

PKI International Scan

January 31, 2005

INTRODUCTION 6

GLOBAL/MULTI-NATION ACTIVITIES..... 6

E-GOVERNMENT SERVICES YIELD REAL BENEFITS FOR EU CITIZENS AND BUSINESSES (*E-GOVERNMENT*).....6

COUNCIL OF EUROPE ISSUES RECOMMENDATION ON E-GOVERNANCE (*E-GOVERNMENT*).....6

EUROPEAN COMMISSION LAUNCHES CONSULTATION ON E-ACCESSIBILITY (*E-GOVERNMENT / E-SERVICES*).....7

NEW PAN-EUROPEAN E-GOVERNMENT PROGRAMME KICKS OFF (*E-GOVERNMENT / INTEROPERABILITY*).....7

EUROPEAN VISA INFORMATION SYSTEM PROJECT MAKING PROGRESS (*E-COMMERCE / BIOMETRICS / SMART CARD*).....7

E-PROCUREMENT: THE TIME IS NOW FOR THE PUBLIC SECTOR (*E-COMMERCE*).....8

EUROPEAN INTEROPERABILITY FRAMEWORK V 1.0 RELEASED (*INTEROPERABILITY*).....8

IDENTITY MANAGEMENT FOR PAN-EUROPEAN E-GOVERNMENT SERVICES (*PKI / AUTHENTICATION*).....8

DOES E-GOVERNMENT PAY OFF? (*E-GOVERNMENT*).....8

AFRICA (CONTINENT OF)..... 9

SOUTH AFRICA..... 9

SOUTH AFRICA..... 9

ARGENTINA 9

AUSTRIA..... 9

AUSTRIA LAUNCHES ELECTRONIC HEALTH INSURANCE CARD PILOT (*E-SERVICES*)9

AUSTRALIA..... 9

YOU CAN LEAD A GOVERNMENT TO XML (*INTEROPERABILITY*)9

PRIVACY 'RISK' IN NATIONAL ID PLAN (*BIOMETRICS / PRIVACY*).....9

TAX OFFICE SERIOUS ABOUT WIRELESS (*PKI*)..... 10

BELGIUM 10

BERMUDA 10

BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA..... 10

BRAZIL 10

BRUNEI 10

CANADIAN E-GOVT EXPERT IN BRUNEI (*E-GOVERNMENT*)..... 10

BULGARIA..... 11

CANADA 11

BIDDING OPENS FOR RESIDUAL WIRELESS SPECTRUM IN THE 2300 MHZ AND 3500 MHZ BANDS (*PKI / DIGITAL SIGNATURE*)..... 11

ON-LINE PAYMENTS CONSULTATION REPORT (*E-COMMERCE*) 11

FACIAL-SCAN TECHNOLOGY UNPROVEN, SAYS INTERNAL REPORT ON BIOMETRICS (*BIOMETRICS*)..... 11

NATIONAL WEB LIBRARY DO-ABLE, AFFORDABLE, VISIONARY (*E-SERVICES*)..... 12

DND PUTS VANGUARD ON SENSITIVE MAINFRAME DATA (*CRYPTOGRAPHY*)..... 12

THE CHEQUE IS IN THE VIRTUAL MAIL (*E-COMMERCE*)..... 12

EDC ADDS TRADE FINANCE ACCESS TO UNIQUE GOVERNMENT SITE FOR EXPORTERS (*E-COMMERCE*)..... 12

TELUS CASE CALLS ROLE OF PRIVACY COMMISSIONER INTO QUESTION (*PIPEDA*) 13

NECST STANDARD TO BRING COHESION TO E-CLAIMS PROCESS (*INTEROPERABILITY / E-SERVICES*)..... 13

SECRET NETWORK TO LINK AGENCIES IN EMERGENCY (*E-GOVERNMENT / AUTHENTICATION / INTEROPERABILITY*)..... 13

ENCRYPTION MAKES E-MESSAGES SECURE (<i>CRYPTOGRAPHY / PRIVACY</i>).....	14
FEDERAL SYSTEMS LIKELY TARGETS OF HACKERS (<i>CRYPTOGRAPHY / PRIVACY / AUTHENTICATION</i>).....	14
SCOTIABANK OFFERS E-POST (<i>AUTHENTICATION / E-SERVICES</i>).....	14
TAKE A PAGE FROM THE GERMANS, PRIVACY COMMISSIONER TELLS CANADIAN COMPANIES (<i>PRIVACY</i>).....	14
OTTAWA REWORDS CONTRACTS TO THWART <i>PATRIOT ACT</i> (<i>PRIVACY</i>).....	15
TEN RESEARCH PROJECTS FUNDED TO EXAMINE PRIVACY THREATS IN A DIGITAL AGE (<i>PRIVACY/PIPEDA</i>).....	15
CANADIANS AT RISK OF ONLINE IDENTITY THEFT: TOO TRUSTING: SURVEY: 20% GIVE OUT PASSWORDS OVER PHONE, INTERNET (<i>AUTHENTICATION / ONLINE TRANSACTIONS</i>).....	15
NEW BRUNSWICK: SNB SERVES AS A WORLD MODEL; WE SAY: SERVICE NEW BRUNSWICK IS PROVING TO BE A MODEL FOR THE NATION AND THE WORLD FOR DELIVERY OF GOVERNMENT SERVICES (<i>E-GOVERNMENT</i>).....	16
NEWFOUNDLAND & LABRADOR: ONLINE SERVICES NOW AVAILABLE FOR REGISTRY OF DEEDS AND COMPANIES (<i>E-COMMERCE / E-SERVICES</i>).....	16
