strongly committed to accompany and support the implementation of the reforms announced today, in close collaboration with the EU's 27 Member States. Its active participation in ICANN's policy-

making, aims to ensure that European values such as freedom of speech, privacy, consumer protection and security, are respected on the Internet.

Further information:

- [Official press release of the 'EU Monitor.net' website](#)
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IT: Agreement signed on digital contents for didactics and research - 2 October 2009

A protocol agreement was signed on 22 September 2009 by the Head of the Department for the Digitisation of Public Administration and Technological Innovation of the Italian Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation, Renzo Turatto, the Head of the Department for the Planning and the Management of Human, Financial and Instrumental Resources of the Education Ministry, Giovanni Biondi, and the General Director of an Italian publishing company, Achille Gerli.

The aim of the agreement consists of achieving innovative digital tools and contents for the needs of didactical and research activities.

Under the agreement, several of the publishing company's digital contents (covering Information Technology, English, Algebra, Biology, etc) placed under the Creative Commons license will be made available through the ['InnovaScuola'](#) Portal. The teachers registered on this portal will hence be able to access the content of the publishing company for free.

InnovaScuola is an "Open Digital Library" of didactic contents that are either provided by publishing companies or by teachers themselves, for free. The platform was developed by the Department for the Digitisation of Public Administration and Technological Innovation in collaboration with the Ministry of Education, University and Research.

In the related press release, the Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation indicates that this agreement is well in line with the objectives of the [E-Gov Plan 2012](#), as well as those of a protocol concluded between the Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation and the Education Ministry. The latter protocol provides for a series of digital innovation actions in schools so as (1) to simplify the relationship between the families and the educational institutions and (2) to increase the efficiency and the accessibility of the education systems, providing schools with advanced IT tools and services for didactics, such as the InnovaScuola portal.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Ministry of Public Administration and Innovation \(in Italian\)](#)
 - [InnovaScuola portal \(in Italian\)](#)
 - [E-Gov Plan 2012 \(in Italian\)](#)
-

UK: New additions to the Blue Badge map - 2 October 2009

On 22 September 2009 Directgov, the nation's official website, announced major improvements to their Blue Badge map to help disabled people travel across the UK more easily.

The Blue Badge scheme provides a national range of parking concessions for disabled people with severe mobility problems who have difficulty using public transport. This enables badge holders to park close to where they need to go. Directgov, provides user-friendly, 24/7 information on all government services - including education, transport, tax, crime, the environment, employment - all in one place and in plain English.

According to the new rail map, disabled football fans can use the map to find out about a stadium's accessibility before going to games. More than 2 000 train stations are also available to the train travelers allowing disabled people to find out about the station facilities and book direct assistance in advance.

The new additions have been created by the Directgov Disabled People and Carers section which is based in the Office for Disability Issues. The following are some of the additions:

- a rail map containing information on accessibility and disabled facilities for more than 2 000 train stations in the UK;
- assessments for more than 500 of these train stations;
- accessibility information for more than 160 major football stadiums;
- enhanced information on London underground stations;
- enhanced information on car parking across the UK.

While the scheme operates throughout the UK, there are small variations in its application in England, Wales, Scotland and Northern Ireland.

Further information:

- [Original news article - News Distribution Service for Government and the Public Sector](#)
 - [The Blue Badge Scheme, Directgov Website](#)
-

DE: Münster started OpenOffice pilot in schools - 2 October 2009

The city of Münster has started a pilot using OpenOffice in schools. The city's IT department, Citeq, will also switch all of the 150 servers used in its primary and secondary schools to GNU/Linux. Half of these have already been migrated to open source.

The changes in the school's IT systems are part of the overall IT strategy of the city's IT Department.

At the moment, teachers are trying out OpenOffice in two schools. The suite will be made available to all schools in November 2009. "We plan to make OpenOffice the default office application for schools", said Citeq's spokesperson Stefan Schoenfelder.

During September 2009, the city reported that 140 of its 360 servers are running GNU/Linux. In a press statement published on 23 September 2009, Citeq stated that using open source is making it easier for the departments to share information.

Citeq furthermore indicates that the administration is also saving considerable costs. "Open source tools such as Linux are mature, so we consider their use as very economical."

Münster is using a mix of Suse and Debian Gnu/Linux for its servers. These are used for instance as files servers, or for running the Typo3 open source content management system. Schoenfelder said that they also use it for proprietary systems of database management and Enterprise resource planning (ERP).

Desktop

There are no plans yet to run complete open source desktops in the city. Schoenfelder: "The staff is used to working with proprietary office applications, here as well as at home. Moreover, there are many applications available only on proprietary office applications desktops, and it would cost too much to move these to Linux."

The city of Münster started using open source in 1998. The first Linux server was a mail relay, running Sendmail. The decision to use open source was made by the IT department. Politicians want to increase the city's use of open

source. "We now use Linux wherever it makes economic sense. We use it wherever possible and whenever the efforts for changing the operating system are not higher than the cost reduction that can be achieved."

Further information:

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU](#)
 - [Press release of the city of Münster \(in German\)](#)
-

FR: "Almost the entire public sector is using open source" - 2 October 2009

According to a French market survey, almost the entire public sector (96 %) is using open source. The most used applications are database management systems and content management systems.

The research firm who carried out the survey presented a summary of its report on the use of open source in France on 17 September in Paris. The report is based on an online survey conducted during the summer of 2009 and followed up by interviews with 160 IT project directors, heads of procurement and other IT decision makers, half of which are employed in the private sector and the other half representing the public sector. Another fifty interviews were held with IT vendors.

Next to running databases and websites, open source is mostly used for IT administration. According to the survey's results, it is expected that in 2011, some 63 % of firms and organisations will use open source office applications.

The major reason for using open source is that the products are mature, replied 77 % of the participants to the survey. The second most heard argument, at 67 %, is that open source offers independence from IT suppliers. Interoperability and the development of public policies are the reasons given by 48 and 43 % of the participants.

Using open source requires firms and organisations to seek technical assistance and support, said 54 and 44 % of the respondents. It also implies changes to their IT maintenance, said 38 % of the participants.

The research firm says that furthermore, half of the respondents say that the current financial crisis is not a reason to switch to open source. However, 39 % think that it made it more of an option. In 2011, open source will take up less than 20 % of the IT budget of public sector institutes.

Last but not least, the report foresees a growth of the French open source IT market of over 16 % in 2011.

Further information:

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU](#)
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ES: New agreement on eGovernment services signed in Andalusia - 2 October 2009

A new agreement on eGovernment services is signed by the Ministry of Justice and Public Administration, and the Royal Spanish Mint (Fábrica Nacional de Moneda y Timbre - Real Casa de la Moneda (FNMT-RCM)). This agreement aims to consolidate and develop eGovernment through the launch of new services for the identification and authentication of digital documents.

This agreement, signed by councillor Begonia Alvarez and the President of the Royal Spanish Mint, Angel Esteban, ensures the streamlining of procedures and the security of all telematic transactions between the citizens and the Public Administration. It empowers the Andalusian Public Administration for the implementation of the 'Certificate for

the Identification of Electronic Sites' (Certificado para la Identificación de Sedes Electrónicas); a new tool that allows the Public Administration to establish free electronic sites maintaining all technical and security guarantees.

