

To EURIM Members and Observers
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THE EUROPEAN
INFORMATION
SOCIETY GROUP

EURIM



EURIM Newsletter December 2005

1) Responding to the Challenge of Transforming Government

Recognising the Scale of the Opportunity, alias Challenge

The eGU consultation paper on Transformational Government was launched on 2nd November and is at www.cio.gov.uk/documents/pdf/transgov/transgov-strategy.pdf. It chimes with the recommendations that we have made over recent years but goes further and needs to be read at least twice to appreciate the scale of the challenge that it poses to those whose business success has been predicated on selling big-bang systems to support departmental silos. The reaction of those brought up to believe in the values of public service, or who have built their careers on the ongoing delivery of services that meet changing user needs, appears to be a mix of “about time too” and “how do we ensure it really happens this time?” Responses to itstrategyprojectteam@cabinet-office.x.gsi.gov.uk are due by 3rd February and it is hoped that EURIM members and observers will respond with comments as to how they would like to help turn the vision into reality.

Measuring ourselves against the competition

The Ministerial e-Government 2005 Conference “Transforming Government Services” on 24th and 25th November in Manchester was attended by many EURIM members and observers and helped put UK achievements and aspirations into international context: not always flattering. Those unable to attend should browse the conference website www.egov2005conference.gov.uk/ and note that there is still time to input views on i2010 eGovernment policy by completing the questionnaire ‘Your Voice on eGovernment 2010’: <http://europa.eu.int/yourvoice/ipm/forms/dispatch?form=eGov2010>. The parallel session summaries do less than justice to some eye-opening contributions, for example how accession states have produced low cost, socially inclusive, joined up, on-line solutions, based on open source software, available to others at no charge (thus also helping boot-strap their new open source support industries). One of the more striking UK contributions was when the CIO of Glaxo Smith Klein described how they had cut their ICT spend by 75%, including by regularly assessing systems and terminating those that did not give sufficient benefit. We can expect similar processes to be adopted across the public sector as part of the 2006 fundamental savings and 2007 spending reviews, to help enable “£21 billion of efficiency gains to be recycled to front line services” (Pre-Budget Report, December 2005). It will be interesting to see who views this as an opportunity, who as a threat - and who turns out to have been be right.

How can we help?

The immediate EURIM responses to the new opportunities, alias challenges, are focussed on:

- the contribution that the Personal Identity and Data Sharing Group can make to identifying the many current exercises to develop protocols (and not just technical standards) for the exchange or pooling of information and to sharing experience and distilling good practice from these;
- the contribution that the E-Crime Group can make to improving confidence in the governance and security of public sector information systems, amid concerns that current weaknesses are a major factor in identity theft/fraud and that well-intentioned new proposals can be counter-productive;
- the work of the Successful Delivery group, which Margaret Moran MP has agreed to chair, on improving confidence that the UK ICT industry really can deliver public sector systems that deliver user benefits.

This last is particularly important because of complaints from those in politics and government that the UK ICT industry does not appreciate the scale and nature of the work necessary to improve its current

image. Many smaller industries, far less important to the economy, spend considerably more time and effort to successfully conceal bigger problems and exploit less impressive success stories. Hence the desire of those parliamentarians who appreciate the importance of the industry to see that it gets its political act together.

2) Delivering Citizen Confidence in Shared Identity and Information

Delivering immediate value

The EURIM Personal Identity Group has already started work to:

- produce a draft 'grid' of current and planned exercises to promote data sharing (including management, governance and security protocols);
- help identify obstacles to data sharing, including alleged legal obstacles, and how these might be addressed;
- provide current examples of the benefits of data sharing, and the costs of not doing so.

Members are requested to send relevant inputs, including contact details and web references, to Dave Wright (davywright2@ntlworld.com) in advance of the next review meeting, on 15th December.

