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>> Workshop on Telemedicine and Legal Aspects

ePractice encourages members to attend the European Commission workshop on “Telemedicine and Legal Aspects” which will take place in Brussels, Belgium, on March 2, 2010. This event will promote the sharing of good practice in the area of Telemedicine, particularly addressing the legal and logistical dimensions of Telemedicine, including among other issues, the legal liability of practitioners; patient data privacy/protection and the reimbursement of services.

The deadline for abstract submission is **February 18, 2010**.

For more information and free-of-charge registration, please visit the workshop’s page announcement at: <http://www.eppractice.eu/en/workshops/telemedicine>.

Latest Cases

- [EU Imminent - Immigrants into entrepreneurship](#) | 8 February 2010 | Germany | Ireland | Poland | Romania | United Kingdom
- [National Security Framework of Spain](#) | 3 February 2010 | Spain
- [National Procurement Portal](#) | 3 February 2010 | United Kingdom

EU Imminent – Immigrants into entrepreneurship

EU-Imminent is an Interactive Business Start-up Guide for Immigrant Entrepreneurs. It is a European Union Leonardo da Vinci funded initiative, established to design and pilot a web-based information/training resource specifically for immigrant entrepreneurs looking to set up their own Business. It will be developed taking into account the specific needs of Immigrants and Ethnic Minorities in establishing a business.

EU-Imminent is a partnership, offering expertise in both business and immigrant issues. It constitutes an ideal platform for the development of a high quality-training tool for immigrant entrepreneurs. Together we comprise two SME support organisations in the UK and Ireland; a migrant rights network focusing on social and economic inclusion of migrants in the UK; Romania’s national and international association for small business and entrepreneurs; the largest Polish Chamber of Commerce; and a business training and consultancy provider from Northern Ireland. It is anticipated that the resource tool will provide interactive information/training materials for new and existing businesses consolidating current resources into one easily accessible vehicle.

National Security Framework of Spain

The Real Decreto (Royal Decree) 3/2010, of January 8th (Official Gazette, January 29th) regulates the National Security Framework foreseen in the article 42 of the eGovernment Law 11/2007.

This Framework establishes the security policy in the use of electronic means in the scope of the eGovernment Law 11/2007; this security policy will be formed by the basic principles and minimum requirements for an adequate protection of information.

The National Security Framework pursues the creation of the necessary conditions of confidence in the use of electronic means, through measures to ensure the security of systems, data, communications and electronic services that permits the exercise of rights and the fulfilment of duties through the electronic access to public services; to ensure that information systems will provide their services in accordance with their functional specifications and will protect information.

In order to create such conditions, the National Security Scheme introduces the common elements that have to guide the action of the Public Administrations regarding security. Particularly it introduces the following principal elements:

- The basic principles to be taken into account when adopting decisions about security;
 - The minimum requirements for the adequate protection of information;
 - The procedure to fulfill the basic principles and minimum requirements by means of the adoption of proportionate security measures.
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National Procurement Portal

Wales is a devolved government of the United Kingdom, and has a public sector spend of £5 billion per annum, a population of 3M and up to 200,000 businesses of which over 99% are Small to Medium Enterprises.

In 2001 Welsh Ministers commissioned the [Better Value Wales report](#) to look at how savings could be made across the public sector through changes and improvements to public procurement - the objective being savings of £90M that would be directed directly to frontline support services.

The report recommended several key pathfinder projects, one of which was a national procurement website that would serve the dual purposes of consolidating public sector procurement and providing a single definitive portal for businesses who wish to engage in supplying the Welsh public sector, and to get as many sub OJEU opportunities on to it as possible.

The report recommended an innovative approach to making savings through adopting e-Procurement whilst also stimulating economic development of Welsh SMEs through providing consolidated channels and tools to enable them to better engage with, and ultimately supply, the public sector.

The resulting National Procurement Portal (hereafter NPP) is a Welsh Assembly Government portal focused on developing the ability for indigenous Welsh businesses to win more business from the Welsh public sector. The portal consists of two components:

- Sell2Wales (www.sell2wales.co.uk) - a well used and embedded free opportunity notification service that links registered suppliers to opportunities that match their profile, and allows suppliers to review details of procurement organisations and engage in basic RFQ processes.
- Buy4Wales) - (www.buy4wales.co.uk) a sophisticated 'back office' procurement tool that procurers use to create and manage notices, search for suppliers, locate best practice resources and conduct RFQ Request for Quotes.

NPP was borne of a unique partnership between two Welsh Assembly Government Departments - [DE&T](#), who are responsible for the economic development of Wales and Value Wales, a specialist agency focused on achieving savings through making improvements across the public procurement landscape.

Together DE&T and Value Wales pioneered the creation of the NPP in 2003, and from humble beginnings the system has become recognised as a leading example of joined up procurement thinking and is delivering tangible economic development benefits to the supplier community who use it.

Building upon their involvement in the creation of the NPP, Value Wales are now also running a significant pan Wales e-Procurement programme, XchangeWales (www.xchangewales.co.uk) that provides a framework of 'free to use' tools. The tools available are designed to help public sector procurement organisations begin to fully embrace e-Procurement.

The NPP forms the key 'first step' of this programme, and is seen as an 'e-Information' stepping stone to more transactional services such as e-Tendering, e-Procurement etc.

Editor's Choice of the week: [National Interoperability Framework of Spain](#)

Latest News

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- [UK: Wales - One-stop-shop contact centre for healthcare in Cwm Taf](#) | 3 February 2010 | United Kingdom
- [ES: Social network for nephrology patients at Guadix Haemodialysis Centre](#) | 3 February 2010 | Spain
- [UK/INT: United Kingdom 4th in UN's eGovernment development report](#) | 2 February 2010 | United Kingdom | International Organizations

DK: Transition roadmap to single digital signature unveiled - 9 February 2010

The Danish State, regions and municipalities agreed on 12 January 2010 on a roadmap for the transition from the various usernames/password codes to the new digital signature. As from late summer 2011, people should only use the new, secure digital signature '**NemID**' when accessing the public eServices requiring secure identification.

On 1 November 2010, the so-called "eDay 3" will mark the start of a collaboration initiative between the State, the regions and the municipalities, aiming towards an "easy online access to the government".

A specific example of this is the timetable agreed by the Steering Committee for joint-government cooperation (STS*) for the phasing out of the usernames/password codes. It is as follows:

- From 1 March 2011 and onwards, the authorities will no longer issue password codes;
- From 1 August 2011 and onwards, citizens will only be able to access the public eServices if using NemID.

Nationally, millions of Crowns are spent annually on issuing and maintaining the different PIN codes. By agreeing to let the new digital signature be the only key to the digital self-service solutions, we have taken a very important step to simplify the services and to ensure significant savings in the public sector in the future." says the project officer in the Digital Task Force, Jens Krieger Røyen.

The new digital signature is scheduled to be launched on 1 July 2010. In addition to providing a single sign-on solution for accessing eGovernment services, NemID will be usable for online banking and other digital services.

"The roadmap is consistent with the release of NemID from mid-2010. It is expected that, at the end of the year [2010], all Danish Internet bank customers will be using NemID and Denmark will be witnessing the unique deployment of a new, safe and user-friendly digital signature. In line with the roadmap, citizens will need only one key - NemID - to access public and private digital services alike." says Marie Munk, Deputy Director of the National IT and Telecom Agency.

A large number of the self-service solutions covered belong to the municipal level, whose representatives welcomed the roadmap: "The municipalities and Local Government Denmark are working diligently to exploit the opportunities offered by digital communication with citizens. The digital solutions must be as attractive and easy to use as possible, so that they may become the citizens' natural first choice. We have taken an important step towards this" said the centre manager of Local Government Denmark, Jakob Aagaard Harder.