This certificate will be a security seal recognised by the citizens, ensuring the privacy of all telematic procedures performed on web sites and platforms bearing this mark. The citizens will thus be certain that all electronic sites are clearly identified and that the communications established with the Andalusian Public Administration are fully reliable. This new agreement, ratified in Seville, provides for the issuance of up to 50 certificates of this type for the various services of the Public Administration of Andalusia.

Electronic stamp certificates (Sello Electrónico) constitute another measure to be launched under this agreement enabling the Andalusian Public Administration to implement automated administrative processes of electronic signature. With the implementation of the electronic stamp, the Andalusian citizens will be able to obtain immediately and automatically, without personal intervention, registration certificates from any telematically managed register. These certificates will also quicken internal administrative procedures, shortening response time for citizens' requests.

Finally, the agreement with the FNMT empowers the Andalusian Public Administration (Junta) to create a 'Certificate for public employees' (Certificado de empleado público) that guarantees the internal electronic management of the administrative procedures and transactions, providing additional input on employees. Thanks to those services, citizens are able to change doctors and health centers, consult offers of vocational training courses, renew, view or modify job demands; request tax certificates, pay their taxes and apply for the Youth Card (Carné Joven) or Leisure Centers (residencias de Tiempo Libre) of Andalusia.

Further information:

- [Official press release of the Spanish 'Junta de Andalusia' website](#) (in Spanish)
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LU: An information portal for young graduates goes online - 1 October 2009

On 9 September 2009, the www.anelo.lu portal went online, having as a main objective to facilitate the transition of young Luxembourgian graduates of schools and higher education into the workforce.

Designed and powered in a concerted effort of the [National Youth Service \(Service national de la jeunesse - SNJ\)](#), the [Employment Administration \(l'Administration de l'emploi - ADEM\)](#), the [Centre for Documentation and Information on Higher Education \(Le Centre de documentation et d'information sur l'enseignement supérieur - CEDIÉS\)](#) and the [Ministry of National Education and Professional Training](#), the website aims to centralize information, contacts and useful links that will guide young people while searching for a job, for further education, for a voluntary service or an internship.

The site will experience a second development by the beginning of 2010; this phase will involve several projects including the development of an online database for jobs and training courses, an interactive module on youth interests and a database of studies.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - "De Guichet" de l'Etat luxembourgeois - Website](#) (in French)
 - [National Youth Service \(Service national de la jeunesse - SNJ\) - Website](#) (in French)
 - [Employment Administration \(l'Administration de l'emploi - ADEM\) - Website](#) (in French)
 - [Centre for Documentation and Information on Higher Education \(Le Centre de documentation et d'information sur l'enseignement supérieur - CEDIÉS\) - Website](#) (in French)
 - [Ministry of National Education and Professional Training - Website](#) (in French)
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FI: An Act on electronic identification came into force - 1 October 2009

An Act on electronic identification to promote the provision and the use of identification services entered into force on 1 September 2009, replacing the Act on Electronic Signatures of 2003.

The objective of the new Act is to create a set of common rules in order to provide strong electronic identification services and to promote the use of electronic signatures. The Act is founded on the principle that users trust information security and feel confident that their electronic privacy is being protected whenever they use the electronic identification services.

The [Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority \(FICORA\)](#) is responsible for the monitoring of the identification and certification service providers whose main task is to supply qualified certificates, complied with the obligations imposed on them. Therefore, they must supply FICORA with information at the beginning of operations, significant changes therein and by the end of the operations. FICORA remains the public register on the aforementioned service providers.

In addition, FICORA may, if necessary, issue technical regulations on the requirements for the reliability and information security of the operations of the identification and certification service providers. Also, FICORA gives advice and guidelines on matters regarding identification services, electronic signatures and certificate services, monitors how international standardisation groups operate and follows international progress in the fields of strong electronic identification and electronic signatures.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Finnish Communications Regulatory Authority \(FICORA\) - Official Website](#)
-

DK: Cooperation between sundhed.dk and borger.dk on ehealth matters - 1 October 2009

On 7 September 2009 the National Health Portal -[sundhed.dk](#)- and the portal for government services to citizens -[borger.dk](#)- signed a cooperation agreement for developing a health section on [borger.dk](#) and for coordinating strategy and IT development.

The Health section on [borger.dk](#) will provide insight on health matters and will provide citizens with extra privileges and access to the digital portal for health care. Citizens will also have access to their personal health data from the "My [sundhed.dk](#)" through [borger.dk's My Side](#). My [sundhed.dk](#) currently offers access to organ donor registration and personal data, for example, My Medication Profile, My hospital treatments and My e-Journal.

In the light of this cooperation, the Head of IT and Telecom Agency, Natascha Dexter said that they were looking forward to expanding the common public health work and were pleased that it will soon be possible to offer citizens a single point of access to personal health data, promoting at the same time their engagement with the public.

Morten Elbæk Petersen, the director of [sundhed.dk](#) noted that the portal will continue in its current form with the full package of information and self-service for both citizens and health professionals. He added that they see cooperation with [borger.dk](#) as a way to attract more people to the self-service solutions of the evolved health care system. He is also glad that through NemLogin (EasyLogin), citizens will only need to log in once and be able to navigate across portals at their ease.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - National IT and Telecom Agency - Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation - Official Website \(in Danish\)](#)
- [National Health Portal - \[sundhed.dk\]\(#\) \(in Danish\)](#)
- [Portal for government services to citizens - \[borger.dk\]\(#\) \(in Danish\)](#)

EU: Health and Safety Agency: 'Open source relevant for all public administrations' - 1 October 2009

The European Agency for Safety and Health at Work (EU-OSHA) says its use of open source software is a logical consequence of being a publicly funded organisation. "Open source should be relevant for all public administrations."

The organisation based in Bilbao, Spain, aims to make European workplaces safer, healthier and more productive. It makes workers and employees aware of work-related risks and of how to manage them.

Public funds should be used as much as possible to invest in public, transparent and open source software, says Gorka Moral, the organisation's webmaster. "We manage public money, so we should try to avoid locking ourselves in to proprietary technology. Besides, using open source increases competition, as anyone can access and study the code."

Content

That is why EU-OSHA decided to use the open source content management system Plone and the Zope application server to build a content management system (CMS), which it called Osha3.

It is intended to manage and facilitate the work of a network of partners and external editors, geographically located throughout Europe and beyond, EU-OSHA explains on its website.

EU-OSHA made available the source code for Osha3 in May 2009, publishing it under the GPLv2 Licence. "We resolved to make this code available at the same moment we decided to use Plone and Zope."

The organisation has also considered using the European Union Public Licence (EUPL). However, at the time the content management system was ready, the EUPL was not yet compatible with the GPL. Now that the EUPLv1.1 and the GPL are compatible, the organisation could publish an updated version of Osha3 under that licence, EU-OSHA writes in a annual review.

As far as Moral knows, the code for the EU-OSHA website has not yet been used by others, but he knows of several European agencies that are building their sites using Plone and Zope.

"Open source is everywhere", says Moral. Staff at the organisation for instance use several open source applications. "Most popular is web browser Firefox, but we use others, like database management system Postgresql, multimedia player VLC, file management tool Filezilla and webserver Apache."

EU-OSHA runs Osha3 on a server running the Debian GNU/Linux distribution. "It should run on any popular Unix environment, (...)", the institute writes on its website. However, it warns, users might encounter issues with external dependencies. Running the installation requires other open source tools, including OpenLDAP, PostgreSQL, MySQL and Lxml.

