

To EURIM Members and Observers
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THE EUROPEAN
INFORMATION
SOCIETY GROUP

EURIM



EURIM Newsletter and Notices - October 2004

1) Visions for 2010

ICT priorities for the election manifestos

Several of the “*Points for your Manifesto*” have already featured in the Party Conferences. The Prime Minister and Chancellor both addressed the need for competitiveness in the global knowledge economy, with specific references to broadband and skills. Lifelong learning was a recurrent theme in the Labour Party fringe meetings. The Chancellor announced national roll-out of the employer training pilots and the Prime Minister announced further support for technician level skills. Mike O’Brien, the new Minister for the Information Industries described progress and plans with regard to spam and the need to make a reality of international co-operation. A recurrent theme in the PITCOM conference meetings was the need to focus communications regulation on bottlenecks and not constrain investment in the products and services of the future.

The draft manifesto points have now been circulated to all Corporate and Associate members for comment and the intention is that the paper will be revised for publication in about a month to help those working on implementation plans for whoever wins. This exercise has also helped focus thinking on EURIM’s own priorities for the next six months: those topics where we can indeed “make a difference”, those where we could make a difference but are unsure whether we wish to put in the effort necessary, those which should be addressed by others and those which are important but the way forward is not yet clear.

Two where we know we can “make a difference” are *E-Crime and Security* and *Personal Identity and Data Sharing*. Both are not only innately important but are also show-stoppers. One now seriously threatens confidence in the Internet as a whole. The other is key to the joining up and savings agendas that are central to the mainstream pledges on health and education, as well as law and order. Those that are important but where the role of EURIM, as opposed to other channels, is less clear include communications, competitiveness and skills.

The next EURIM Council (on 19th October) will decide not only the priorities for Quarter 4 but also those for the first half of next year. We would very much welcome your views both on priorities and those with whom we should be working.

2) Making the Internet Safe for Your Family, Your Business and You

Moving Internet Safety and E-Crime up the political agenda

The sub-title of the Labour Conference fringe meeting on Computer Security was “Can the Internet Survive?”. The answer was: “It must - it is now too important to be allowed to fail”.

But the scale and urgency of the challenge needs to be recognised. Delegates were told of “Botnets [robot networks of hi-jacked computers] of 250,000 PCs capable of taking a whole country off-line” and of “herders paying hackers for their botnets to sell to spammers and extortionists” with price lists analysed by industry and location. Mike O’Brien referred to the work of the DTI anti-spam working group, the Information Commissioner’s powers to issue “stop now” orders and possible new legal powers to require ISPs to help trace rogue transmissions. However, he focussed on the need for

international co-operation, with a memorandum of understanding between the US, Australia and the UK now in place, the OECD task force based in London and an OFT meeting on 11th October on international co-operation.

Making a reality of international co-operation

The UK Presidencies of G8 and EU next year give a unique opportunity to progress international co-operation but we should not neglect the possible role of the United Nations Working Group on Internet Governance, who had a consultation meeting in London on 24th September with the Internet Society and Oxford Internet Institute. There was a most positive response when I raised the need to close the loop between WGIG and those in the UN Congress on Crime Prevention and Criminal Justice who are proposing a Convention on Technical Assistance, building on and updating work to date, including that of OECD and the Council of Europe. A pre-condition for success is co-operation between governments, law enforcement agencies and business, particularly those multinational users and suppliers who often have more relevant experience and expertise in house, not least because they have recruited so many of the best experts from police and security services by giving them career paths and status as well as money. This is one of the areas on which the EURIM legal issues group will focus in its report and we will then be looking to recruit those interested in turning recommendations into action to help with the follow through.

Progress with the national strategy for combating E-Crime

In September we held a series of meetings to update the draft discussion papers currently on the website and agreed reports and recommendations for publication over the next two months.

Much is said of the need to educate small firms and consumers but rather less on the need to also “educate” suppliers to develop products and services and above provide all documentation that is fit for use by human beings. The first meeting on 7th September added an important new recommendation:

That a commercial sponsor be found to support an annual award for the guidance that most effectively uses plain English to get its messages across to the SME/public communities.

Another concern is the lack of focus for that guidance. We had a briefing from NHTCU on attempts to bring together those planning awareness campaigns and expect to be able to report progress shortly.