"The SKATs TastSelv solutions were used in 2009 by 3.2 million Danes, and 20 % of those logged on with a digital signature. It is therefore quite natural that we support the roadmap for NemID "says Head of Tax Administration Natascha Dexter.

* The STS is made up of representatives of the municipalities, the regions and a wide range of ministries, the regions and a wide range of ministries.

Further information:

- [Original press release - The Digital Task Force \(in Danish\)](#)
- [NemID - Demo site \(in Danish\)](#)
- [About eDay 3 \(in Danish\)](#)

MK: Internet kiosks with wireless access in rural areas - 8 February 2010

By June 2010 three private operators will install 680 Internet kiosks with wireless Internet access for the citizens of the rural areas across the country.

On 25 January 2010, a contract was signed between the Minister for Information Society, Mr. Ivo Ivanovski and the representatives of the private companies who won the electronic public bidding on the basis of the lowest price offered.

The service the operators will need to provide includes the installation of the Internet kiosks that will be located in rural areas close to schools, through which the wireless system will transmit free Internet signal within a radius of 250 meters. Kiosks are made of stainless steel material resistant to any possible extreme weather phenomena

(from -20 to +60 degrees Celsius) and contain built-in computers with a metallic keyboard and with security features that block access to any undesirable content.

During the press conference, the Minister stated that "with the installation of the 680 Internet kiosks, the citizens of rural areas will take advantage of the benefits of modern technology". He added that he expected the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia to become an example for other European countries in terms of reducing the digital divide and of promoting inclusion.

Mr. Ivanovski said that the cost of the Internet kiosks and the free Internet to citizens will reach the amount of about €2.5 million. Initially the economic offer for this service was €4.72 million, but thanks to the electronic public bid, the offer reached very low prices with a decrease of 10 % to 36 %, depending on the region the operators applied for.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Ministry of Information Society of the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia \(in Macedonian\)](#)
-

IT: Launch of a new waste traceability control system - 8 February 2010

The [Italian Ministry of Environment and Land and Sea Protection](#) launched a new system to monitor the transportation and management of special waste.

The [SISTRI](#) waste traceability control system allows, following the entire life-cycle of special waste from production to disposal, via an electronic system managed by the police environmental department and connected with the national registry of environmental authorities, the provision through the Ministry of Environment of data on waste transportation. At the same time [ISPRA](#), the Superior Institute for Environmental Protection and Research, provides data on waste production and management.

To allow transparency in the waste transportation phase, the system has been connected with the national rail and cost guard information systems and monitored by a designated committee.

In problematic realities, such as the Campania region, all entities dealing with waste management have the obligation to become registered members of SISTRI which interoperates with [SITRA](#), a system monitoring the urban waste traceability. This pilot project will be extended, during a second phase, to other regions of Italy with the goal to cover all typologies of waste within the national territory.

SISTRI has been launched in the context of a national strategy aiming at increasing the public administration's efficiency by speeding-up the procedures and reducing at the same time costs and burdens.

Further information:

- [Original news item – Official Website of the Italian Ministry of Environment and Land and Sea Protection \(in Italian\)](#)
 - [ISPRA website](#) (in Italian)
 - [SISTRI](#) (in Italian)
 - [SITRA](#) (in Italian)
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UK: Online Basics courses for adults in England - 8 February 2010

On 11 January 2010 the UK Business Secretary, Lord Mandelson announced the launch of a pilot IT programme whose objective is to provide adults with online free-of-charge IT courses.

The development of '[Online basics](#)' by the Department for Business, Innovation and Skills, [UK online centres](#) and government agency [Becta](#) shapes part of the Government's response to the [Baroness Estelle Morris's Review of ICT User Skills](#) (June 2009). The report recommended support for the 11.6 million adults in England of all ages and all levels of education who do not have basic IT skills to help them become familiar with technology. This complements the Government's national level of '[Home Access](#)' for children in years 3 to 9 (aged around seven to thirteen) also announced on the same day by the Department of Children, Schools and Families.

Online basics will provide beginners with the skills needed in order to get going online. People can do the short, free courses at their own place, either at home if they have a computer and an Internet connection or at a local UK online centre by logging on at the [Online basics website](#).

Online basics include five key modules covering the basics - using a mouse and keyboard, surfing at the Internet and keeping safe online. There is also guidance for people supporting those using the course: from tutors in learning centres to family members helping someone at home. Over the next three months, Online basics will be piloted in the UK online centres of Barnsley, Oldham, Gloucester, Devon and London. Becta will evaluate the courses, expected to be rolled out across England in September 2010.

The Business Secretary, Lord Mandelson stated: "Everyone should be a confident user of the Internet if they are to participate fully in today's digital society. Being online brings a range of personal benefits, including financial savings, educational attainment, improved salary prospects and independent living for older people. Online basics will mean more people accessing vital IT skills, enhancing their working lives and making digital literacy as important a skill as basic literacy and numeracy. We are also investing £30m (approx. €35m) extra in UK online centres to support digital participation, with the aim of getting more than one million people online in the next three years."

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Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Department for Business, Innovation and Skills](#)
- [Online basics Website](#)
- [Baroness Estelle Morris's Review of ICT User Skills](#)
- [Becta](#)
- [UK Online Centres](#)
- [Home Access](#)
- [Department of Children, Schools and Families](#)

IT: Creation of new software to calculate electricity consumption in households - 8 February 2010

The [Municipality of Bologna](#) and [ENEA](#) - Italian National Agency for New Technologies, Energy and Sustainable Economic Development, have recently developed a software able to calculate electricity consumption in households.

The new software, named KiloWättene, - in Italian: "kilowatt vattene!" i.e. "kilowatt go away! "- is the evolution of a calculation sheet released in 2005 by the municipality of Bologna in the context of "[TREAM](#)", a European project belonging to the [SAVE programme](#) investigating the electricity consumptions in household environments.

KiloWättene calculates the electricity consumption by elaborating data on the devices used in the house and disposes of several other features: it highlights the major sources of electricity consumption and those through which it is possible to save energy; it suggests ways to reduce CO2 production and it is able to draft a costs estimation in euro and to compare it with the actual electricity bill.

The software has been developed in the context of a national policy aiming at increasing citizens' awareness on electricity consumption and at reducing CO2 emissions; in the near future, KiloWattene will be available for download free of charge on the ENEA and the Municipality of Bologna websites.

Further information:

- [Original news item – ENEA website](#) (in Italian)
 - [Municipality of Bologna website](#) (in Italian)
 - [TREAM project website](#)
 - [SAVE programme](#)
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IT: Launch of a new meteorological and environmental awareness portal - 8 February 2010

A new portal providing information on meteorological and environmental data has been recently launched in Perugia.

The new portal, perugiameteo.it, accessible via a link from the [Municipality of Perugia web site](#), is the result of the collaboration between the Perugia local environment authority and the [Social Promotion Association perugia meteo](#). It provides real time information on the meteorological condition of the city of Perugia thanks to its connection to 3 meteorological stations constantly updating the portal.

The site offers a variety of other services, such as a meteorological journal with daily, weekly and seasonal commented data, a history of the Perugia weather in the last 35 years, an interactive map with satellite images and a section dedicated to the weather conditions in the rest of Italy. In the near future, important notices on snow falls and other extraordinary weather conditions will be also published on the portal.

The project has been recently presented by the Environment Assessor Loredana Pesaresi and by Aviation Colonel Mario Giuliacci, Honorary President of the perugia meteo association. In this occasion, Colonel Giuliacci pointed out that information on the weather provide significant indicators on the level of pollutants in the atmosphere as well as an overview of the general environmental situation, thus increasing not only the authorities' but also the citizens' environmental awareness. At the same time, these data allow environmental authorities to foresee and promptly react to snow falls or other major extreme meteorological events.

