

To EURIM Members and Observers

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THE EUROPEAN
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EURIM



EURIM Newsletter and Notices – January 2005

1) Priorities for 2005

Improving Confidence in public sector service delivery

News of the 10 day break in service for the police national fingerprint system, following the 4 day break for the DWP network, reinforced discussion of the need to improve confidence in the delivery of large public sector ICT dependent programmes. This was one of the themes raised by Ian Watmore in his presentation to BCS Elite on 1st December and discussion afterwards indicated that much needs to be done for current and planned programmes to be delivered and maintained with the resources (skills as well as time and money) available. The implications go well beyond current definitions of ICT professionalism and entail a rebuilding of the UK systems engineering skills base, which has been shrinking over the past decade. This will be a major challenge to suppliers as well as users. The consultation on the E-Skills Sector Skills Agreement www.e-skills.com/ssa provides a timely opportunity for discussing future development plans but the immediate implications for their manifesto promises also need to be addressed by all main parties.

Building the Knowledge Economy

Discussion on 9th December at the Westminster Media Forum seminar on Intellectual Property and Rights Ownership was surprisingly constructive, indicating that key players are beginning to understand the need to build for the future rather than merely defend the past. It was clear that the Minister understood not only the importance of the issues but also the underlying intellectual and moral drivers, from the nursery school cry of “that’s not fair, that was my idea” onwards. But responsibility for addressing the issues is fragmented across Whitehall. The joint DTI-DCMS task force, which is looking at IP crime and on-line infringements, at business opportunities and at education and communications, should offer an opportunity to bring players together and advance debate. Progress also demands that players appreciate the moral as well as legal basis of rival viewpoints. Otherwise, the “commercial pirates” will not be isolated and future investment and creativity fairly rewarded. IPPR is planning three events as part of its digital manifesto programme in Spring 2005. Aediles, the new centre right think tank, is producing a paper on the impact of Internet search engines on IPR.

2) Moving the Fight against E-Crime up the Political Agenda

The Future of Netcrime now: threats, challenges and responses

A number of EURIM members and observers helped produce the Home Office Research Group report published on 9th December www.crimereduction.gov.uk/internet01.htm. This identifies over 140 technology challenges and over 100 criminal threats. The most significant of the latter is the use of false documentation, including smartcards, to further criminal activity. The report also ranks over a hundred possible responses. The top priorities were:

- Bilateral/multilateral international intelligence sharing and UK government to provide leadership.
- Investment and training in IT Forensics and investigation capabilities, with a national training strategy and best practice guidelines, beginning with recognising when digital evidence needs to be secured in the first place.
- Review legislation (including Theft Act): there should be no cyberhavens or no-go areas.
- Security services, GCHQ and law enforcement need to work more closely together.
- List of people with key IT skills that government/police can call on at time of crisis.

- Encourage ICT industries to “design in security” and “design out crime” and have flaw reporting and remedial systems in place.

A number of widely discussed recommendations, including for more effort on data collection, were rated well below these (although the better collation of existing data was highly rated).

This thought provoking report will also inform our next round of work after publication of the paper *Building Cybercommunities: Beating Cybercrime*, This is on track for publication in January, and a press launch has been provisionally scheduled for the 19th.

The next main meeting will be a workshop on the morning of 20th January to review progress to date and discuss inputs to the Police Reform White paper (due 1st February). One of the objectives is to agree a six point (hopefully no more) action plan that can be used as a focus for political effort to secure action.

Several of the agreed recommendations have, however, been complicated by the absolute priority being given to the "war against terror". The consequent transfer of trained officers from computer crime units to anti-terrorism is now causing sharply increased problems for civilian Internet policing at all levels, let alone for the handling of digital evidence related to traditional crimes. A major expansion of police resources in this area is now urgent as well as important.

3) The Governance of E-Government

Personal Identity and Data Sharing

The planning meeting on Data Sharing on 2nd December involved several of the main systems and service suppliers to the public sector and agreed that a major objective of the group is to put the issues of data sharing into the context of improving service to the citizen. Those present considered five different types of sharing:

- verification - checking offered information against a database – is it correct or not?
- acquisition – the service provider asks the data controller for access, ±consent;
- distribution – data controller’s relationship with partners;
- common database – e.g. local authorities with integrated or shared database;
- data mining – e.g. which pensioners are claiming which benefits?

On 15th December we met with DCA officials and will be progressing co-operation on expanding and publicising the “process map” to provide practical guidance for operational staff on data sharing.

On 12th January the main group on Personal Identity and Data Sharing will be meeting to review progress on the circle of trust, risk assessment and the process map; to consider calls for primary legislation; and to involve new participants. Please e-mail eurim@eurim.org with suggestions as to prospective members who should be invited from among your customers, suppliers and partners.