Further information:

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU](#)
- [Osha3](#)
- [Osha3 download](#)

LV: New procedures for the electronic exchange of information in the public administration - 1 October 2009

On 27 August 2009 the State Secretary established a set of rules for the [Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government \(MRDLG\)](#). These rules will determine the procedures, on which the cooperating authorities will be based in order to exchange information in an electronic format, aiming to ensure and certify the accuracy of information.

The draft regulations define the basic requirements for exchanging information electronically, as well as the basic methods. According to the set of electronic document circulation procedures, if the information is available only in a paper form, it should be converted into an electronic copy and sent to the information requester.

The MRDLG rules emphasise that the recipient has the right to expect accurate information from the information provider and in order to ensure that, the rules set requirements for recording a message on the flow of information.

Finally, the rules will enter into force as soon as the Committee of the Cabinet of Minister accepts them.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Ministry of Regional Development and Local Government of the Republic of Latvia - Official Website \(in Latvian\)](#)

DK/EU: Competition authority wants European Commission's take on office software market competition - 1 October 2009

The Danish Competition Authority wants to discuss with the European Commission (EC) how to enhance competition in the market for office software. It thinks the Danish public sector is too small to do this by itself.

An appointment with the Commission has not yet been made. "We have awaited the translation of the report", says Michael Fibiger, chief special advisor to the Danish Competition Authority.

The agency is unsure what Denmark can do about the lack of competition in this software market, it writes in its introduction of a report published on 12 August 2009, in Danish. On 17 September 2009; the agency made an English translation available, entitled 'The market for office software Competition and the importance of open standards'.

"The question is what can be done to enhance competition in the market for office software", the competition authority explains. It assumes that measures by Denmark on the supply side will be ineffective, as the Danish market is very modest. "Public procurement of office suites accounts for about 10 percent of the total demand in Denmark."

The market for office software is international and therefore the Danish Competition Authority sees little use in the country to, for instance, granting competitors access to the dominant supplier's infrastructure or technical user interfaces. "Introducing special Danish measures will entail a risk that the measures are not effective."

The report by the Danish Competition Authority was requested by the Danish Parliament in April 2009. The Parliament in June 2007 started a debate on whether Denmark's public administrations should use the open document standard ODF (OpenDocument Format) and/or its alternative, Office Open XML (OOXML).

The agency recommends they use both. "Public procurement should be based on both standards so that solutions support either OOXML or ODF and accept text documents in both formats."

Comments Fibiger: "We recommend that the Danish Government use its influence as a customer to buy office suites based on open standards."

According to Morten Kjærsgaard, chairman of OSL, an association of Danish open source IT service companies, the Government should follow the example of Norway, Belgium and the Netherlands. "These countries are giving ODF priority and have put OOXML on hold".

Further information:

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU](#)
 - [English translation of the report of the Danish Competition Authority](#)
 - [Statement of the Danish Competition Authority](#)
-

IS: Ministry of Education enhances use of free and open source software in schools - 1 October 2009

In August 2009, the Icelandic Ministry of Education announced its intention to promote the use of free and open source software in schools across the country.

Following the [government's policy](#) in March 2008 on free and open source software for all institutions that are operated by public funds, the Icelandic Ministry of Education is seeking collaboration with those parties interested in increasing the use of free and open source software in schools. The reason is twofold: firstly, this initiative would considerably increase students' skills and knowledge on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) and secondly, it would be a cost-effective educational method for schools.

The Ministry of Education is interested in working with schools in order to find ways to provide information and facilitate access to free and open source software. Another aspect of this initiative is that the Ministry, along with the assistance of the free and open source society in Iceland, will help schools across the country establish a communication among them and share their experiences in using free and open software.

The Icelandic Ministry of Education aims to encourage educational institutions to engage in the use of free and open source software in greater numbers, so that to increase the use of information technology in teaching and learning. Students will have the opportunity to learn about software and benefit from it in order to improve their educational performance, while teachers can use ICT to diversify their teaching methods.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - The Ministry of Education, Science and Culture Website \(in Icelandic\)](#)
-

EU: Europa website revamped - 30 September 2009

www.europa.eu, the official website of the European Union (EU), has a new navigation and an updated layout which make it easier for visitors (citizens, businesses) to find what they are looking for on the main pages of the website - in any official EU language.

Europa is usually the first place people go to look for information on the European Union. As well as covering EU institutions and laws, it offers practical guidance on, e.g., moving to another EU country or accessing funding. The website moreover shows who benefits from the EU actions, and how.

With over 6 million pages, the Europa portal is one of the biggest sites in the world. So it is not surprising that it can sometimes prove difficult to find a specific piece of information. In the aim to make the entry pages more user-

friendly, the layout of the latter has been simplified by dividing the site into six main themes reflecting the user needs.

The navigation menu will appear on all pages to make it easier to move around the site without getting lost. By clicking on the Europa logo, the website users can quickly return to the homepage, regardless of where they are in the portal. [Live navigation help](#) has furthermore been made available in English, French and German.

The idea behind the redesign is to restructure the existing content in a more rational way - to separate laws and complex technical material from more general information, and to help visitors find their way towards what they are looking for.

Due to the fact that the site's improvement is a continuous process, should the users have problems with the new pages or in case there are new features they would like to suggest, they are invited to use the [feedback form](#).

Further information:

- [Official press release - European Commission](#)
- [Homepage of Europa - the Gateway to the European Union](#)

EU: New ETSI standard for EU-compliant electronic signatures - 30 September 2009

The [European Telecommunications Standards Institute](#) (ETSI) has published a multi-part standard that will facilitate secure paperless business transactions throughout Europe, in compliance with European legislation.

The standard defines a series of profiles for PAdES - Advanced Electronic Signatures for Portable Document Format (PDF) documents - that meet the requirements of the European Directive on a Community framework for electronic signatures (Directive 1999/93/EC).

The ETSI standard supports the European Commission's "Action Plan on eSignatures and identification" which seeks to build on existing experience in this area and further improve the efficiency of cross-border use of electronic signatures. Open technical standards, such as those produced by ETSI, provide a means for ensuring the required interoperability so that, for example, a document created and signed in one Member State can be validated in another.

The standard also recognises that digitally-signed documents may be used or archived for many years - even many decades. At any time in the future, in spite of technological and other advances, it must be possible to validate the document to confirm that the signature was valid at the time it was signed - a concept known as Long-Term Validation (LTV).

The new standard was developed by ETSI's Electronic Signatures and Infrastructure (ESI) Technical Committee in collaboration with PDF experts. PDF is defined in a standard (ISO 32000-1) published by the International Organization for Standardization (ISO), so the ETSI activity included reviewing and documenting how ISO 32000-1 can satisfy the European Directive.

The resulting PAdES standard, ETSI Technical Specification (TS) 102 778, also introduces a number of adaptations and extensions to PDF to satisfy the Directive's requirements. ETSI will feed these European-specific elements back into ISO for inclusion in the next release of the PDF standard, ISO 32000-2.

PAdES is complementary to two other Electronic Signature concepts also developed by ETSI's ESI committee, both widely recognised within the European Union and suited for applications that do not involve human-readable documents: Cryptographic Message Syntax Advanced Electronic Signatures (CAAdES) and XML Advanced Electronic Signatures (XAdES).