Further information:

- [Original news item – Municipality of Perugia website](#) (in Italian)
 - [Social Promotion Association perugia meteo](#) (in Italian)
 - perugiameteo.it (in Italian)
-

EU: The TRANSFoRm project enhances research and patient safety in Europe - 5 February 2010

The [TRANSFoRm project](#) consortium of 15 European Universities and two private partners signed a contract on 8 January 2010 with the European Commission to develop methods, standards and systems for the integration of healthcare computer systems for clinical care and research.

The project has two aims:

- To help General Practitioners make a better diagnosis by integrating decision support directly into their electronic records systems and;

- To accelerate the recruitment, management and follow up of patients for research studies by enabling routine electronic health record systems to link to research databases.

There are considerable challenges to be overcome in the legal and ethical domains in relation to the access to the data, the legal frameworks for research, the models for interoperability between systems and the development of standards and sustainable models for deploying and using the work of the project.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - European Commission - Europe's Information Society Thematic Portal](#)
- [TRANSFoRm project](#)

SE: eHealth Innovation Center to promote research and economic development - 5 February 2010

The recently established eHealth Innovation Center (EIC) aims to encourage the emergence and growth of innovation in the ehealth sector and to become a common platform for related activities which are essential for regional business development.

Founded by the [Norrbotten County Council](#) (the northernmost part of Sweden), the [Luleå University of Technology](#) (LUT) and the municipalities of Luleå, Boden, and Piteå, the EIC is a link among the scientific community, the society and the economic players of the area. "The centre will be an important asset for research and business development in the health services sector in the county council and the municipalities" said the director of the Norrbotten County Council, Mrs. Elisabeth Holmgren.

The idea behind this initiative is to create an internationally leading research environment for research on home-based healthcare at the LUT; it will thus benefit the patients, the healthcare providers and the businesses in the region, by coordinating applied research in the ehealth field (preventive and patient-focused healthcare) and thus enhance the development of the economy.

The EIC will give the health care providers the opportunity to improve their ability to deliver good care to patients and make it possible for businesses to develop systems and services in the field of ehealth. Furthermore, it creates an attractive environment for researchers as well as for highly specialised personnel in the health care sector.

Mr. Johan Sterte, the Vice-Chancellor of the LUT added: "I am glad we managed to develop cooperation in the region, where our research will be of a real benefit to society, patients, healthcare providers and businesses."

Further information:

- [Original News Article - Luleå University of Technology](#) (in Swedish)
- [Additional Information on the eHealth Innovation Center \(EIC\)](#)
- [Norrbotten County Council](#) (in Swedish)

CZ: A strategy to expand the coverage of broadband - 5 February 2010

The Czech Ministry of Industry and Trade (MIT) has recently announced the Government's future strategy for the development of electronic communications is the next decade.

Entitled 'Digital Czech Republic', this document will lay down the steps for facilitating access to broadband Internet throughout the country. It will furthermore address the topics of digital television broadcasting and spectrum management, and take into account the implementation of the EU telecoms rules into Czech law.

Jan Duben, the head of the Section 'Electronic communications and postal services' of the MIT, presented the main aims of the strategy at the 'Digital Milestones conference' in Prague on 19 January 2010.

"The strategy will expand the coverage of broadband Internet in the Czech Republic. It should also give impetus to the use of services such as eGovernment, eLearning and eHealth services and support the development of digital interactive TV. We want to build it based on the real situation, therefore we are engaging the professionals and the regions in the preparation of the strategy" Duben said.

One of the specific aims of the strategy is to address the issue of the digital divide by proposing a procedure through which the Government could effectively prevent the phenomenon, after having first identified its extent in the country.

Specific proposals will aim to simplify the conditions for investing in the electronic communication infrastructure. The MIT created in this light a special portal where communication companies can coordinate their work on the new or the refurbished networks.

On 11 January 2010, the Government decided to make the Ministry of Industry and Trade the responsible body for the national policy on broadband Internet access, in place of the Interior Ministry.

Further information:

- [Official press release - Ministry of Industry and Trade \(in Czech\)](#)

EU: Two thousand open source applications for the public sector - 4 February 2010

Since 3 February 2010, the European Union's Open Source Observatory and Repository ([OSOR.eu](#)) has been providing the public administrations with an access to more than two thousand free and open source applications.

The OSOR is a platform where public administrations can exchange information and experiences and collaborate in developing free and open source software. The platform has managed to bring together more than 2 000 of such open source software applications in just sixteen months after its launch.

The most recent projects added to the OSOR repository include 'Zorb', an extension to the open source network monitoring tool 'Nagios', 'Comerzzia' - meant to aid public administrations in providing services to SMEs - and 'Genericoder', an open source converter for XML files.

Francisco García Morán, Director General of Informatics at the European Commission, welcomed the milestone of 2 000 projects. "I officially opened the site in October 2008 at the Open Source World Conference in Malaga. When asked by the press about how I would evaluate whether OSOR was success or not, I said that I would consider it a success based on the number projects uploaded and shared by public administrations, by the contributions of those administration to foster the sharing and reuse of development carried out with public money and by the sense of community and participation which is at the heart of the open source movement."

"The federation of the 2 000th open source project is an important milestone for OSOR and a proof of its value. Furthermore I am very happy to see the use of open source progressing in public administrations. This OSOR success with its special European touch comes at the very moment the Treaty of Lisbon starts and when Europe is searching new projects for the future with important initiatives like EU2020 and more particularly the Digital Agenda. OSOR has opened new ways of collaboration among public administrations and is an important landmark for the future"

Federation

Not all of these two thousand applications are hosted on the OSOR. The site provides links to the applications on ten similar software development sites from national and regional public administrations around Europe.

The two biggest of these software development websites are 'Forja de Rediris' in Spain, offering access to 560 free software projects and 'Adullact', in France, which offers access to more than 455 free software development projects for local authorities, government and hospitals.

The OSOR Forge also introduces the eight open source applications developed and maintained by the Austrian Centre for E-government Innovation, and offers links to the nineteen projects hosted at the Italian development website 'ASC' ("Ambiente di Sviluppo Cooperativo"), part of Cnipa, Italy's national centre for ICT in the public centre.

The three most popular projects that are hosted on OSOR itself are 'Sextante', geospatial analysis software, 'Wollmux', which add office template functionality to OpenOffice and 'GvSig', software to manage, analyse and use geographic information.

Translation

Introductions and other basic information on projects on these sites is automatically translated into English by the OSOR. This information is in turn shared with all other public sector software development sites, which can use the OSOR search engine to provide their local visitors access to this database. 'Frikomport', the Norwegian government's open source resource centre, was last year the first to implement this web service.

Future plans

The OSOR will maintain its focus on the needs of European public administrations, however it also realises that Europe is not alone in producing good quality open source solutions for the public sector. European public administrators can benefit from the further extension of the OSOR's network of partners to include similar initiatives outside of the EU.

Concerning the software repository, OSOR will keep providing and enhancing its services to facilitate the collaborative development and sharing of open source applications.

Further information:

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU](#)
- [OSOR Forge](#)
- [List of federated open source development sites](#)

AT: Launch of the first Austrian Health Portal - 4 February 2010

The first Austrian [Health Portal](#) was launched at the beginning of 2010 to provide its users with quality-assured and independent information on matters relating to all major health issues.

Commissioned by the [Federal Ministry of Health](#), supervised content-wise by the [Health Austria GmbH](#) and technically supported by the [Federal Computing Centre](#), the portal aims to help people seek online advice on health matters. In the light of this initiative, the Federal Minister of Health, Mr. Alois Stöger stated: "I consider this health portal as an important contribution towards strengthening patients' voice. Only those informed can participate in the decisions that affect their own health."