Common access to shared services

On 27th January, Steve Lawrence, Director of Solutions at the e-Delivery Team, eGU, will give a presentation on Government Connect, joined by Jim Purves, Product Manager for Government Gateway. The meeting is expected to focus on progress towards secure, efficient transactions within a common technical infrastructure for joining up local government, and ideas currently being considered (e.g. on governance issues, SSO, secure identification/authentication etc). In parallel a cross-government team has been set up to promote shared services, and will work from the presumption that only sharing and joining up delivers value for money when funding is awarded for projects. David Myers, head of Shared Services at the Cabinet Office, will address the EURIM Personal Identity Group on 3rd February, 2006.

Joined up Identity: what can the technology deliver?

One of the revelations in Manchester was that interoperable identity cards are already spreading across many of the smaller Member States, albeit mainly to provide access to public services, including health care. It is clear that there is much practical experience with technologies that would be used in the UK to achieve more ambitious goals. The ID Cards Subgroup is therefore organising a workshop for Parliamentarians to quiz the potential suppliers on their experience to date in delivering identity cards and similar schemes in Europe, the Far East and North America. This will take place in the Wilson Room, Portcullis House on 12th January 2006 10.00-12.00. Please email Dave Wright (davywright2@ntlworld.com) if you wish to attend.

3) Putting the Knowledge into the Knowledge Economy

HM Government Review of IPR

The Chancellor of the Exchequer has announced a review of the performance of the UK Intellectual Property Rights system, running for 12 months, reporting to the Chancellor, the Secretary of State for Trade and Industry and the Secretary of State for Culture, Media and Sport. This will include how Government administers the awarding of IP and support to consumers and business; how well businesses are able to negotiate the complexity and expense of the copyright and patent system, including copyright and patent licensing arrangements, litigation and enforcement; and whether the current technical and legal IP infringement framework reflects the digital environment, and whether provisions for 'fair use' by citizens are reasonable. Governments' commitment to examining whether the current term of copyright protection on sound recordings and performers' rights is appropriate will be conducted within the review. The press notice is at www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/newsroom_and_speeches/press/2005/Press_102_05.cfm and details will be available on the review website: www.hm-treasury.gov.uk/gowers shortly

Unravelling the questions

The first working paper from the ippr project 'Intellectual Property and the Public Sphere: Balancing Competing Priorities' has just been placed on their website at <http://ippr.typepad.com/>. 'Markets in the

Online Public Sphere' looks at why the politics and economics of online information has become so fiercely contested, and the nature of the dilemmas this creates for policy-makers. The author, Will Davies, concludes with questions for the next stage of research and debate rather than answers.

Legitimate Digital Rights Management or Illegal Software

Recent legal actions concerning the legality, let alone morality, of the digital rights management (DRM) software installed by a major record company on its CDs have given added topicality to the All Party Internet Group (APIG) enquiry on DRM, for which the deadline for submissions is 21st December: details at www.apig.org.uk/current-activities/inquiry-into-digital-rights-management.html .

The Cambridge Question

Controversy over the plans of Cambridge University to introduced new routines for handling the IPR generated by researchers funded via the University are merely the latest twist in a long-running saga as “employers” seek to exercise control over the creativity of their “staff”. The paper by the Royal Society, “Keeping science open: the effects of intellectual property policy rights on the conduct of science” www.royalsoc.ac.uk/files/statfiles/document-221.pdf is most apposite.

4) Pre-consultation on the Implementation of RIPA Part III

Access to Encryption Keys and Codes of Conduct

The greatest controversy during the passage of the Regulation of Investigatory Powers Act was over powers to demand access to encryption keys when the plain text of messages could not otherwise be obtained. In the light of recent anti-terrorism legislation, the Home Office is expected to launch shortly the consultation exercise on the implementation of the relevant section, Part III. When this was announced at the Home Office Industry Forum, one speaker said that first we had to find out whether this would cost a few hundred jobs and a few million pounds, as those who might be able to provide access to the keys moved off-shore, or a few hundreds of thousands of jobs and tens of billions of pounds as the management of Middle and Far Eastern funds left London.