As with all ETSI standards, the PAdES, CAAdES and XAdES standards can be downloaded free of charge from the ETSI website at <http://pda.etsi.org/pda/>.

Further information:

- [Official press release - European Telecommunications Standards Institute \(ETSI\)](#)
- [European Action Plan on eSignatures and eIdentification](#)

DE: Infrastructure and Benchmarking regulations embodied in the Basic Law - 30 September 2009

On 1 August 2009, within the framework of the second round of reforms of Germany's federal structure, the most important changes in the German Basic Law (Grundgesetz) came into force.

With the new article Article 91c, 60 years after the introduction of the German Basic Law, the Information Technology has now solid roots and is one of the most important infrastructures of the 21st century.

The article in question ensures the simplification of IT- bodies and decision-making processes, thus increasing their effectiveness and enabling their adaptation to the needs of the fast evolving technical progress. Besides, this article forms the legal basis for the establishment of consistent electronic communication between all German authorities, which will be free of underlying media problems. Thereby, the Federation is granted the exclusive legislative competence for the corresponding linking up network.

The envisaged objectives will be implemented through the law on Linkage of Federal and Land IT Networks (IT-NetzG), to be soon introduced, as well as through an inter-Länder agreement to come into force on 1 April 2010. According to the latter, an IT Planning council will be established and will be entasked with developing the technical requirements for the core network infrastructure to be used. Furthermore the IT Planning council bears the responsibility to steer cross disciplined eGovernment projects involving both federation and the Länder. Finally the council will also adopt decisions on IT interoperability and security standards.

Moreover, with the new Article 91d, a vital component for the modernisation of the administration has been embodied in the constitution; this article provides the legal basis for facilitating the federation and the Länder to directly and effectively benchmark their administrations in order to increase their effectivity. Benchmarking will also lead to transparency and ensure continuous improvement in the public administration.

Further information:

- [Original News Article - German Ministry of Interior, Website](#) (in German)

DE: eGovernment 2015 - Ideas for a national eGovernment strategy - 30 September 2009

From 1-30 September 2009 the Federal Ministry of Interior will be presenting online the topics for discussion regarding the shaping of a national eGovernment strategy under the title '[eGovernment 2015 - ideas for a national eGovernment strategy](#)'.

The strategy aims to create a common umbrella of a federal eGovernment in Germany. The Federal Ministry of the Interior together with the various representatives from the administration of federal and regional governments, industry and academia have collected issues concerning the national eGovernment strategy in order to be discussed online.

22 issues have already been collected for discussion and categorized into 7 thematic action areas that can be evaluated, commented, and enriched with additional suggestions online. The cooperation of federations, regions, and municipalities will play an equally important role, as well as the issues of trust, security on the Internet, effectiveness and efficiency, privacy, transparency, and eParticipation.

In its quality of pilot project, online participation, is part of the measures with which the Federal Ministry of the Interior promotes the development of online national participation services (eParticipation) in Germany.

The online participation project includes eight steps:

1. Background.
2. Overview and explanation: Action areas of the eGovernment-strategy (part of 1).
3. Overview and explanation: Action areas of the eGovernment-strategy (part of 2).
4. Evaluation of the action areas: Quality and participation.
5. Evaluation of the Action areas: Efficiency of the administration.
6. General additions and comments.
7. Specific comments on specific action areas.
8. Examination of the information and conclusion of the discussion.

Further information:

- [Original News Article - German Ministry of Interior, Website](#) (in German)
- [eGovernment 2015, webpage](#) (in German)

INT: Radiocommunication to combat climate change - 30 September 2009

The first joint seminar between International Telecommunications Union (ITU) and World Meteorological Organization (WMO) was held in Geneva on 16-18 September 2009. The seminar focused on the use of radio spectrum for meteorology, aimed at weather, water and climate monitoring and prediction.

An open forum was organised for discussion of the ITU and WMO roles in the use of radio spectrum, space orbits and radio-based meteorological tools and systems for monitoring, mitigation and adaptation to climate change. The seminar shared information on WMO's Integrated Global Observing System and ITU's role in using ICTs as a catalyst to combat climate change.

ITU and WMO have collaborated in partnership for over 135 years. While WMO focuses its efforts on meeting the needs for environmental information and the corresponding radio-frequency spectrum resources, ITU allocates the necessary radio frequencies to allow for interference-free operation of radio-based applications and radiocommunication systems (both terrestrial and space) used for climate monitoring and prediction, weather forecasting and disaster early warning and detection.

ITU work in general and specifically the work of the Radiocommunication Sector (ITU-R) in the area of climate change focus on the use of ICT (different radio and telecommunication technologies and equipment) for weather and climate change monitoring, prediction, detection and mitigation of hurricanes, typhoons, thunderstorms, earthquakes, tsunamis, man-made disasters, etc. The new ITU database of frequencies, which could be used for emergency radiocommunications, would help save lives and property in the aftermath of disaster.

Radio-based ICT applications such as remote sensors are currently the main source of observation and information about the Earth's atmosphere and surface. Between 1980 and 2005, 90% of the natural disasters, 72% of casualties and 75% of economic losses were caused worldwide by weather, climate and water-related hazards, such as droughts, floods, severe storms and tropical cyclones. Climate change monitoring and disaster prediction mechanisms are therefore increasingly vital for citizen's safety and economic well-being.

Further information:

- [Original news article - International Telecommunications Union Website](#)
 - [Joint ITU/WMO seminar Website](#)
 - [ITU Radiocommunications and Climate Change activities webpage](#)
-

CH: Air traffic control radar display published as open source - 30 September 2009

A Swiss company has made software available to display radar data for air traffic controllers. The application, Albatross Display, was made public together with its source code earlier this month (September 2009).

The software is published using the GPLv2 open source licence.

The tool is meant to provide the controller with precise visualisation of airspace. The software can receive surveillance data (Eurocontrol's Asterix format) and display aircraft tracks on maps. The application can also zoom in and pan, offers range and bearing of objects.

Albatross Display is written in C++ and it is meant to run on normal desktop PCs.

"Open source software is known in the IT industry for its better quality, higher reliability, security, interoperability, lower entry cost, and its ability to end predatory vendor lock-in", the company said in a statement.

The radar display application is the first of several tools that the company will publish as open source. In its statement, it explains that it aims for wider adoption of such applications.

According to the company, its open source development community is very active. More than 150 members have joined since the project was announced, with about half of them becoming involved in the development of the radar display application.

Some of these active members are employees at Eurocontrol, says Claude Levacher, the person responsible for marketing in the company. This company has assisted Eurocontrol, the European Organisation for the Safety of Air Navigation, in writing an open source strategy for surveillance products.

OSOR Forge

The development site for the radar display application is also hosted on the European Commission's [Open Source Observatory and Repository \(OSOR.EU\)](#). According to Levacher, the decision to use the OSOR development Forge followed a meeting earlier in 2009. "We appreciated the fact that OSOR is a project by the European Commission and is offering a very good support to the industry looking for a high level of technical performance and related services, including legal aspects."

Another reason to use the OSOR Forge, says Levacher, is that the European Commission plays an important role in the air traffic control in Europe with its Single European Sky ATM Research (SESAR) project. "So, we found it appropriate to use the OSOR Forge rather than other organisations."