'Health matters' is the most frequently requested topic on the World Wide Web. 70 % of the Austrians use the Internet regularly, with more than 46 % - according to the Austrian Statistics - seeking for specific information about health issues. However, sometimes the information provided online not only cannot help the users find an answer to

their issues, but often leaves them with yet more uncertainty than before the search, questioning the quality of the information found. This is where the health portal comes to offer its assistance. According to the Minister "the users can be ensured that the information provided by the portal has been previously examined from independent experts that are free from corporate and advertising interests."

The portal is developed in close cooperation with key partners, such as the Austrian Social Security, the Austrian [Agency for Health and Food Safety](#) (AGES), the [General Medical Council](#), pharmacists, patients and representatives of self-help Law Societies. Systematic research and a multi-step review procedure can guarantee a high level of quality and safety.

The new portal gathers all relevant information about prevention, diagnosis and treatment alternatives. Moreover, information on whether the social insurance covers the costs of performance, or whether they are health insurance deductibles and which applications or authorisations required is also provided. A laboratory helps patients -along with the help of their personal examinations - better understand how high the risk of developing diabetes is. The portal also provides interesting findings about the testing and safety of drugs, as well as information on patients' rights and links to all major institutions of the Austrian health system. During the design process of the portal, special attention was given to usability, accessibility and intelligibility.

The portal should not be considered however as an online health counsellor, nor should it replace the visit to a doctor. It will rather help the people seeking quick, safe quality and independent information and advice on health issues. The Health Portal is a 'work-in-progress', constantly expanding its range of information. The next focus will be dedicated on 'Healthy Life' paying particular attention to exercise, nutrition, smoking and alcohol.

In the final phase of the development of the healthcare portal, all Austrians will be given access to their personal Electronic Health Records (EHR).

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Federal Ministry of Health](#) (in German)
- [Austrian Health Portal](#) (in German)
- [Federal Ministry of Health](#) (in German)
- [Agency for Health and Food Safety](#) (in German)
- [General Medical Council](#) (in German)

INT: Signed memorandum on Standards for Environmental Modeling - 4 February 2010

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) to establish cooperation on Standards for Environmental Modelling has been signed.

The MOU focuses on the importance of interoperable Web based geospatial technologies in environmental modeling and software tools and establishes the collaboration between [the Open Geospatial Consortium, Inc. \(OGC\)](#), an international consortium of private, public and academic authorities developing publicly available geospatial standards, and the [International Environmental Modeling & Software Society \(iEMSs\)](#), a not-for-profit organization dealing with environmental modeling, software and related topics.

On this occasion, Phillip C. Dibner, Chair of the OGC Earth System Science Domain Working Group said: "The time has come for environmental models to interconnect flexibly with one another and with services and data from other disciplines. Typically, this is difficult and cumbersome, but it becomes much more feasible when models implement open interface and encoding standards..."

On the other hand, Alexey Voinov, President of iEMSs commented: "Models are more than data and more than software. To connect various models in a meaningful and efficient way is a challenge since we need to connect paradigms, scales, algorithms, etc. Yet it is essential since there is growing interest in integrated modeling as a way

to study complex systems. OGC has had much success in developing interfaces and encoding standards for data. We hope that together we can learn how to better connect models."

Further information:

- [Original news item – Open Geospatial Consortium website](#)
 - [OGC Website](#)
 - [iEMSs Website](#)
-

IT: Public administration's portal builder adds business intelligence - 3 February 2010

The Java Agile Portal System (jAPS 2.0), open source software designed to help Italy's public administration's build specialised websites, is about to get boosted with open source business intelligence (BI) options.

The web based jAPS platform will offer integration with applications that help data mining, analysis and reporting.

The integration was announced by the companies involved in both projects on 21 January [2010]: "The joint solution makes it simple to integrate BI information with other relevant content and deliver it through a customisable portal environment with full web accessibility."

The jAPS 2.0 web-based software can be used to build collaborative and service-based Internet and Intranet portals. The application published using the GNU General Public License, is one of the projects at the OSOR Forge, the open source software development website of OSOR.eu.

jAPS was developed to meet specific needs of the public administration such as interoperability, cooperation, multi-access, security and privacy, accessibility, on-line services for Internet and intranet portals on web and on mobile devices.

Further information:

- [Original news article - OSOR.EU](#)
 - [Java Agile Portal System project - OSOR.EU Forge](#)
-

HU: Open standards made mandatory for public administrations - 3 February 2010

Open standards have been made mandatory for the IT systems of Hungary's public administrations. The Hungarian parliament voted in favour of amendments prescribing open standards, to a law on electronic government services, on 14 December [2009]. The changes received 197 votes in favour, one against and 146 abstentions, according to the Open Standard Alliance, a Hungarian advocacy group that lobbied for the amendments.

The changes to the law intend to make the public eServices accessible to all, by prescribing the use of IT standards that are publicly accessible and without any restrictions such as royalties.

"This is just the first step, a lot remains to be done", commented the Open Standards Alliance on its website. "But we dare rejoice."

Explaining the amendments, the Alliance compares open standards to wall sockets for the electricity grid. "Any device using a standard plug can be connected to the electric power supply by means of a wall socket. Connecting a television set or a refrigerator to the mains does not require the expertise of an electrician. And if the refrigerator is unplugged and a television plugged in instead, the television will work, too. Similarly, the two types of portal set out by Hungarian legislation, the administrative portal and the client portal serving individual users, will function as statutory standard sockets in intercommunication between computers."

These standards governing connection to the sockets are public, the Alliance add. "Anybody can set up an information socket: the specifications of the portals of the central system are public, anybody can access them free of charge."

"We are all quite excited about this law", said László Kürti, CEO of an Hungarian open source IT service provider. He expects that the law will help his and similar open source specialists. "Unfortunately, it does not mention any dates by which public administrations need to start using open standards, nor are there any sanctions for those that don't, but it is a good start."

Further information:

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

GR: Results of the 'Governance in the Age of Web 2.0' study - 3 February 2010

The '[Governance in the Age of Web 2.0](#)' study, conducted by the [Observatory of the Greek Information Society](#) in December 2009, demonstrated the Greeks' positive feedback towards the use of eGovernment services.

According to the study, the Greek Internet users recognise the significant benefits that derive from the use of eGovernment services. More precisely, they seem to appreciate: the fact that there are no restrictions in the operating hours of the electronic services (83.6 %), the time and cost-efficiency of the eServices' use (82.1 %), the decrease of face-to-face transactions (70.9 %), the fast response to citizens' requests (61.2 %), the cost savings for the public administration *per se* (56.6 %), the reduction of paper use (55.6 %) and the greater transparency in government services (45.9 %).

However, in practice the penetration of electronic public services in the citizens' lives remains fairly limited, although half of the population (51%) uses a computer while a similar proportion of Greeks (44 %) has Internet access (regardless if they have a personal connection or not) and 34 % are regular users. The '[Measurement of eEurope/i2010 indicators for Greece - 2008 Findings](#)' survey of the Observatory for the Greek Information Society shows that only 6 % of Greeks have performed completed electronic transactions with the public sector, whereas about 19 % have searched for information at the websites of public bodies. This contrast illustrates the fact that eGovernment services have not been fully integrated in the every day life of the Greek citizens. This is a case observed not only in Greece but also in many other European countries.

The main reason for the limited impact of eGovernment can be identified in the piecemeal projects taken over by the public sector, in the lack of interoperability between systems and applications involved and in the complex institutional framework, the administrative barriers, etc. However, in recent years greater attention has been paid to factors related to the 'satisfaction of citizens' as to the services provided. The focus has shifted from operation to functionality; it is thus placed on finding the way to make services more user-friendly in order to meet citizens' real needs.