Show-stopper or non-event?

This issue of access to encryption keys is one of the few ICT related issues known to be of direct concern to the CEOs of those whose UK-based organisations who might be affected, whether that is the intention or not. During the passage of the original legislation several said that they would move the relevant functions quietly off-shore rather than engage in public debate as to the trustworthiness of a Chief Constable (or those with that legal status), let alone those working for them. Some did so. Some of these would like to move them back. Others would like to move similar functions based elsewhere to London, because of its other infrastructure advantages. Both groups feel unable to do so, unless and until this issue is put to bed in a satisfactory manner e.g. the UK and US governments have no more access to their keys than the Singaporean, Swiss, Saudi or Chinese.

Next Steps

EURIM has agreed to try to organise private, off-the-record meetings on this issue to establish whether it is indeed still a show-stopper or a non-event. Please contact me directly if you would like to host or take part in such meetings (virgo.philip@eurim.org). Last time round we also organised a workshop for those tasked with drafting the necessary codes. If you took part last time and are willing to do so again, or have relevant experience yourself or within your organisation, please also let me know.

5) E-Crime turnover overtakes the Drugs Trade

The changing scene

A couple of days ago Reuters reported a US Treasury Advisor as saying that "the turnover of electronically related crime" overtook the Drugs Trade in 2004, totalling \$105 billion. Her definition included "corporate espionage, manipulation of stocks, child pornography, cyber-extortion and various types of piracy". Whether or not she was correct, the costs are rising sharply at all levels, from financial and reputation losses on the part of big business and government (some of the biggest losses to computer assisted fraud are in the public sector), to emotional and physical (as well as financial) impacts on some of those least able to protect themselves, or even work out to whom to report the

crime. Evidence of the reactions of users is now mounting: for example, the UK's longest-running small firms survey recently reported that nearly 90% now used the Internet but only 14% accepted on-line payments.

Progress on child protection

The EU Presidency event in Belfast on 14th - 16th November on "Safe Use of the Internet" was used to announce a range of initiatives, including advice and guidance, relevant to those looking to protect customers, employees and their families and to ensure corporate facilities are not abused by insiders or used by outsiders to relay illegal traffic. A good starting point for the announcements and materials is <http://police.homeoffice.gov.uk/operational-policing/crime-disorder/child-protection-taskforce> . You are also recommended to visit <http://www.thinkuknow.co.uk/parents/default.htm> .

But action in other areas is becoming urgent

Unfortunately progress on this front has been accompanied by slippage elsewhere. The overall strategy for addressing computer-assisted E-Crime is now unlikely to be announced before Spring 2006 at the earliest, and a number of issues need to be resolved before the National High Tech Crime Unit is absorbed into the Serious and Organised Crime Agency. Child Protection activities are also being brought together in a new agency. The next meeting of the EURIM E-Crime group on the afternoon of 15th December will discuss a number of these issues, as well as the means of ensuring the necessary political priority for action without causing further loss of confidence on the part of legitimate users.

Responsibility for e-Security and Investigation Skills

A recent workshop by the Security Industry Training Organisation on occupational standards for covert electronic surveillance re-opened the debate on responsibility for the skills and licensing of electronic security consultants started by the creation of the Security Industries Authority (SIA). Their website www.sito.co.uk/cgi-bin/WebObjects/SITO.woa/5/wo/oM8Jxdt6y44Ia8QIU10/0.0.43.7.2.2 states "the key sub-sectors that Skills for Security will initially cover are: Access Control Systems Installation ... Dog Handling, Door Supervision, CCTV Operation (Public Space Surveillance), CCTV Systems installation ... **IP Security (Electronic), IT Security..Risk Management ... Security Consultancy**, Security Management and Security Guarding." "Skills for Security", which takes over from SITO in January, is not a "Sector Skills Council" (unlike "E-Skills" or "Skills for Justice"), but is linked to the SIA (with its statutory powers). The problems of jurisdiction need rapid sorting.