Further information:

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU](#)
 - [OSOR development project website - albatross display](#)
-

ES: Andalusia to distribute open source laptops to schools - 30 September 2009

In the Spanish autonomous community (region) of Andalusia, 190 500 students and teachers will start using open source laptops in January 2010, Spanish newspapers reported earlier this month.

On 9 September 2009, daily newspaper El País quoted Mar Moreno, an adviser at the ministry of Education of the region, who explains that the laptop distribution is part of the central government's Edu 2.0 project. This project starts with 5th grade school students, however to get up to speed, Andalusia will include the 6th graders.

Distributing the laptops will cost more than €80 million, El Pais reports. "Each laptop will cost around €290. The government has decided to configure the laptops with free software, using the operating system Guadalinex and other free applications." When they complete their studies, students will either be given the laptops for free or will be able to purchase them for a symbolic fee.

The Guadalinex plans were first announced in July 2009 during the Gran Canaria Desktop Summit. During this conference, the combination of the Akademy and Guadec open source desktop software meetings, a Spanish IT services provider presented the prototype of the software and hardware that is going to be deployed in Andalusia.

Further information:

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU](#)
 - [Edu 2.0 project](#)
-

IT: A new project on the safe use of the Internet is launched - 29 September 2009

A new project, 'Don't loose your bearings!' (Non perdere la bussola), starting from the academic year 2009-2010, was presented on 16 September, in the conference room of the State Police, in Rome. Its primary objective is to teach children to responsibly use the Internet. This new project is the fruit of the collaboration of the Communications Police Service, a well known videosharing website and the Italian Ministry of Education, University and Research.

In this project, the Communications Police Service along with the videosharing website are organising a series of meetings in Italian schools with the aim to teach children how to exploit the communicative potential of online communities without running the risks related to privacy protection, the loading of inappropriate content, copyright infringement and soliciting by dangerous people who lurk under false identification.

'Safety on the Internet' has been an important issue in recent times and this project intends to provide students and teachers of junior and senior high schools with the cognitive tools to ensure safe Internet browsing. "The State Police - said Maurizio Masciopinto, director of external relations of the State Police - has for years been working to ensure that the risks of the Internet, especially those targeting children, should not become an obstacle to the development of web communication.

All schools interested in hosting an information session should send a request to the following address: [polizia.comunicazioni @ interno.it](mailto:polizia.comunicazioni@interno.it), mentioning in the subject the educational project: "Don't loose your bearings!". The school directors will be contacted by the services of the postal police, which will set up a training meeting.

Further information:

- [Official press release of the Italian State Police website](#) (in Italian)
-

DE: Interior minister: 'Open source reduces vendor lock-in and monopolies' - 29 September 2009

Using open source helps to avoid being locked-in by IT vendors and prevents IT services monopolies, says Wolfgang Schäuble, Germany's minister of the Interior.

"Free software has several other benefits, such as increasing the security of IT, because the source code can be verified, and the enhancement of innovation, because anyone can participate in the development of such software", Schäuble writes on Abgeordnetewatch.

This Abgeordnetewatch website allows German citizens to ask questions to the political candidates who participate in the upcoming federal elections on 27 September 2009.

On 21 September 2009, the minister replied to questions by Matthias Kirschner, a representative of the free software advocacy group Free Software Foundation Europe (FSFE).

Schäuble writes he wants public administrations to objectively consider the long-term when purchasing IT, weighing options such as the possibility to adapt the software to future needs or being able to replace it.

"Purchasing proprietary products can give rise to a 'service monopoly' that is becoming dependent on one manufacturer and its product strategy. However, this is the consequence of a procurement process, and such dependence should be considered in advance."

According to Schäuble, the Ministry of the Interior (BMI) is a long-time supporter of open source software. "This support is mainly through practical assistance to public administrations, for instance by regularly updating of the Migration Guide, a list of open source alternatives."

A second example is BMI's support to the Open Source Competence Centre (CC-OSS) and BMI's list of preferred open source solutions.

Lasting value

In a statement, the FSFE welcomed the response of Schäuble and other candidates on the question of free software. "Free Software brings significant benefits for the economy" says Karsten Gerloff, president of FSFE. "On that basis Germany's small and medium enterprises are able to offer high quality services and create lasting value for our country. We are delighted that candidates are aware of this opportunity."

Further information:

- [Official news article - OSOR.EU](#)
- [Answers of the German Minister of the Interior \(in German\)](#)
- [FFSE statement](#)
- [Abgeordnetewatch - ePractice case](#)

ES: eGovernment boost for Catalan universities - 29 September 2009

On 9 September 2009, the Department for Innovation, Universities and Enterprise of the Catalan Government ("Generalitat") signed along with the Open Administration of Catalonia Consortium and the Catalan Association of Public Universities (ACUP) an agreement aimed at promoting eGovernment development in these universities.

Known as 'e-university', the project is one of ACUP's strategic projects in line with the 'White Paper of the Catalan University'. The Department of Innovation, Universities and Enterprise will mobilise €5.2 million for the year 2009.

The project intends to improve the management of the Catalan public universities in all fields thanks to the dissemination of ICT, as well as to bring the university administration closer to the students and to those involved in academic activities. E-university will include actions in many fields, among which those of eProcurement and electronic economical management, eVoting, eSignature, eRegisters, eNotification and eArchiving.

The universities will implement the project in collaboration with the Supercomputing Centre of Catalonia (CESCA) and the Open Administration of Catalonia Consortium.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Catalan Association of Public Universities \(in Catalan\)](#)
 - [Official press release - in Spanish](#)
-

New Factsheets

The 12th Edition of the eGovernment factsheet for Italy as well as the 7th Editions of the eGovernment factsheets for Bulgaria and Croatia are now available online. Furthermore a new release for Malta (11.1) has also been made available. We invite you to visit the [relevant section](#) for regular and/or ad hoc updates related to the factsheets.

ePractice Workshops

- [Applying standards in eInvoicing](#) | 24 November 2009 | Belgium
- [Service Oriented Architecture pushed to the limit in eGovernment](#) | 2 December 2009 | Belgium
- [eProcurement for SMEs](#) | 4 December 2009 | Italy

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Upcoming Events

- [BE: AGE Joint Workshop](#) | 06 October 2009 | Belgium
- [NL: ISSE 2009](#) | 06 - 08 October 2009 | Netherlands
- [SE: Public Procurement of Innovation](#) | 13 October 2009 | Sweden
- [BE: SEMIC.EU Workshop on Technical Reuse](#) | 14 October 2009 | Belgium
- [SE: International Symposium for Health Information Management Research](#) | 14 - 16 October 2009 | Sweden
- [RO: Global Forum 2009](#) | 19 - 20 October 2009 | Romania
- [UK: Biometrics 2009](#) | 20 - 22 October 2009 | United Kingdom
- [BE: European Health Telematics Association \(EHTEL\) Symposium 2009](#) | 21 - 22 October 2009 | Belgium
- [TR: eChallenges e-2009](#) | 21 - 23 October 2009 | Turkey
- [SI: Seminar on eGovernment Solutions for Successful Regional Development](#) | 21 - 23 October 2009 | Slovenia
- [DK: Pan European eProcurement Conference with PEPPOL](#) | 21 - 23 October 2009 | Denmark
- [UK: Government 2010 Conference Live](#) | 22 October 2009 | United Kingdom
- [FR: World eDemocracy Forum 2009](#) | 22 - 23 October 2009 | France
- [BE: 4th International 3D GeoInfo Workshop](#) | 04 - 05 November 2009 | Belgium
- [SE: 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference](#) | 18 - 20 November 2009 | Sweden
- [DE: Online Educa Berlin 2009](#) | 02 - 04 December 2009 | Germany
- [FR: ETSI Security Workshop 2010](#) | 20 - 22 January 2010 | France

BE: AGE Joint Workshop - 06 October 2009

With progressive ageing of the European and worldwide population a new strategic thinking is required in business and beyond. Tackling the needs of an older population means new ways of thinking, social innovation and taking a holistic approach to ageing: at work, at home and in the community.