The 'Governance in the Age of Web 2.0' study also raises the need for innovation in eGovernment, aiming for greater openness, transparency and services tailored to the users' needs. The term 'eGovernment 2.0' or '2.0 Governance' is to mark a new era of intelligent electronic public services for citizens and businesses, which should be developed by 2015, according to the [Ministerial Declaration on eGovernment](#) approved unanimously at the 5th Ministerial eGovernment Conference in Malmö, Sweden.

The new era of governance is based on 'Web 2.0' technologies, a new wave of web applications that provide users with advanced capabilities for electronic communication and collaboration. The 'Web 2.0' technologies replace the word 'informed' with terms like 'share', 'express', 'affect', 'networked', allowing citizens to actively participate in the decision-making process and control the work of government in terms of transparency, good governance, etc.

The main challenge of 'eGovernment 2.0' is to transform government into a flexible, efficient and user needs tailored mechanism, in order to replace the citizens' physical presence at the public agencies with transactions which are entirely completed online (only 3 out of 10 users said that they use the Internet instead of visiting public bodies).

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Observatory for the Greek Information Society](#) (in Greek)
- [Additional Information - National Documentation Centre](#) (in Greek)
- [Governance in the Age of Web 2.0 Survey](#) (in Greek)
- [Measurement of eEurope/i2010 indicators for Greece - 2008 Findings](#)
- [ePractice Library Item - EU: Malmö Ministerial Declaration 2009](#)

UK: Wales - One-stop-shop contact centre for healthcare in Cwm Taf - 3 February 2010

The Welsh Minister for Health and Social Services, Mrs. Edwina Hart, announced a funding scheme for the creation of a one-stop-shop contact centre that will enable people access health and social services in the Cwm Taf Health Board area.

The £310 000 (approx. €354 000) grant of the Welsh Assembly Government to the Rhondda Cynon Taf Council will be used to develop and improve the existing communications centre at Ty Elai in Tonypany. The new 'Communications Hub' will be the largest in Wales and will manage the call-handling and coordination of several health services in one location, including General Practitioners out-of-hours, non-emergency ambulance bookings, district nursing services, as well as day-to-day local authority services.

An Information Technology system will connect systems that do not traditionally work with each other. With safeguards in place, important patient information will be able to be accessed quickly and securely, allowing clinical staff to make informed decisions about the care needed for patients in an emergency or urgent situation.

The expanded centre, due to be completed by mid 2011, will allow patients to call one number to access a range of health services, helping to ensure they speak to the right person, at the right time and receive the right treatment. There may also be the opportunity in the future to include the voluntary sector and other partners, providing a comprehensive range of services through one contact point. When the development is completed, it is expected that it will receive an average of 700 000 calls per year.

In this regard, Mrs. Hart said: "The Welsh Assembly Government is encouraging public services in Wales to find new ways to work together to improve services offered. This funding will help expand the current communications centre to become a one-stop-shop for the public, patients, carers and healthcare professionals in the Cwm Taf Health Board area. This will help to signpost the best route of care for patients, allow for early intervention and help minimise unnecessary admissions into hospitals. Patients currently access NHS services through a handful of different phone numbers. The new centre will allow patients in the area who are unsure of where to go for advice to call one number to access a range of services. Traditional routes of help such as 999 and NHS Direct Wales will still be available, but for those who require help that is not an emergency, the call centre will direct patients to the most appropriate care, ultimately reducing pressure on services and improving patient care."

The Chair of Cwm Taf Health Board, Dr. Chris Jones, stated: "This development builds on a long history of excellent partnership working between the NHS and local authorities in Cwm Taf and is central to the delivery of new integrated services. We do not underestimate how difficult it is for people to navigate complex services and the extended Communications Hub aims to simplify this process so local people can easily access a wide range of services that they need to support them in their communities. We are delighted that the Minister is providing this

funding to support the development of the Communications Hub which is part of our efforts to improve primary and community services in the Cwm Taf area."

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Background information:

NHS Wales includes a number of statutory organisations which are accountable to the National Assembly for Wales and the Minister for Health and Social Services; Cwm Taf NHS Trust is one of the statutory organisations. It was created on 1 April 2008 through the integration of two previously autonomous Trusts, North Glamorgan and Pontypridd and Rhondda Trusts.

Further information:

- [Original Press Release - Welsh Assembly Government Website](#)
-

ES: Social network for nephrology patients at Guadix Haemodialysis Centre - 3 **February 2010**

A social networking platform designed for nephrology patients and their families as well as the carers, social workers and patients associations has been established in the Haemodialysis Centre of Guadix, in the province of Granada (region of Andalusia, southern Spain).

Since its launch at the end of 2009, over 20 persons have been sharing over the platform relevant information and experience on the patients with kidney pathology, e.g. for exchanging knowledge on the most adequate diet and physical activities for the patients.

The Haemodialysis Centre of Guadix was installed 12 years ago in a rural county. The concerned nephrology patients are located in various institutions, namely: the University Hospital 'Virgen de las Nieves' (Granada), the health centres of the rural county 'Marquesado de Guadix' and the 'High Resolution Hospital' (HARE) of Guadix.

In the light of such geographical dispersion, the social network makes it easier for the nurses to provide continuous assistance to the patients. At the same time, it enables a better communication between carers while constituting a shared educational resource of quality.

Further information:

- [Original news article - Saludinnova \(in Spanish\)](#)
-

UK/INT: United Kingdom 4th in UN's eGovernment development report - 2 **February 2010**

The United Nations has released the initial results of a survey, revealing the UK has jumped several places up the table of eGovernment development.

The UK has jumped several places in the United Nations' 2010 e-Government Development Index, from the tenth place in 2008 (the last time the index was created) to the fourth in 2010. The latest table shows that the United Kingdom is ahead of all other European countries, and behind South Korea, the United States, and Canada, respectively.

The full results of the survey are due to be published very soon as part of the UN's upcoming report, '2010 United Nations e-Government Survey: Leveraging e-government at a time of financial and economic crisis' which assesses the ability of eGovernment during the ongoing global economic environment.

"The public trust that is gained through transparency can be further enhanced through the free sharing of government data based on open standards," states a UN overview of the report. "The ability of e-government to handle speed and complexity can also underpin regulatory reform."

It continues: "While technology is no substitute for good policy, it may give citizens the power to question the actions of regulators and bring systemic issues to the fore. Similarly, e-government can add agility to public service delivery to help governments respond to an expanded set of demands even as revenues fall short."

The preliminary overview of the report also points out that in the two years since the previous report, governments around the world had made "great strides in development of online services, especially in middle-income countries," though it acknowledged: "The costs associated with telecommunication infrastructure and human capital continue to impede e-government development."

Background information

The '2010 United Nations e-Government Survey: Leveraging e-government at a time of financial and economic crisis' was completed in December 2009. It will be published soon in the [UN e-Government Development Knowledge Base](#).

Further information:

- [Original news article - Public Technology.net](#)
- [Information on the UN e-Government Survey 2010](#)
- [UN e-Government Survey 2008 - ePractice library](#)

Latest Publications

- [UK: Collaborative Procurement - Why It Matters](#) | 28 January 2010 | United Kingdom
- [EU: eHealth Monthly Focus on SmartHEALTH](#) | 14 January 2010 | EU Institutions
- [EU: PEPPOL Project deliverable - BUSDOX specifications v1.0](#) | 22 December 2009 | EU Institutions
- [EU: The Markets for the Adaptation of Self-Service Terminals to be Accessible by People with Disabilities](#) | 9 December 2009 | EU Institutions
- [EU: Developing Indicators and Impact Assessment Methodologies on ICT for Ageing Well](#) | 19 October 2009 | EU Institutions
- [EU: Reconstructing the Whole: Present and Future of Personal Health Systems - Draft final version](#) | 30 August 2009 | EU Institutions
- [EU/UK: PIKE Good Practice Transfer document - Wireless City Project](#) | 29 January 2009 | Czech Republic | Ireland | Italy | Spain | United Kingdom | EU Institutions
- [EU/ES: PIKE Good Practice Transfer document - Integrated Aid System](#) | 29 January 2009 | Czech Republic | Ireland | Italy | Spain | United Kingdom | EU Institutions

UK: Collaborative Procurement - Why It Matters - 28 January 2010

Description (short summary):

"The public sector has the potential to become an extremely powerful purchaser, with over £175 billion [approx. €200 billion] spent on external goods and services in 2007-08."