Meanwhile Skills for Justice is seeking employer inputs to the occupational standards for Network and Internet investigations and to discussion on the means of turning occupational standards into courses and qualifications, and ensuring that employers have the necessary budgets and incentives to actually train and assess their staff. Those planning the new E-Skills IT/Q framework (intended to supersede the 740 or so current ICT end-user qualifications) will similarly be seeking employer support to help specify and embed the missing electronic security and Internet safety components. We are currently seeking to identify those interested in exploiting the opportunities these initiatives offer:

- to progress the EURIM recommendation that security and safety be mandatory on all publicly funded ICT courses; and
- to bring law enforcement and industry together with regard to the funding of training on commonly needed investigation skills.

Setting EURIM priorities for helping the fight against computer assisted crime

On 15th December the E-Crime Group will review priorities and plans. Nine areas of possible work have been identified, from highlighting the need to improve the security and governance of public sector systems, (if they are to be used safely and confidently by the bulk of the population), through to end-user education. We need to prioritize these, in line with the objectives of those expected to contribute the necessary support, with the aim of having two or three projects ready for announcement at our next meeting with the Minister. The aim of that meeting will be to demonstrate that industry is serious about partnership, provided Government will also play its part. We also need to identify which organisations are suited to progress those issues not being handled by EURIM and ensure that they do.

An example is the work on skills. This is vital, but should probably be progressed in partnership between e-Skills, Skills for Justice, Skills for Security and the embryonic Institute for Information

Security Professionals, with EURIM helping “only” to ensure the necessary political backing. Similarly our role vis-a-vis the planned Crime Prevention pilots should again be to help with political support and recruitment among our members and then stand back. EURIM’s role in the E-Crime area has progressed along a slippery slope from “Think Tank” to “Do Tank,” but there is a clear view that our “doing” should be at the “political engineering” level, not the operational implementation.

There is agreement in principle on a major exercise to brief back-bench MPs in order to provide informed support. Turning that agreement into well-resourced action plans is taking time. This is an exercise that it is better to get right than early, but time is not necessarily on our side. There are clear political benefits for those involved, especially if they are also involved in bidding for work to help transform the secure and accurate delivery of public services. Please e-mail eurim@eurim.org if you would like to participate, stating the scale and nature of assistance that you have in mind.

6) Who is Responsible for Internet Safety?

Debate over the means of protecting those at most risk is moving on. At the UK Presidency event in Belfast it was announced that a number of major ISPs will be filtering traffic very much more actively than before. Meanwhile, at Tunis, plans to fundamentally change the structure of global Internet governance were rejected but a number of new groups were announced to look at the issues. There is much debate over what is good practice in this area as well as who should be responsible for what.

On 17th January, at the Real Time Club, Derek Wyatt MP (Chair of the All Party Internet Group) has agreed to propose the motion that "The Internet is too important to be hamstrung by morality". John Carr of the NCH and CHIS will oppose. It is planned to use that event to bring together key players in an informal environment prior to discussing how best to brief MPs and those in the ICT industry on what they should expect from whom and what good practice really is. Please e-mail eurim@eurim.org for an invitation to the Real Time Club debate or to take part in any follow up. Other groups (FIPR, ICF, ISOC, ISPA, OII etc.) are active in this space and there is a need to cross-fertilize (? pollinate) debate while not duplicating each others’ efforts.

7) Holiday Arrangements

The EURIM Office will be closed from mid-day on Friday 23rd December until 9.00am on Wednesday 4th January.

We wish you all a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

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Timetable – December 2005

This timetable lists forthcoming meetings arranged by EURIM and events 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.