Richard Winterton, Chief Executive of Skills for Justice (the Sector Skills Council for the Justice System, from Police through Courts to Prison and Probation) presented their plans to implement the recommendations in our last report and asked for volunteers (employers not consultants or suppliers) for the steering group to supervise the consultants charged with the first stage, a comprehensive scoping exercise in co-operation with E-Skills and others. The response was rapid and positive, giving a clear indication of the priority given by major employers to security and investigatory skills.

On 9th September the Legal Issues group welcomed the recommendations in the APIG (All Party Internet Group) report, especially with regard to encouraging private prosecutions and then homed in on the actions necessary to make London the location of choice for international co-operation on Internet Policing, just as it is for international civil disputes resolution. We then reviewed overall strategy and agreed to organise a workshop (provisionally fixed for the afternoon of 20th October) on the roles that a lead Internet Policing operation would need to address and the implications for organisation and funding.

The meeting hosted by NHTCU on 14th September to update our files on current players and initiatives addressing e-crime issues identified some major changes and much confusion. The subsequent discussion on reporting issues indicated similar ongoing confusion. There is a clear need for a well-funded national operation that builds on lessons from the US White Collar Crime Centre, the UK system for reporting suspected money laundering transactions and the PITO pilot for reporting minor incidents. The key to success is effective use of the technologies available to structure, analyse and route the diversity of inputs that an effective system will attract. Otherwise the volume and variety will overwhelm the human beings expected to organise timely and effective response to genuine criminal incidents or to report on emerging patterns or trends.

3) Enabling Joined up Government:

Making a reality of Personal Identity and Data Sharing

The group is now moving from analysis of the issues to recommendations for action to enable consent driven data sharing under democratically accountable governance. The Group will meet on 28th October to discuss and agree the necessary follow up programme.

Circles of Trust for managing personal identity and information

The status report ‘*Citizen or Subject – How Far Do We Control Our Own Identities?*’ circulated to members electronically in July, has received broad support from both private and public sectors. The report focusses on using the financial services “Circle of Trust” model for identity management and data sharing, driven by informed consent of the customer/citizen where possible, and by statute and regulation where necessary in the public sector. We plan to officially launch the paper jointly with the Status Report ‘*Data Sharing and Matching - the Law in Practice*’ at a press conference in late October, at which we will also announce the follow up programme.

Clarifying the current situation with regard to Data Protection and Sharing

On 8th September members approved the Personal Identity Working Group Status Report ‘*Data Sharing and Matching - the Law in Practice*’ with minor amendments. This is intended to provide MPs and policy advisors with an outline of legal issues surrounding data sharing. The report raises concerns that current data-sharing powers are insufficient to enable public bodies to meet current policy objectives, let alone secure a step change in service delivery. Meanwhile the complexity and fragmentation of information governance has led to strong but unfulfilled demands from many organisations for application-oriented guidance on data sharing at the practitioner level. The group, in consultation with the Office of the Information Commissioner, has therefore produced an outline flow-chart to illustrate how such guidance might be provided. This is included as an appendix to the report.

Assessing the risks with regard to personal identity and information assurance

One of the issues raised during debate over ID Cards and personal identity systems is that of liability. On 23rd September a sub-group met to discuss whether it would be practical to apply classical risk assessment methodologies to the issues and, if so, how. The group began by applying the first stage of a risk-assessment exercise on the Personal Identity ‘Circle of Trust’ model used in the financial services sector. In documenting and assessing risks and consequences, the group is beginning a value/benefits analysis which, when extrapolated to all parties (individual, organisations, State) should facilitate judgements on liability and help decide how the model might be used more widely in the public and private sectors. A major aim is to evaluate likely levels of false positives and false negatives generated by an authenticating system or by deliberate falsification of biometric data, and the impact of this on risk assessment. Results will be available for early input into any consultation on primary legislation for data sharing.