The Operational Efficiency Programme identified savings of £6.1 billion [approx. €7 billion] that can be achieved by 2013-14 through collaborative procurement.

- How can Government bodies work together to make these savings?
- Should organisations only collaborate with others in their 'family' or sector or should they seek to collaborate with the wider Public Sector?
- What are the key things that make proper collaboration happen?

This piece talks about what Government needs to do next if it is to collaborate successfully. Procurement has to demonstrate that it is able to influence 100 % of its organisation's spend. If it can't then there is little chance of procurement being seen as relevant in the future or of it being able to drive value from over £200 billion [approx. €228 billion] worth of third party spend.

Number of pages: 4

EU: eHealth Monthly Focus on SmartHEALTH - 14 January 2010

Description (short summary): The project will enable enhanced medical diagnosis, leading to earlier and more precise results contributing to an increased quality of life as well as increasing the competitiveness of the European in vitro diagnostics (IVD) sector.

Clinical areas for SmartHEALTH application are in Cancer Diagnostics - breast cancer recurrence monitoring, cervical cancer case-finding, and colorectal cancer diagnostics, prognostics and theranostics. Each application includes clinical instrument evaluation and commercial exploitation partners. It has made significant progress towards developing both desktop and portable instruments with integrated ICT capabilities related to secure data transfer and device interoperability.

Number of pages: 2

EU: PEPPOL Project deliverable - BUSDOX specifications v1.0 - 22 December 2009

Description (short summary):

This deliverable consists of the version 1.0 of the Business Document Exchange Network (BUSDOX) specifications (aka the PEPPOL specifications), a set of documents that were released after a public review period.

They include:

- **CommonDefinitions:** This document contains the definitions and terms that are common between the Business Document Exchange Network (BUSDOX) service metadata and transport specifications.
- **Service Metadata Publishing:** This document describes the REST (Representational State Transfer) interface for Service Metadata Publication within BUSDOX.
- **Service Metadata Locator Profile:** This document defines the profiles for the discovery and management interfaces for the BUSDOX Service Metadata Locator service.
- **Secure Trusted Asynchronous Reliable Transport (START):** This document describes the SOAP-based profile that is used by BUSDOX Access Points to communicate and the SAML 2.0 assertions that are used in that communication.

- **Lightweight Message Exchange Profile (LIME):** The Lightweight Message Exchange Profile (LIME) provides a simple low-cost approach for Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs) to access Business Document Exchange Network (BUSDOX) infrastructure.
- **PEPPOL Identifier Schemes** - This document defines a set of identifier schemes that will be used in the context of the PEPPOL infrastructure.

Number of pages: 142

EU: The Markets for the Adaptation of Self-Service Terminals to be Accessible by People with Disabilities - 9 December 2009

Description (short summary):

This study aims to:

- Provide an overview of the markets for the adaptation of self-service terminals to the disabled;
- Provide an overview of the accessibility portals for assistive technologies;
- Capture evidence on the market opportunity in e-accessibility of self-service terminals as well as assistive technology and accessibility portal;
- Serve as an information dissemination tool.

Number of pages: 28

EU: Developing Indicators and Impact Assessment Methodologies on ICT for Ageing Well - 19 October 2009

Description (short summary): There have been numerous experiments and smaller scale pilot projects developing and testing independent living, telecare and telehealth solutions. A challenge is however still to strengthen measurement of the anticipated improved quality of life for the users and socio-economic benefits for the care systems in a scientifically acceptable way. Solid evidence on common indicators and statistically significant impact measurement methodologies are essential to convince policy makers and industry to invest further in wide deployment and uptake of solutions.

The scale and frequency of trials is now increasing due to the large interest in the ageing well domain. There is thus a strong need to align even more the individual projects' approaches, to set up mechanisms for best practice exchange on indicators and methodologies employed in order to advance comprehensiveness and ensure comparability of evidence collected to be used for meaningful policy and investment decisions.

The purpose of the explanatory workshop has been therefore to bring together relevant representatives of ongoing or planned major trials in this field, who shared knowledge and contributed with practical experience with a view to defining good practice and recommendations for the future. A major contribution came from participants in the pilot projects for ageing well launched under the European Commission's Competitiveness and Innovation Framework Programme (CIP) ICT Policy Support Programme.

In terms of outcomes, an initial set of possible common indicators stemming from the ongoing projects and pilots work was analysed; ground-rules for constructing statistically significant impact measurement methodologies in this field were discussed and initial recommendations and guidelines for comparable future impact measurements arose from an interactive brainstorming and discussion amongst the participants.

The results are to be further taken up by a follow-up work in a form of a repository of existing relevant documents to serve as background for further discussions and intensified and structured best practice exchange. The purpose is

to develop a common framework for arriving at solid and comparable evidence to facilitate policy decisions and further investment for wide deployment and uptake of solutions.

Overall the exchange confirmed the relevance of the topic - detailed results of the workshop have been captured in this report, to be published and widely disseminated as part of the European Commissions' ICT for Ageing Well action plan.

Number of pages: 20

Related ePractice community: [Socio-Economic Impact Assessment of ICT for Ageing Well Solutions](#)

EU: Reconstructing the Whole: Present and Future of Personal Health Systems - Draft final version - 30 August 2009

Description (short summary): This book selectively builds upon and integrates the main findings of Framework Programme 7 project Personal Health Systems 2020 (PHS2020). It is an important contribution rooted in the context of European Union policies and research funding in the broadly defined field of eHealth.

The draft final version of the book presents the vision of future Personal Health Systems that are truly personalised and holistically focused on the users and proposes a number of research roadmaps to fill the existing gaps and turn such vision into reality.

The book envisages the research themes needed to be funded and pursued in the future in order to infuse PHS with bio-medical knowledge, produce more intelligent data processing in support of decision making and actuation, develop minimally invasive third generation sensors with multi-signs gathering and on board processing capabilities, design more inclusive and user friendly interfaces, advance achievements in Lab on Chip.

Broader socio-economic issues and barriers are also addressed in the discussion of future scenarios (chapter 3) and of implementation gaps (chapter 5). The book integrates into a coherent and to some extent more synthetic fashion the contents of four substantive project deliverables. These deliverables cover in great details all the methodological steps, from the State of Play, to the construction of future Scenarios, to the Gap Analysis and the final Road Maps. They illustrate in great depth all the methodological technicalities, the sources gathered and analysed, and very extensively the findings of the project. They represent the wider background and knowledge base on which the final book rests.

The findings of PHS2020 incorporate the input from the project standing Expert Support Committee (that met five times over the duration of the project and constantly evaluated, commented and validated the deliverable produced) and from a large number of experts and stakeholders from across Europe and from all relevant expertise and areas (healthcare institutions and professionals, ICT industry and technology experts, policy making bodies, experts of broadly defined socio-economic relevant topics; researchers) who participated to 10 consultation events. So the book benefits from the input from such a large pool of very distinguished experts and stakeholders.