The aim of this workshop is to identify how ICT Industry and businesses are or will be creating a new ageing vision within their own companies, with their products and services. Technology businesses are invited to send a (max) 2 page written document and to present their ageing vision (at work and/or at home and/or in the community) in ten minutes during the workshop. A reaction from the floor especially from older people is foreseen. The workshop will be an opportunity for stakeholders to meet and to gather ideas, common visions, guidelines or milestones in the coming years as a basis for a post i2010 Ageing strategy.

All contributions will be gathered and a final report will be sent after the workshop. A final agenda with all relevant details will be available in due course.

Those interested in sharing their view are invited to express their interest and send a 2 page written document by 18 September 2009 to: isabel.borges@age-platform.org or ilenia.gheno@age-platform.org.

The event is open and free of charge to all participants.

Event email: isabel.borges@age-platform.org, ilenia.gheno@age-platform.org

Event website: <http://www.age-platform.org/EN/spip.php?article789>

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: AGE - European Older People's Platform - together with the European Commission, Directorate General for Information Society and Media and with the support of Mr Lambert Van Nistelrooij Member of the European Parliament

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

SE: Public Procurement of Innovation - 13 October 2009

A large part of the Gross Domestic Product (GDP) in the member states goes to public procurement, which can be used to drive innovation. The aim of the event is to enlighten Europe on the subject of public procurement of innovation in the life science area in order to increase the competitiveness in EU and thereby the industrial development.

The purpose of the conference is to:

- describe the situation in EU in comparison to the rest of the world;
- explain the legal framework and highlight points for discussion;
- share experiences with stakeholders on identified hurdles, needs and possibilities;
- promote good examples, to illustrate how these can be used to meet the challenges mentioned above and at the same time improve competitiveness.

Participants of the event will learn about the possibilities public procurement of innovation provides together with the most advantageous way to make use of public means. The event aims also to enlighten stakeholders and influence their mindset in a way that will contain public procurement of innovation as an obvious alternative when planning procurement.

More information about the agenda of the conference can be found [here](#).

The number of participants is expected to be around 500. Both the conference and the dinner at the Vasa museum are free of charge. However, [online registration](#) is required.

Event email: Mats.Jarekrans@VINNOVA.se
Event website: <http://www.vinnova.se/In-English/misc/menus-functions/Kalendarium/Calendar/Public-Procurement-of-Innovation/>
Country: Sweden
City/Location: Stockholm
Organiser: The Swedish Governmental Agency for Innovation Systems (VINNOVA)

BE: SEMIC.EU Workshop on Technical Reuse - 14 October 2009

The SEMIC.EU is based on open source technology. One of the main objectives of the event is to develop a better understanding of the requirements of potential reusers (especially EU Member States). It will furthermore investigate the practical implications of a federation of repositories; a goal of the interoperability activities performed under SEMIC.EU.

On 14 October 2009, SEMIC.EU holds an open one-day workshop on opportunities, requirements and experiences in reusing one or more components of its own open source technology.

Reuse of SEMIC.EU's open source technology can comprise:

- the SEMIC.EU platform as it is;
- a localised version of the SEMIC.EU platform;
- individual components (e.g. Asset Assistant, only the repository, etc.);
- SEMIC.EU assets (list of countries, list of languages, list of artefacts).

The agenda of the event can be viewed [here](#).

This workshop is open and free of charge for all interested parties. Registration can be performed [online](#) by filling in the respective form.

Event emails: contact@semic.eu, aldo.laudi@ec.europa.eu

Event website: <http://www.semic.eu/semic/view/snnav/currentInformation/News.xhtml?newsId=03ed6b74-eef6-482e-b875-956dac46acb1&tmpl=News>

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: SEMIC.EU

SE: International Symposium for Health Information Management Research - 14 - 16 October 2009

ISHIMR 2009 will bring together people who are carrying out, or are interested in, research and developments in health information management and health informatics. Moreover, ISHIMR 2009 provides a forum for the presentation and discussion of research activities in health information management and health informatics.

The ISHIMR conference is an opportunity to share experience and understanding of the process of implementation and evaluation in eHealth within the health informatics and health information management community, and therefore, it is of interest to researchers, healthcare professionals, managers and planners, working in this fast-moving field.

A preliminary conference programme can be found [here](#).

The conference is expected to host about 100 attendees. Registration can be performed [online](#) with the payment of a fee.

Event email: ishimr2009@hik.se Event website: <http://dagda.shef.ac.uk/ishimr09/>

Country: Sweden

City/Location: Kalmar

Organiser: eHealth Institute at the University of Kalmar, in collaboration with the Centre for Health Information Management Research (CHIMR) at the University of Sheffield

RO: Global Forum 2009 - 19 - 20 October 2009

The Global Forum: 'Shaping the Future' is an annual & independent international event dedicated to Business and Policy issues affecting the successful evolution of the Information Society. The event is dedicated to the economical, political and social issues in connection to the development and innovation in the communication and information technology sectors.

The Forum is an invitation-only event, reserved for the IT&C and political leaders with the purpose to realize a synergy between the politic, technical and the civil society, affecting the successful evolution of the Information Society.

The forum will run in sessions, the main thematic areas of which are, but not limited to, the following:

- New Broadband and Dynamic Infrastructures for the Internet of the Future
- Smarter Governments: "Empowering Citizens"
- Trustworthy eID Services in a Digital World, Threats and Opportunities
- Innovation & Sustainable e-Health
- Cloud Computing is the Future
- The Future is Green
- Telecom and Internet Regulatory Challenges and Opportunities
- Digital Content & the Media of the Future
- Dedicated to local Government: Economic Growth for Local Governments through ICTs
- Euro-Mediterranean Innovation Network
- Strategies & Policies for Innovative Cities Network
- European Projects & Funding

With this occasion, Global Forum 2009 will host local government special dedicated sessions where the Romanian municipality mayors, the county presidents and the IT department directors of the Romanian city halls and regional councils have been invited.

A draft programme of the event is available [here](#).

The event is expected to host around 300 participants. Registration is open and can be performed with a payment of a fee by filling in the respective registration form attached. All ePractice members and users will be granted with a special registration fee of €700.

Event email: stoporkoff@items-int.eu

Event website: <http://www.globalforum.ro/index-en.html>

Country: Romania

City/Location: Bucharest

Organiser: ITEMS International in collaboration with Ministry of Communications and Information Society-Government of Romania, Sophia-Antipolis Foundation

UK: Biometrics 2009 - 20 - 22 October 2009

The conference will examine new case histories, trial results and industry presentations providing an insight into the use of current biometric technologies in government, travel, corporate and consumer applications.