Practical biometrics and the Identity Cards Bill

The Home Affairs Select Committee found that the security and reliability of biometrics are central to the Government’s ID card proposals and recommended exhaustive testing of the biometrics chosen, with the results assessed by independent experts. The ID card is only one of a growing number of applications, public and private, using a variety of biometrics in different ways, with assumptions either that different systems can/will interoperate or that one system will replace the others. EURIM is therefore organising a workshop with the CESG Biometrics Working Group (the main advisors to the public sector on biometrics) on 25th November in the Attlee Suite, Portcullis House, Westminster, to brief MPs and policy advisors on experience to date with the application of biometrics and the issues to be addressed to ensure success. Please contact Tanya Coyd (Tanya.Coyd@cesg.gsi.gov.uk), copy to Dave Wright (davywright2@ntlworld.com), if you would like to attend.

The committee also commented on the overlap between the General Register Office’s proposal for a UK population register (the Citizen Information Project) and the proposed identity cards database, called for improvements to existing registers, common standards for register management and for the ID card to enable access to all Government databases. The EURIM group on personal identity and

data sharing will explore the practical implications of these recommendations as part of its forward programme.

The Committee Report is at www.homeoffice.gov.uk/docs3/homeaffairs_idcards_30July.pdf and the Home Office response is at www.homeoffice.gov.uk/n_story.asp?item_id=1047

4) UK Competitiveness in the Knowledge Economy

Debate on the intellectual property frameworks suitable for a rapidly changing and evolving global knowledge economy is gathering pace, with moves to make fundamental changes to the priorities of the World Intellectual Property Organisation this month. In parallel, there is mounting controversy over the practical implications of different wordings as the European Parliament and Commission attempt to reconcile their differences. The IPR group has almost completed a short guide to current rights and why the issues are important. It has also been asked to help with guidance as to the differences with regard to software patents and what is at stake, for whom. This is a non-trivial exercise and we are seeking to work with and through partners. In the meantime we have a workshop with the Parliamentary Office of Science and Technology on 13th October to assist their briefing for MPs on Open Source software.

5) Creating and Maintaining a World Class UK Skills/Knowledge Base

We have not had a good response to date from Corporate members to the call for interest in an exercise to ensure that publicly funded lifelong learning programmes reflect the needs of employers. A number of parliamentary and associate members are, however, seriously interested in progressing work in this area. The recommendation to Council will therefore be that we leave this to those who are interested, while being willing to respond as and when the situation changes. Please let me know if you believe we should take a more active role in promoting political activity to help ensure timely implementation of the changes necessary to help ensure the UK has the skills to be competitive on creativity, innovation and quality if not necessarily on price.

6) Local Access To World Class Communications and Content

A number of organisations are now talking of the need to promote investment in broadband products and services. But discussion does not yet appear connected to activity to meet the needs of those who set the investment climate and make the decisions: from fund managers, trustees and their advisors through financial and other regulators to corporate planners and finance directors. Elizabeth Kanter, now with Marconi, is looking at the practicality of bridging the gap with a view to reporting to the next Council. Any programme will almost certainly be in co-operation with others.

7) www.EURIM.org.uk

If you have not yet visited the new EURIM website please do so and send your comments to emma.fryer@eurim.org . We plan to maintain the old site as an archive because it has links from so many sources but visitors are rerouted to the new site for material since 1st September 2004. The new site also has much material from working parties which was not on the previous website.

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EURIM Timetable – October 2004

This timetable lists forthcoming meetings arranged by EURIM and also includes some, arranged by other organisations, which are likely to be of interest to EURIM's Members and Observers.

Unless otherwise indicated EURIM meetings are open to all members and accredited observers. There is no charge for attendance but prior registration is required. If you wish to attend or would like more information please contact the named individual or eurim@eurim.org.

For information about meetings arranged by other organisations, please contact the person or website indicated against the entry. Note that for some events, there is an entry fee and pre-registration is essential.