A subgroup will meet on the afternoon of 13th January, to review data sharing models and recommend the way forward, and again on the 20th to put these into the broader perspective and, hopefully, agree the overall analysis and recommendations.

Practical biometrics and the Identity Cards Bill

The CESG Biometrics Working Group presentation is now on www.cesg.gov.uk and the e-mail for follow up enquiries is BWG@cesg.gsi.gov.uk .

4) Select Committee Inquiry into Voter Registration

Individual or household, paper or electronic, local or national, security and confidentiality

The ODPM Housing, Planning, Local Government and Regions Select Committee and the Constitutional Affairs Select Committee have resolved to carry out an enquiry into voter registration with particular reference to the following issues:

- Advantages of individual registration compared with the existing system of household registration.

- Strategies for encouraging registration, in particular among young voters, and tackling resistance to registration; and examination of the advantages and disadvantages of compulsory registration.
- Issues of geographic and ethnic variations in levels of voter registration.
- Advantages or disadvantages of electronic rather than paper-based registration systems.
- Difficulties for the disabled and others unable to complete forms.
- Availability and confidentiality of the register.
- Basis for individual registration e.g. address-based or on personal criteria such as NI number or birth date.
- The desirability of a national electoral register.
- Means of ensuring the security of the register: PIN numbers, electoral voting cards, signatures.

They have invited written evidence on these and other relevant topics by 14th January 2005. Submissions should be brief (3,000 words maximum, numbered paragraphs) and preferably by e-mail in RTF or Word format to odpmcom@parliament.uk. Guidance on the submission of evidence can be found at www.parliament.uk/commons/selcom/witguide.htm

Several members have strong views on this area but the timescale does not allow for a round table for those planning submissions. It would, however, be helpful if members making points relevant to the working group on Personal Identity and Data Sharing could copy eurim@eurim.org when they submit.

5) **Removing Barriers to Investment in Communications Infrastructure**

Consultation on rating of local loop unbundling

The disparity between the business rates bills of BT (based on receipts, spend and share of the communications markets) and those of its competitors (based on operational networks, regardless of traffic) was identified by the Broadband Stakeholders Group as a significant obstacle to investment. Fibre loops and networks are still switched off to save business rates at a time when the need to improve resilience by providing alternative routings is moving rapidly up the national agenda in the light of recent public revelations as to the increased vulnerability of centralised infrastructures.

The rating valuation of communications networks is fraught with difficulty and the settlement reached between BT and the Valuation Office in 2000 has much to commend. The decision to use different criteria for BT's competitors, leading to higher (allegedly three fold) valuations and pending legal action at national and European level, was unfortunate. The recent planned extension of that approach to cover local loop unbundling also caused much consternation. It is therefore good that the Valuation Office has agreed to involve all operators as well as BT and Ofcom, in its forthcoming review.

6) www.EURIM.org.uk

Summary reports of meetings, supporting documentation and references are now placed on the website as a matter of routine. The transcripts, including who said what, are not. If you have not yet visited the new website, please do so and send any comments to info@eurim.org.

7) **OII International Conference on Cybersafety: 8 – 10 September 2005**

We are working with the Oxford Internet Institute and others on an international conference on the value, choices and conflicts around Internet Safety. Advance information, including the call for papers, is now available on www.oii.ox.ac.uk/cybersafety. Subject to discussions between the Institute and the University, including on security arrangements, this event is likely to be very high profile and is expected to be announced later this month. Those wishing to be certain of an opportunity to participate are advised to visit the site and register their interest before then.

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EURIM Timetable – January 2005

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.

January 2005

Date: Wednesday **12** January 2005
Time: 10.00 - 12.00
Venue: Room P, Portcullis House
Organiser: EURIM
Description: Personal ID and Data Sharing – review of progress on circle of trust, risk assessment, process map and consideration of call for primary legislation on data sharing
Attendance: All interested Parliamentary, Corporate and Associate members and observers

Date: Wednesday **12** January 2005
Time: Morning
Venue: Lewis Media Centre, Millbank Tower
Organiser: Westminster Media Forum, DMS and Chair of Joint Scrutiny Committee for Draft Gambling Bill
Description: Remote Gambling: Speakers include Chair Gaming Board, CE William Hill, Chair Inter-Active Gaming, Gambling and Betting Association
Attendance: Contact: Peter van Gelder at pvg@westminstermediaforum.com