Number of pages: 240

EU/UK: PIKE Good Practice Transfer document - Wireless City Project - 29 January 2009

Description (short summary): In 2004 Derry was designated by DETI as Northern Ireland's Flagship Project for the demonstration of wireless broadband technology. Derry City Council, the University of Ulster and North West Institute of Further and Higher Education (NWIFHE) have worked in partnership to implement initiatives to create a wireless-enabled working environment in the City for students, lecturers, tourists, city councillors and local government officers. This project has delivered a leading edge wireless network within the City's Historic Walls

Council Chamber and Offices, a Smart Classroom environment within the University of Ulster and NWIFHE and the provision of electronic services for tourists including historic and cultural information through wireless devices such as Personal Digital Assistants (PDAs).

The project has three distinct phases:

- **Wireless Campus** - This element of the project involved provision of wireless networking services on and off campus, development of smart classrooms and piloting a Tablet PC mandate initiative.
- **Wireless Council** - This strand of the project has built on and developed existing e-government services from both the Council offices on the Strand Road and the Council Chamber in Guildhall Street.
- **Wireless Walls** - This strand has implemented a wireless/mobile network based upon a Wi-Fi networking standard in the historic walled area of the city. The walled city is approximately one mile in circumference. Network access has been provided along two levels of service visitor and business.

Number of pages: 90

EU/ES: PIKE Good Practice Transfer document - Integrated Aid System - 29 January 2009

Description (short summary): The Integrated Aid System (IAS) is mainly directed at citizens for improving their relationship with the administration and for providing them with all necessary steps. The project had two main objectives. The first one was to process the agricultural aid and the second one was to allow the management of the aid corresponding to the Common Agriculture Policy (CAP), the European Agricultural Guidance and Guarantee Fund (EAGGF) and the European Regional Development Funds (ERDF) in the regional government of Cantabria.

IAS allows a transparent and open administration which means faster aid management and processing as well as efficient and fast response to the citizens' demand. The system also creates a single access point, the '[Government of Cantabria Portal](#)'.

Number of pages: 20

ePractice Workshops

- [Service Oriented Architecture pushed to the limit in eGovernment](#) | 17 February 2010 | Belgium
 - [Uptake of pre-awarding phases in eProcurement](#) | 22 February 2010 | Austria
 - [eProcurement in Large International Organizations](#) | 23 February 2010 | Luxembourg
 - [Telemedicine and Legal Aspects](#) | 2 March 2010 | Belgium
 - [Efficiency & Effectiveness](#) | 17 March 2010 | Belgium
-

Upcoming Events

- [SE: Conference on Implementing eProcurement with PEPPOL](#) | 09 - 11 February 2010 | Sweden
- [ES: IWEEE 2010 - International Workshop on eHealth in Emerging Economies](#) | 10 - 12 February 2010 | Spain
- [BE: Joint AAL Programme and ICT-PSP consultation meeting on ICT and Ageing](#) | 15 - 16 February 2010 | Belgium
- [UK: Conference on Information and Knowledge at the point of care](#) | 24 February 2010 | United Kingdom
- [PT: IADIS e-Society 2010 Conference](#) | 18 - 21 March 2010 | Portugal
- [LU: IPSA International Conference 2010](#) | 18 - 20 March 2010 | Luxembourg

- [DE: Pervasive Health 2010](#) | 22 - 25 March 2010 | Germany
 - [ES: Tecnimap 2010](#) | 06 - 09 April 2010 | Spain
 - [FR: European eAccessibility Forum](#) | 12 April 2010 | France
 - [UK: Healthcare IT Exchange 2010](#) | 03 - 05 October 2010 | United Kingdom
-

SE: Conference on Implementing eProcurement with PEPPOL - 09 - 11 February 2010

The participants of the PEPPOL conference will have the opportunity to:

- learn how large buying organizations in the public and private sector can benefit from connecting to PEPPOL;
- discover the business applications available for eProcurement;
- see how suppliers are connected through service providers;
- get the business overview or dive into the details of the standards.

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

The conference is hosted by the Danish National IT and Telecom Agency under the Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation, offering free admission to interested parties registered before December 15th. Registration can be performed [online](#). The number of participants expected to attend the event is around 250.

Event email: conference@peppolinfrastructure.com

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

Country: Sweden

City/Location: Malmö

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

ES: IWEED 2010 - International Workshop on eHealth in Emerging Economies - 10 - 12 February 2010

IWEED 2010 brings together a multi-disciplinary team representing NGOs, Academia, Government, Church and Industry to share their experiences and to try to find ways to improve the lives of millions of human beings from the developing world.

IWEED is not a pure technical conference. It will focus on the human factor and in raising awareness about the actual situation. It will discuss the tools that can be provided today to doctors and institutions to improve their habitants' health and education.

The workshop promotes Free Software as one of the main pillars for a sustainable framework for providing eHealth and education for the developing and least developed countries.

There will not be parallel conferences. All delegates will be able to assist and participate in the workshops that they find of interest. The full event programme may be viewed [here](#).

Registration is to be made by filling out the [registration form](#) and returning it to registration@iweeed.org. The registration fees range from €120 to €190.

Event email: info@iweeed.org

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

Country: Spain

City/Location: Las Palmas de Gran Canaria
Organiser: GNU SOLIDARIO Foundation

BE: Joint AAL Programme and ICT-PSP consultation meeting on ICT and Ageing - 15 - 16 February 2010

This Consultation meeting will bring together experts from all over Europe. The objective of the 2-day meeting is to provide strategic guidance for future research under the [AAL Joint Programme](#) and possible future topics for the ICT Policy Support Programme in the field of ICT & Ageing for 2011 and beyond.

The outcome will be used as input for the preparation of future calls for proposals.

The programme of discussion is the following:

- On 15 February: Relevant ICT R&D topics for support under the AAL Joint Programme with a focus on innovative ICT solutions for Ageing Well with a 2-3 years to market perspective. This should complement topics already supported in previous calls.
- On 16 February: Topics under the ICT Policy Support Programme, in particular demand driven pilot projects involving regions and local authorities related to independent living of elderly people addressing ICT solutions for: Fall prediction, prevention and protection of elderly people; Enhanced mobility of elderly people

Prior registration is necessary as space is limited and registration is free of charge. Those interesting in participating are invited to email einclusion@ec.europa.eu and submit short presentations of ideas in advance (maximum 3 slides).

Event email: einclusion@ec.europa.eu

Event website: http://ec.europa.eu/information_society/activities/einclusion/events/workshop_aal/index_en.htm

Country: Belgium

City/Location: Brussels

Organiser: European Commission

UK: Conference on Information and Knowledge at the point of care - 24 February 2010

Mobile and wireless technologies offer the opportunity to secure the delivery of more patient-centred care. Better access to knowledge at the point of care also increases overall efficiency and reduces costs.

This one-day conference will bring together healthcare IT professionals and clinicians alike to explore how to realise the benefits of mobile and wireless technologies both on the ward and in the community.

The event has been designed for anyone who is keen to learn how to deliver information and knowledge at the point of care, both on the ward and in community settings. It will enable ICT professionals to learn through a combination of practical case studies, keynote addresses, workshops, panel discussions and interactive product demonstrations. The detailed event programme may be viewed at: <http://www.smarthealthcare.com/mobile-wireless-programme>.

Registration is to be performed [online](#) on the event website with the payment of [fee](#).

Event email: mobilewireless@medivents.co.uk

Event website: <http://www.smarthealthcare.com/mobile-wireless>

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: Birmingham
Organiser: SmartHealthcare.com and Kable

PT: IADIS e-Society 2010 Conference - 18 - 21 March 2010

The IADIS e-Society 2010 conference aims to address and cover both the technical as well as the non-technical aspects of the Information Society.

The broad areas of interest are eSociety and Digital Divide, eBusiness/ eCommerce, eLearning, New Media and E-Society, Digital Services in eSociety, eGovernment /eGovernance, eHealth, Information Systems, and Information Management. These broad areas are divided into more detailed [areas](#).

The deadline for paper submission is 8 January 2010 and for registration 22 February 2010.