December

Date: Thursday 1 December 2005
Time: 13.00 - 14.00
Venue: Portcullis House, Westminster
Organiser: Conservative Technology Forum
Description: Open Source Software for Government
Attendance: More details at www.conservative-technology.org

Date: Monday 5 December 2005
Time: 18.00 - 20.00
Venue: Portcullis House, Westminster
Organiser: Conservative Technology Forum
Description: Digital Broadcasting & Content, discussion introduced by Simon Pitts (ITV), Wilf White (BBC) & Theresa May MP.
Attendance: More details at www.conservative-technology.org

Date: Thursday 8 December 2005
Time: 10.00 - 12.00
Venue: Brussels
Organiser: EPP-ED
Description: Hearing on Competitiveness & Innovation Programme: EURIM evidence on behalf of ICT industries.
Attendance: EPP-ED MEPs & invited witnesses

Date: Monday 12 December 2005
Time: 10.00 - 12.00 & 14.00 - 16.00
Venue: BCS, Southampton Street, LONDON WC2
Organiser: EURIM E-Crime Group
Description: Sub-Group meetings
Attendance: Group members, observers & guests

To be confirmed

Date: Tuesday 13 December 2005
Time: 08.45 for 09.00 - 13.00
Venue: Lewis Media Centre, Millbank Tower, Millbank, London SW1
Organiser: Westminster eForum
Description: Where next for e-Government: Chaired by Margaret Moran MP & Dr Vincent Cable MP. Confirmed speakers include Ian Watmore, Claire Tyler (Director, Social Exclusion Unit) & Neil Wholey (Head of e-Government Research, MORI).
Attendance: Contact jamie.hurst@westminsterforumprojects.co.uk

Date: Tuesday 13 December 2005
Time: 18.00
Venue: Westminster
Organiser: PITCOM
Description: Strategy for Transformational Government: Jim Murphy MP, Minister for e-Government.
Attendance: PITCOM members only www.pitcom.org.uk

Date: Thursday 15 December 2005
Time: 10.00 - 12.00
Venue: Committee Room 6, Westminster Palace
Organiser: EURIM Personal Identity & Data Sharing Group
Description: Review of progress with "map" of information sharing initiatives, including protocols & standard setting & discussion of possible "good practice" guidelines.
Attendance: Group members, observers & guests

Date: Thursday 15 December 2005
Time: 14.00 - 16.00
Venue: W1, Westminster Hall
Organiser: EURIM E-Crime Group
Description: Review of Progress & Plans
Attendance: Group members, observers & guests

Date: Tuesday 20 December 2005 **To be confirmed**
Time: Evening
Venue: To be confirmed
Organiser: E-business Regulatory Alliance
Description: Dinner with Malcolm Harbour MEP to discuss the Services Directive.
Attendance: Details from will.roebuck@e-ra.org.uk

January 2006

Date: Wednesday 4 January 2006
Time: pm
Venue: Central London
Organiser: E-business Regulatory Alliance
Description: ERA Legal Policy Forum
Attendance: ERA Members and Observers, details from will.roebuck@e-ra.org.uk

Date: Thursday 12 January 2006
Time: 07.45 - 09.30
Venue: IBM South Bank
Organiser: EURIM Board & Council
Description: Delivering Competitiveness: what policies enable the Boards of multi-nationals to justify investment & employment in the UK to parent boards & shareholders?
Attendance: Invited MPs & Policy Advisors

Date: Thursday **12** January 2006
Time: 10.00 - 12.00
Venue: Wilson Room, Portcullis House, Westminster
Organiser: EURIM Personal Identity & Data Sharing Group
Description: ID Cards: What have the would-be suppliers already delivered elsewhere? Workshop organised by ID-Entity & EURIM.
Attendance: MPs & Policy Advisors

Date: Monday **16** January 2006
Time: 18.00 - 19.30
Venue: Westminster
Organiser: PITCOM
Description: Can ICT Deliver Public Expenditure Savings?
Attendance: PITCOM members only www.pitcom.org.uk