Date: Thursday **13** January 2005
Time: 13.30 - 17.30
Venue: Room S, Portcullis House
Organiser: EURIM
Description: Personal ID and Data Sharing – review of data sharing models and way forward
Attendance: Working group members and guests

Date: Tuesday **18** January 2005
Time: 18.00 - 19.30
Venue: House of Commons
Organiser: PITCOM
Description: Infrastructure Vulnerability in all IP World
Attendance: PITCOM members only - joining details on www.pitcom.org.uk

Date: Wednesday **19** January 2005
Time: To be confirmed
Venue: To be confirmed
Organiser: EURIM-IPPR E-Crime Group
Description: Press Launch of Paper on Building Cybercommunities: Beating Cybercrime
Attendance: Invited journalists and group members willing to speak to the press

Date: Thursday **20** January 2005
Time: 10.30 - 12.30
Venue: Committee Room 5, House of Commons
Organiser: EURIM-IPPR E-Crime Group
Description: E-Crime progress review and forward planning meeting plus discussion of inputs to the Police Reform White Paper (deadline 1st February)
Attendance: Members and guests

Date: Thursday **20** January 2005
Time: 13.30 - 17.30
Venue: Room S, Portcullis House
Organiser: EURIM
Description: Personal ID and Data Sharing – review of overall analysis and recommendations
Attendance: Working group members and guests

Date: Tuesday **25** January 2005 **To be confirmed**
Time: 18.00 for 19.00 - 22.00
Venue: National Liberal Club
Organiser: Real Time Club
Description: Chinese technology leadership: challenge, opportunity or both?
Attendance: Real Time Club members and guests. EURIM members and observers should e-mail virgo.philip@eurim.org for a form to book as a paying guest (£75)

Date: Wednesday **26** January 2005
Time: All Day
Venue: One Great George Street, Westminster
Organiser: Westminster Media Forum in liaison with Ofcom
Description: Ofcom Strategic Review of Telecoms: Speakers include Stephen Carter CEO Ofcom, Mike O'Brien Minister of State at DTI, Ben Verwaayen CE BT, Simon Duffy CE ntl
Attendance: Contact: Peter van Gelder at pvg@westminstermediaforum.com

February

Date: Tuesday **1** February 2005
Time: 16.00 - 17.00
Venue: To be confirmed
Organiser: EURIM
Description: Board and Council Meetings
Attendance: Board, Council and invited guests

Date: Tuesday **8** February 2005
Time: 18.00 - 19.00
Venue: To be confirmed
Organiser: PITCOM
Description: Annual General Meeting, Ian Watmore as speaker
Attendance: PITCOM Members only - joining details on www.pitcom.org.uk

Date: Tuesday **15** February 2005
Time: 18.00 - 19.00
Venue: QE II Conference Centre, London, SW1
Organiser: GovNet
Description: Government IT Confex: Relating Efficiency to e-Government
Attendance: For further information or to register contact Sabrina Hartley on 0800 542 9585 or visit www.govnet.co.uk/govit

March

Date: Monday **14** March 2005
Time: 18.00 - 19.30
Venue: To be confirmed
Organiser: PITCOM
Description: Electronic War Against Terrorism
Attendance: PITCOM Members only - joining details on www.pitcom.org.uk

Date: Tuesday **29** March 2005
Time: 18.00 for 19.00 - 22.00
Venue: National Liberal Club
Organiser: Real Time Club
Description: Election Hustings: Richard Allan MP, Michael Fabricant MP & Stephen Timms MP will speak on ICT issues over dinner and answer questions afterwards
Attendance: Real Time Club members and guests. EURIM members and observers should e-mail virgo.philip@eurim.org for a form to book as a paying guest (£75)

April

Date: Tuesday **5** April 2005 - Wednesday **6** April 2005
Time: Two days
Venue: Central London
Organiser: National High Tech Crime Unit and AKJ Associates
Description: NHTCU 3rd Annual E-Crime Congress: existing and emerging threats, evaluating risk. Compliance and governance, id theft, fraud, phishing and forensics.
Attendance: Details www.e-crimecongress.org or howard.james@akjassociates.com

Date: Monday **11** April 2005
Time: 16.00 - 17.00
Venue: To be confirmed
Organiser: EURIM
Description: Board and Council Meeting
Attendance: Board, Council and invited guests

Date: Monday **11** April 2005
Time: 17.00 - 18.00
Venue: To be confirmed
Organiser: EURIM
Description: Annual General Meeting
Attendance: Parliamentary, Corporate and Associate members

Date: Monday **11** April 2005
Time: 18.00 - 21.00
Venue: To be confirmed
Organiser: EURIM
Description: Post AGM Reception
Attendance: Parliamentary, Corporate and Associate members and guests