OCTOBER

Date: Monday **11** October 2004
Time: Evening
Venue: House of Commons
Organiser: PITCOM
Description: Commercial confidentiality in Public IT Projects, Sir Archy Kirkwood MP, Chair Work and Pensions Select Committee
Attendance: PITCOM members only - joining details at www.pitcom.org.uk

Date: Tuesday **12** October 2004
Time: 10.00 - 18.00
Venue: Portcullis House
Organiser: European Internet Coregulation Network & Oxford Internet Institute
Description: Update and planning meeting
Attendance: By invitation: contact@internet-coregulation.org

Date: Wednesday **13** October 2004
Time: 10.30 - 12.30
Venue: IBM South Bank
Organiser: EURIM IPR Group (Open Source sub-group) and POST
Description: Consultation Workshop to help POST briefing for MPs on Open Source Software
Attendance: Open Source group

Date: Tuesday **19** October 2004
Time: 16.00 - 17.00
Organiser: EURIM
Description: Board and Council meeting
Attendance: Board and Council members plus named guests only

Date: Wednesday **20** October 2004
Time: pm
Venue: TBC
Organiser: EURIM E-Crime Group
Description: Workshop on the roles, structures and governance for any national Internet policing (reporting, co-ordination, co-operation, enforcement etc.) operation
Attendance: E-Crime Group and guests

Date: Thursday **28** October 2004
Time: 10.00 - 12.00
Venue: Interview Room W4 (off Westminster Hall)
Organiser: EURIM Data Sharing Group
Description: Scoping meeting for follow up exercise on Personal Identity and Data Sharing
Attendance: Data Sharing and Personal Identity groups and guests

NOVEMBER

Date: Monday **1** November 2004
Time: 18.00 for 19.00 till 22.00
Venue: National Liberal Club
Organiser: Real Time Club
Description: ICT Banana Skins 2005 - key risks facing the industry in 2005
Attendance: Real Time Club members and guests.

Date: Tuesday **2** November 2004
Time: All Day
Venue: IEE, Savoy Place, London
Organiser: IEE
Description: Summit on Law and Computing (speakers include EURIM members)
Attendance: Rates for IEE and Non-Members.
Information at www.iee.org/events/lawandcomputing.cfm

Date: Thursday **4** November 2004
Time: All Day
Venue: CBI Conference Centre, Centre Point, London
Organiser: E-Government Bulletin
Description: Secure Information Sharing for e-Government
Attendance: For more information contact: claire@headstar.com

Date: Monday **15** - Tuesday **16** November 2004
Time: Two-day event
Venue: The Barbican
Organiser: EUROMONEY
Description: 6th Annual Secure IT Forum (speakers include EURIM members)
Attendance: No charge for qualifying heads of IT Security.
Information at: www.business-meetings.co.uk

Date: Friday **19** November 2004
Time: 10.00 - 4.00
Venue: DTI Conference Centre, 1 Victoria Street
Organiser: Intellect
Description: Briefing event on IPR basics
Attendance: FoC to Parliamentarians, £50 for other EURIM members.
Contact Emma Fryer at emma.fryer@intellectuk.org

Date: Wednesday **24** November 2004 **PROVISIONAL**
Time: All Day
Venue: Claridge's, London
Organiser: Information Age
Description: E-Crime and Security Conference
Attendance: IT managers (i.e. not just security specialists). Details at: www.infoeconomy.com

Date: Thursday **25** November 2004
Time: 10.00 - 14.00 (including buffet lunch)
Venue: Attlee Suite, Portcullis House
Organiser: CESG Biometrics Working Group with EURIM
Description: Briefing for MPs and policy advisors on practical experience to date with biometrics and lessons for successful large scale deployment
Attendance: Invited guests Tanya.Coyd@cesg.gsi.gov.uk cc davywright2@ntlworld.com

Date: Monday **29** November 2004 **PROVISIONAL**
Time: Evening
Venue: House of Commons
Organiser: PITCOM
Description: Information Accessibility v Privacy: Baroness Ashton of Upholland, Parliamentary Under-Secretary of State at Department of Constitutional Affairs
Attendance: PITCOM members only - joining details at www.pitcom.org.uk

Date: Tuesday **30** November 2004 **PROVISIONAL**
Time: All Day
Venue: Café Royal
Organiser: Adam Smith Institute (speakers include EURIM members)
Description: Business Information Security
Attendance: Rates for ASI members and non-members.
Contact Laura Duguid - lduguid@marketforce.eu.com

DECEMBER

Date: Thursday **9** December 2004
Time: All Day
Venue: One Great George Street, SW1 (TBC)
Organiser: Westminster Media Forum
Description: Intellectual Property and Rights Ownership
Attendance: Contact: Peter van Gelder at pvg@westminstermediaforum.com