Thematic sessions that will be addressed in the conference are:

- Selling biometrics to the masses
- Biometrics: a question of sport
- Biometrics in business
- Leading biometric initiatives from around the world
- Biometric enrolment
- Transportation and border security
- Pushing biometrics to the limit
- Enhancing privacy and ethics; maintaining security
- PC, network and mobile security
- Next generation biometrics
- Seminar: Developing your biometric niche
- Debate: Privacy - the big white elephant

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

Along with the conference, an exhibition will take place on 21-22 October 2009 in digital security and identify management solutions for biometric technology suppliers, systems integrators and suppliers of related ID and authentication solutions.

The event is expected to host about 200 delegates. Registration can be performed [online](#) with a payment of a fee. For the exhibition there is a free visitor registration, however [pre-registration](#) is recommended.

Event email: biometrics2009@elsevier.com

Event website: <http://www.biometrics2009.com/index.asp>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: Elsevier Ltd.

BE: European Health Telematics Association (EHTEL) Symposium 2009 - 21 - 22 October 2009

EHTEL provides a platform to all European eHealth stakeholders to exchange information, to identify challenges and find solutions towards realising its goals of promoting eHealth tools to improve the quality of health for patients and citizens, access to services, efficiency of care and cost effectiveness. EHTEL provides a number of communications services to its members, actively advocates on the eHealth issues vis-à-vis public institutions, and works through established task forces to achieve these goals.

The Symposium will convene between 100 and 150 policy makers, users, researchers and vendors. Keynote speakers will review the progress in eHealth over the last ten years and develop healthcare visions for the future. Presentations will highlight individual aspects of eHealth such as reality checks on telemedicine, the state of reimbursement for telehealth services, regulatory matters, and continuity of care supported by telemedicine in hospital and ambulatory care. A panel will gather protagonists of new health and eHealth trends and representatives of various eHealth stakeholder groups to debate latest trends and visions.

More information, including about latest programme updates as well as registration, is available [here](#).

Registration to the event can be performed [online](#) through the payment of a [fee](#). As seats are limited, early registration is recommended.

Event email: conference@ehtel.org

Event website: <http://www.ehtel.org/forum/announcements/10-anniversary-symposium>

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: European Health Telematics Association (EHTEL)

TR: eChallenges e-2009 - 21 - 23 October 2009

The eChallenges e-2009 Conference & Exhibition bring together over 650 delegates from leading commercial, government and research organisations around the world to bridge the Digital Divide, by sharing knowledge, experience, lessons learnt and good practice.

Main thematic areas are, but not limited, to the following:

- ICT for Networked Enterprises
- eGovernment and eDemocracy
- eHealth
- Technology Enhanced Learning
- Intelligent Content, Collaborative Working Environments
- Infrastructures

- High Performance Computing Applications
- Smart and Virtual Organisations
- Mobility & Security and Identity Management
- Geographic IT in Public Service
- eIdentity and eSecurity

eChallenges e-2009 provides an international forum to increase awareness of exploitable ICT research results and applications, whether funded privately or publicly. The conference also provides its participants the opportunity to identify partners and opportunities to cooperate in international research projects co-funded by the European Commission under the ICT Programme of FP7, as well as discussing proposal ideas with European Commission officials representing different units from Information Society and Media Directorate General.

Further information regarding the programme of the conference can be found [here](#). Registration is open and can be performed [online](#) with a payment of a fee.

Event email: secretariat@eChallenges.org

Event website: <http://www.echallenges.org/e2009/default.asp?page=home>

Country: Turkey

City/Location: Istanbul

Organiser: International Information Management Corporation Ltd (IIMC)

SI: Seminar on eGovernment Solutions for Successful Regional Development - 21 - 23 October 2009

This solution driven seminar primarily focuses on eGovernment, encompassing eProcurement, eCustoms and eTaxation dimension and offers an extended overview on interoperability of eGovernment services.

The key objective of the seminar is to deliver an answer on how to put citizens first through implementation of electronic delivery of government services and adoption of modern public administration practices. In delivering the answers and potential solutions, high quality speakers with first hand experiences in developing state-of-the-art eGovernment services will present contemporary solutions and cases in the field of eGovernment. By participating in this three-day seminar, the participants will gain in-depth knowledge on the latest developments of the eGovernment field and learn about available approaches and IT solutions to assist the implementation of eGovernment solutions in their home countries.

The participants will receive the CeGD eGovernance Academy Diploma and the USB flash drive with all the presentations of the seminar, speakers' CVs and executive summaries of the presentations.

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

The event is free of charge; however, registration is mandatory due to limited seating and can be performed by emailing the filled in participation form to info.cegd@cegd.eu by October 5th 2009.

Event email: info.cegd@cegd.eu

Event website:

<http://www.cegd.eu/Lists/Calendar/DispForm.aspx?ID=10&Source=http%3A%2F%2Fwww.cegd.eu%2Fdefault.aspx>

Country: Slovenia

City/Location: Ljubljana

Organiser: Centre for eGovernance Development in South East Europe (CeGD) in co-operation with its partners, Regional Cooperation Council, Government of the Republic of Slovenia, Microsoft, Siemens, SRC and IBM

DK: Pan European eProcurement Conference with PEPPOL - 21 - 23 October 2009

The objective of the [PEPPOL](#) project is to set up a pan-European pilot solution that, conjointly with existing national solutions, facilitates EU-wide interoperable public eProcurement. It envisages that companies and, in particular, SMEs in the EU will be able to communicate electronically with any European government institution for the entire procurement process.

There are three main objectives of the conference:

- Day 1 - PEPPOL executive day: to inform and promote the business opportunities in the PEPPOL Pilot and the PEPPOL Infrastructure to executives and decision makers from:
 - private service providers (eProcurement, banks, etc.);
 - public sector organisations worldwide;
 - suppliers of middleware products who offer products that can help organisations;
 - connect to the PEPPOL Infrastructure.
- Day 2 - PEPPOL architecture day: to engage IT project managers, IT architects and programmers from the above organisations in the technical aspects of the PEPPOL Infrastructure.
- Day 3 - PEPPOL middleware demonstrations and programmers "Hands-on": to allow existing suppliers of middleware to demonstrate their PEPPOL compliant products and to educate programmers in the software libraries provided.

The content offered during the conference addresses different audiences; executives and decision makers are recommended to participate only the first day; IT project managers, IT-architects and programmers are recommended to participate on day 2 and 3.

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

The event is free of charge and registration can be performed [online](#). However, there is a limited number of free places which are reserved for solution and platform providers, public sector entities, PEPPOL consortium members, service providers and related EU initiatives. The organiser has therefore reserved the right to allocate places and to refuse applications once the number of complimentary places has been exceeded.

Event email: conference@peppolinfrastructure.com

Event website: <http://www.peppol.eu/News/events-1/peppol-innovation-conference>

Country: Denmark

City/Location: Copenhagen

Organiser: The Pan European Public Procurement Online (PEPPOL) Project

UK: Government 2010 Conference Live - 22 October 2009

Government 2010 is a live free-to-view online video conference from the heart of London.

It is about improved government communications and more rapid delivery of services to citizens via the web and web-enabled channels; laying special emphasis on citizens doing it for themselves. It will examine how next generation government is set to change in the light of social, media and technology change.

The Government 2010 series of live streamed conferences will bring together thought leaders to debate how government will embrace this generation web technologies to create next generation government.