Date: Tuesday **17** January 2006
Time: 18.00 for 19.00 - 20.00
Venue: National Liberal Club, Westminster
Organiser: Real Time Club
Description: "The Internet is too important to be hamstrung by Morality": Debate introduced by Derek Wyatt MP (Chair APIG) & John Carr (NCH & CHIS), with invitations to APIG, WCIT Ethical & Spiritual Panel & others.
Attendance: Contact carmen.harvey@btopenworld.com

Date: Monday **23** January 2006
Time: 18.00 - 20.00
Venue: Westminster
Organiser: Conservative Technology Forum
Description: Who runs the Internet?
Attendance: More details at www.conservative-technology.org

Date: Friday **27** January 2006
Time: 10.00 - 12.00
Venue: Room 'M', Portcullis House
Organiser: EURIM Personal Identity & Data Sharing Group
Description: Government Gateway & Government Direct: Introduction by Steve Lawrence on current situation & plans followed by discussion of potential as a point of leverage.
Attendance: Group members, observers & guests

Date: Tuesday **31** January 2006
Time: 16.00 - 17.00
Venue: Westminster
Organiser: EURIM
Description: Board & Council meeting to approve 2006 plans
Attendance: Directors, Council Members & invited guests only

February

Date: Friday **3** February 2006
Time: 10.00 - 12.00
Venue: Room 'C', 1 Parliament Street, Westminster
Organiser: EURIM Personal Identity & Data Sharing Group
Description: Discussion on Government Plans for Shared Services: introduced by David Myers.
Attendance: Group members, observers & guests

Date: Monday **6** February 2006
Time: 18.00
Venue: Westminster
Organiser: PITCOM
Description: AGM & Annual Reception
Attendance: PITCOM members only www.pitcom.org.uk

Date: Wednesday **8** February & Thursday **9** February 2006
Time: 2 days
Venue: The Plaisterer's Hall, London Wall
Organiser: CMA
Description: CMA Conference 2006: Next Generation Networks, Business Efficiency, VoIP, Security, Flexible Working & Convergence.
Attendance: Details from Sylvia Scottow sscottow@thecma.com

Date: Wednesday **15** February 2006
Time: pm
Venue: Central London
Organiser: E-business Regulatory Alliance
Description: ERA Legal Policy Forum
Attendance: ERA Members and Observers, details from will.roebuck@e-ra.org.uk

Date: Monday **27** February 2006
Time: 18.00
Venue: Westminster
Organiser: PITCOM
Description: ICT for the Socially Excluded
Attendance: PITCOM members only www.pitcom.org.uk

March

Date: Monday **6** March 2006
Time: 18.00
Venue: Westminster
Organiser: Conservative Technology Forum
Description: Cybersecurity
Attendance: More details at www.conservative-technology.org

Date: Wednesday **15** March 2006
Time: 18.00
Venue: Westminster
Organiser: EURIM
Description: Reception with Computer Weekly 500 Club
Attendance: EURIM & CW500 members

Date: Monday **20** March 2006
Time: 18.00
Venue: Westminster
Organiser: PITCOM
Description: Information Sharing between Government Departments - Good or Bad?
Attendance: PITCOM members only www.pitcom.org.uk

Date: Tuesday **21** March 2006
Time: 18.00 for 19.00 - 20.00
Venue: National Liberal Club, Westminster
Organiser: Real Time Club
Description: Ubiquitous Computing changes everything: discussion introduced by John Woodget, Managing Director Intel UK & President of the Intellect Board
Attendance: Contact carmen.harvey@btopenworld.com

Date: Wednesday **29** March 2006
Time: pm
Venue: Central London
Organiser: E-business Regulatory Alliance
Description: ERA Legal Policy Forum
Attendance: ERA Members and Observers, details from will.roebuck@e-ra.org.uk