Information regarding the registration fee can be found [here](#) and registration can be performed [online](#) by filling out the respective form. The expected number of participants is around 130.

Event email: secretariat@esociety-conf.org

Event website: <http://www.esociety-conf.org/>

Country: Portugal

City/Location: Porto

Organiser: International Association for Development of the Information Society (IADIS)

LU: IPSA International Conference 2010 - 18 - 20 March 2010

European integration has led to the ongoing building of an original model of governance that needs to be assessed and compared with other regional integrations; the impact of European integration on member states and neighboring countries (regarding public policies, law-making processes, political institutions and actors in general) calls for comparative research; triggered by or independent from European integration, new forms of governance (including political participation, delegation, decision-making, evaluation) that emerged in European countries also need to be studied; finally, the building of an original European model of governance may call into question theoretical and methodological approaches usually adopted in political science research.

A total of twelve panels will be organized in English and French around the general theme of the conference. Each panel will consist of a maximum of six panelists, in addition to two co-Chairs, from different universities or institutions, who will also act as rapporteurs. The European Governance program at the University of Luxembourg is responsible for the co-organization of the following six panels:

- European, National and Regional Parliaments and EU Law-making.
- EU Enlargement and its Social and Political Consequences for the New Member States and candidate countries.
- Institutional Systems Theory: Theoretical Perspectives.
- Human Rights in Europe in a Comparative Perspective.
- European Electronic Governance and its Results on Decision-making in a Comparative Perspective.
- The Renewal of Research on Europeanization Processes: Interdisciplinary Perspective.

The deadline for proposal submissions is 30 October 2009. Submissions will only be accepted [online](#). Further information on the schedule of the conference can be found [here](#).

The conference is expected to host around 300 experts. Registration is open and can be performed [online](#) with a payment of a fee.

Event email: info@luxembourg2010.org

Event website: <http://www.luxembourg2010.org/>

Country: Luxembourg

City/Location: Luxembourg

Organiser: The International Political Science Association (IPSA), Luxembourg Political Science Association (Luxpol), The European Governance Programme of the University of Luxembourg

DE: Pervasive Health 2010 - 22 - 25 March 2010

Pervasive healthcare is an emerging research discipline, focusing on the development and application of pervasive and ubiquitous computing technology for healthcare and wellness. Pervasive healthcare seeks to respond to a variety of pressures on healthcare systems, including the increased incidence of life-style related and chronic diseases, emerging consumerism in healthcare, need for empowering patients and relatives for self-care and management of their health, and need to provide seamless access for health care services, independent of time and place.

Pervasive healthcare may be defined from two perspectives. First, it is the development and application of pervasive computing (or ubiquitous computing, ambient intelligence) technologies for healthcare, health and wellness management. Second, it seeks to make healthcare available to anyone, anytime, and anywhere by removing locational, time and other restraints while increasing both the coverage and quality of healthcare.

The 4th edition of the Pervasive Healthcare conference aims to gather together technology experts, practitioners, industry and national authorities contributing towards the development and application of human-centered pervasive and ubiquitous computing technology for healthcare and wellness.

The registration functionality will soon be made available at the event website.

Event email: PervasiveHealth2010@create-net-ml.org

Event website: <http://www.pervasivehealth.org/index.shtml>

Country: Germany

City/Location: Garching, Munich

Organiser: University of Colorado at Boulder, University of Erlangen-Nuremberg, Technical University of Munich, Carl von Ossietzky-University Oldenburg, Georgia Institute of Technology, Aarhus School of Engineering, ETH Zurich, City University London, and many more.

ES: Tecnimap 2010 - 06 - 09 April 2010

TECNIMAP aims to share practices and experiences related with the usage of ICT and eGovernment services among Public Administrations. It constitutes the largest Spanish event about eGovernment and the main meeting point between ICT, public and private sector. Due to the coincidence with the Spanish Presidency of the EU, the 2010 event will also encourage the participation of other Member States and European Union Public Administrations.

TECNIMAP is organised around three different kinds of gatherings: expert panels, workshops and communications. These gatherings are organised around various thematic tracks. Due to the recent approval of the Malmö Ministerial Declaration, 2010 TECNIMAP will have a track linked to each of the priorities established in the Declaration, namely:

- Citizen and Businesses Services
- The role of eGovernment in the economy
- Efficient and sustainable Public Administrations
- Technical and legal enablers

National and European academics, companies and officials have been invited to take part in the expert panels and workshops, while the [call for papers](#) for the [Communications](#) is open to all the National and European Public Administrations. An award for the best communication at each Spanish Government level will be given, as well as for the communication received from a European Public Administration.

Besides the expert panels, workshops and communications, an exhibition area called EXPOTECNIMAP will be deployed. In near 200 stands, best-of-the-breed examples of how eGovernment helps in Spain and Europe to overcome the economic, social and environmental challenges will be exhibited.

The website of the event will have an English version in the following days.

The event is open to all. Participation is free of charge for public sector attendees and for invited private sector representatives. Registration can be performed [online](#).

Event email: secretaria.tecnimap@zaragoza.es

Event website: www.tecnimap.es

Country: Spain

City/Location: Zaragoza

Organiser: Spanish Ministry of the Presidency, Regional Government of Aragon and Zaragoza Town Council

FR: European eAccessibility Forum - 12 April 2010

After [three previous conferences](#), the European eAccessibility Forum is organised for the first time in Paris.

The 4th European eAccessibility Forum will provide participants the chance to discuss the complementary aspects involved in making this objective a reality in Europe. It will provide an opportunity to hear at first-hand about experiences from users with disabilities, public organisations and industry. The speakers are specialists involved in organisations representing users and consumers with disabilities, research organisations and companies operating at a European level or worldwide. Keynote speakers include -among others- Mr. Paul Timmers, the Head of Unit for eInclusion, European Commission. The conference will also consider the harmonisation of good practices over Europe.

Some topics to be discussed are the following:

- Needs of citizens with disabilities and aging citizens.
- Examples of accessible services.
- Public policies.
- Tools supporting accessibility.
- Economical aspects.
- Mobile technologies.

Registration to the event can be performed with the payment of a fee. Further information can be found [here](#). Expected participants will be around 200-250.

Event email: brailletnet@snv.jussieu.fr

Event website: <http://inova.snv.jussieu.fr/evenements/colloques/colloques/index.php?c=62&l=en>

Country: France

City/Location: Paris

Organiser: Brailletnet

UK: Healthcare IT Exchange 2010 - 03 - 05 October 2010

The Healthcare IT Exchange has been designed to showcase the leading initiatives in Healthcare Services today, combining practical discussions on cutting edge technologies. The Healthcare IT Exchange has compiled speakers with brand new case studies from some of the largest trusts and experts across the UK and Europe.

Through the conference sessions, discussions will be facilitated on a wide array of strategically driven Healthcare IT issues such as:

Strategy:

- An update on the Department of Health's plans for the National Programme for IT
- Forward Planning: Making efficiencies and maximising cost savings
- Innovation - selling your ideas to the board
- Engineering an innovative culture within your IT department
- Health IT: Learning from Europe

Technology:

- Connecting health professionals for a collaborative NHS
- Securing patient information
- Capitalising on legacy systems
- Implementing and realising the benefits of shared services
- Mobile technologies for a mobile work force
- Digitising patient records
- Looking to the future: Does cloud computing have a silver lining?

Senior executives responsible for providing strategic IT guidance to overall business strategy for their trusts will be invited.

The conference programme for the event is currently being developed.

Participation to the event has no cost, however, registration is mandatory and can be performed through [event's website](#). The expected number of the participants is around 150.

Event email: exchangeinfo@iqpc.com

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

Country: United Kingdom

City/Location: London

Organiser: International Quality and Productivity Centre (IQPC) Exchange

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