This event will bring together parliamentarians, civil servants, technologists, bloggers, academics and researchers to discuss and debate on what it should be done in response to the changes facing the Government and the public service.

Viewing the event online will be free of charge. Those wishing to follow the live broadcast have to pre-register [online](#) at the event website.

There will however be a very limited number of spaces available for those interested to attend the live event. Potential participants are invited to contact the organisers via the [online form](#).

Delegate places will be £850.00 each (approx. €997.18) (£977.50 including VAT (approx. €1170.23)) for commercial companies or £595.00 plus VAT (approx. €698.03) (£684.25 including VAT (approx. €802.73)), for government bodies, NGOs or charities. All delegates will have to provide photographic ID upon registration.

The latest agenda of the event can be viewed [here](#).

Event email: jeff@quadco.co.uk

Event website: <http://www.g2010.co.uk>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: Quadriga Consulting / Switch New Media / IBM

FR: World eDemocracy Forum 2009 - 22 - 23 October 2009

The 10th World eDemocracy Forum aims to bring to light those who, on a daily basis, contribute to building a digital society for citizens.

On the first day of the event, emphasis will be laid upon digital identity and, more precisely, on what will change for citizens, and on what IT is changing in 2010 Politics. In addition, an eDemocracy Awards ceremony will be held to honour those who contribute to the change of the society through information and communication technology. The ceremony will be followed by a gala dinner that will bring together the eDemocracy stakeholders.

On the second day, workshops will take place in the multimedia room of the City Hall of Issy hosting finalists and winners of the awards. They will present, in detail, their initiatives and achievements from a TV set powered by a professional journalist and broadcasted on Internet videochat.

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

Registration will be open early September. This event is open and free of charge for public sector members and academics (civil servants, professors & students). Early registration is recommended. Members of the private sector will be required to pay a fee of €250 including gala dinner.

Expected number of participants will reach approx. 400-500 persons.

Event email: eric.legale@ville-issy.fr

Event website: <http://www.edemocracy-forum.com/2009/07/save-the-date.html#more>

Country: France

City/Location: Issy-les-Moulineaux (Paris, France)

Organiser: City Hall of Issy-les-Moulineaux

BE: 4th International 3D Geoinfo Workshop - 04 - 05 November 2009

The workshop aims at bringing together international state-of-the-art research and facilitating the dialogue on emerging topics in the field of 3D geo-information. Participants will exchange ideas on 3D requirements and different techniques in 3D data acquisition, data model, spatial data analysis, geo-visualisation and simulation; the workshop will offer an interdisciplinary forum to researchers in the closely related fields of:

- Data Acquisition and processing: advanced approaches for 3D data collection, processing and methods for real-time data acquisition.
- Data model and management: topological, geometrical and network models for representation and maintenance of 3D geo-information in geographical multi-scales.
- Data analysis and visualization: frameworks for representing 3D spatial relationships, 3D spatial analysis and algorithms for indoor/outdoor navigation, interpolation, etc. Advanced Virtual Reality and Augmented Reality visualisation.

The event is free of charge and open.

Event email: 3dgeoinfo2009@geonet.ugent.be

Event website: <http://www.3dgeoinfo.org/>

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Ghent

Organiser: University of Ghent, Department of Geography

SE: 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference - 18 - 20 November 2009

The 5th Ministerial eGovernment Meeting and Conference will be one of the major events of the Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union.

It will include a Ministerial Meeting of ministers responsible for eGovernment, a Ministerial eGovernment Conference and an exhibition of the [eGovernment Awards](#) finalists.

Member State ministers responsible for eGovernment will meet on the eve of the Conference, on 18 November 2009, to agree on a Ministerial Declaration that will set out the path for eGovernment up until 2015. The Ministerial Declaration will be presented jointly by the Swedish Presidency and the European Commission on the first day of the Conference (19 November 2009).

At the Ministerial Conference (19-20 November 2009), high-level speakers and 1 000 delegates representing Member States, the European Free Trade Association (EFTA) and candidate countries, the European Commission, international and regional organisations such as the United Nations and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD), leaders of the ICT industry and its main organisations, as well as academia and others, will meet in more than 20 sessions to discuss topics of particular interest to the eGovernment actors.

The five prestigious eGovernment Awards will be handed out to the winning cases on the occasion of the Awards ceremony to take place on the first evening of the Ministerial Conference.

Participation in the Conference is **upon invitation only**. It is to be noted however that the ePractice members voting online for the Public Prize of the European eGovernment Awards by 18 October 2009 might win a **free admission** to the event. In total, five free admissions will be awarded randomly to these online voters. More information on the online voting may be viewed at: <http://www.epractice.eu/en/awards/rules>.

Event email: N/A

Event website: <http://www.egov2009.se/>

Country: Sweden

City/Location: Malmö

Organiser: Swedish Presidency of the Council of the European Union along with the European Commission

DE: Online Educa Berlin 2009 - 02 - 04 December 2009

ONLINE EDUCA BERLIN, a global e-learning conference for the corporate, education and public service sectors, is the key annual networking event for the international e-learning and technology-supported learning and training industry, attracting and bringing together experts in the vanguard of technology-enhanced learning from around the world. Participants forge essential cross-industry contacts and partnerships, thereby enhancing their knowledge and expertise.

Participants are high-level decision makers from education, business, and government sectors, the three areas driving e-learning adoption and innovation. The networking opportunities and quality of discussion surpass those of any other industry-related conference. The conference is aimed at anyone involved in technology-supported learning and training and also for those who want to find out more about this ever-evolving field.

More information about the programme of the event can be found [here](#).

Over 2000 delegates from more than 90 countries and every continent attend the conference to discuss the latest developments in the field. There is a registration fee for attending the event; registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: info@online-educa.com

Event website: <http://www.online-educa.com/the-conference>

Country: Germany

City/Location: Berlin

Organiser: ICWE GmbH

FR: ETSI Security Workshop 2010 - 20 - 22 January 2010

The ETSI Security Workshop has become an annual international security standardisation workshop, bringing together international Standards Developing Organisations (SDOs) and security experts to discuss recent developments, share knowledge, identify gaps and co-ordinate on future actions and work areas. The workshop will include overviews of the work being done in the area of security across standards and technical bodies, along with presentations from major organisations involved in security initiatives.

Participants in the workshop will:

- Assess and spotlight ongoing work on ICT security standards
- Localise the gaps and duplication in security standardisation
- Start to define new work areas
- Sharing ideas and proposals on security innovation, prioritisation of efforts and implementation evaluation

Presentations should have a focus on Security Innovation, in particular:

- Next Generation Networks security
- Mobile Telecommunications systems
- ICT trustworthiness and integrity
- Research and Innovation
- RFID and NFC Security issues
- Internet of Things
- Identity Management and your Privacy
- Cryptography
- Smart Cards and future trends
- Quantum Key Distribution
- Machine to Machine communication
- Standards prioritisation and evaluation

Further details on the agenda of the event are available [here](#).

Attendance to the workshop is free and open to anyone interested upon registration which can be performed [online](#).

Event website:

http://www.etsi.org/WebSite/NewsandEvents/2010SECURITYWS/2010_SECURITYWORKSHOP_HOME.aspx

Country: France

City/Location: Sophia Antipolis

Organiser: European Telecommunications Standards Institute (ETSI)

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