ONTARIO: PARENTS CAN KEEP ONLINE EYE ON STUDENT ATTENDANCE: FRENCH PUBLIC SCHOOLS PUT INFORMATION ONLINE (<i>E-SERVICES</i>).....	16
CHILE	16
CHINA	17
DENMARK	17
DUBAI	17
ESTONIA	17
FINLAND	17
FINLAND ON TRACK TO ISSUE FIRST BIOMETRIC PASSPORT IN EUROPE (<i>BIOMETRICS/CRYPTOGRAPHY</i>).....	17
FRANCE	17
FRANCE LAUNCHES SIX-MONTH BIOMETRICS STUDY (<i>BIOMETRICS</i>).....	17
LEGAL MILESTONE FOR E-PROCUREMENT IN FRANCE (<i>E-COMMERCE</i>).....	17
GERMANY	18
HONG KONG	18
HONG KONG SIGNS E-GOVT DEAL WITH UK (<i>E-GOVERNMENT</i>).....	18
STRATEGY FOR E-SERVICE DELIVERY BACKED (<i>E-GOVERNMENT / INTEROPERABILITY / E-SERVICES</i>).....	18
HUNGARY	18
HUNGARIAN GOVERNMENT EXTENDS MANDATORY E-FILING OF TAX RETURNS (<i>DIGITAL SIGNATURE / PKI</i>).....	18
INDIA	19
IRELAND	19
IRISH GOVERNMENT LAUNCHES NEW PASSPORT (<i>BIOMETRICS</i>).....	19
ISRAEL	19
ITALY	19
ITALY LAUNCHES ELECTRONIC HEALTH CARD (<i>BIOMETRICS / PRIVACY</i>).....	19
STANCIA ISSUES "TECHNOLOGY COMMANDMENTS" FOR DIGITALIZATION OF GOVERNMENT (<i>DIGITAL SIGNATURES / PKI</i>).....	19
JAPAN	20
KENYA	20
KOREA	20
LITHUNIA	20
LITHUANIAN ADMINISTRATION PROMOTES E-DOCUMENT EXCHANGE (<i>PKI / DIGITAL SIGNATURE / SMART CARDS</i>).....	20
LUXEMBURG	20
MALAYSIA	20

MALTA	20
MEXICO	21
NETHERLANDS (THE)	21
ID DOCUMENTS BECOME MANDATORY IN THE NETHERLANDS (<i>BIOMETRICS</i>).....	21
NEW ZEALAND	21
DATACOM WINS GOVERNMENT ID PROJECT (<i>CRYPTOGRAPHY / AUTHENTICATION</i>).....	21
NORWAY	21
PAKISTAN	21
POLAND	22
PORTUGAL	22
PORTUGAL TO INTRODUCE ELECTRONIC MEDICAL PRESCRIPTIONS IN 2005 (<i>E-SERVICES</i>)....	22
PORTUGUESE GOVERNMENT TO CREATE ELECTRONIC ID CARD (<i>BIOMETRICS / SMART CARDS</i>)..	22
RUSSIA	22
SINGAPORE	22
SLOVAK REPUBLIC	22
SLOVENIA (REPUBLIC OF)	22
SOUTH KOREA	22
SPAIN	23
SWEDEN	23
SWITZERLAND	23
TAIWAN	23
NEW IDENTIFICATION CARDS TO BE AVAILABLE FROM JULY (<i>BIOMETRICS / SMART CARDS</i>).....	23
TANZANIA	23
THAILAND	23
FINALLY SOFTWARE W IN THAI GOVERNMENT PKI PROJECT (<i>PKI</i>)	23
TURKISH	24
UNITED KINGDOM	24
BRITISH ID CARD GAINS GROUND (<i>SMART CARD / BIOMETRICS</i>).....	24
UK PARLIAMENT BACKS ID CARDS BILL (<i>BIOMETRICS / PRIVACY</i>).....	24
INFORMATION COMMISSIONER SAYS HE'LL UPHOLD FOI ACT IN A ROBUST MANNER (<i>PIPEDA</i>)	24
.....	24
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION ACT: CILIP LAUNCHES GUIDE TO AVAILABLE FOI RESOURCES	24
(<i>PIPEDA</i>).....	24
RGET CONNECTED! - NEW BUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES VIA A PLANNED GOVERNMENT WEB	25
PORTAL (<i>E-COMMERCE</i>).....	25
DIGITAL SIGNATURE CONFIRMS LATEST NORTH SEA OIL CONTRACT (<i>DIGITAL SIGNATURE /</i>	25
<i>AUTHENTICATION / E-COMMERCE</i>)	25
VOTERS COULD GET ID SYSTEM (<i>PRIVACY / SMART CARDS</i>).....	25
UNITED STATES	26
GSA CONFIRMS DATA CHARGES (<i>E-COMMERCE</i>).....	26
IRS PREDICTS ELECTRONIC TAX FILINGS WILL PASS 50 PERCENT (<i>ONLINE TRANSACTIONS / E-</i>	26
<i>SERVICES</i>).....	26
DIC SAYS BETTER AUTHENTICATION IS NEEDED TO COMBAT ID THEFT (<i>E-COMMERCE /</i>	26
<i>AUTHENTICATION</i>).....	26
NIST ISSUES RECOMMENDATIONS FOR SECURE VOIP (<i>ONLINE TRANSACTIONS / AUTHENTICATION</i>)	26
.....	26
E-GOV SPENDING EXPECTED TO RISE, DESPITE CONGRESSIONAL DISSATISFACTION (<i>E-</i>	26
<i>GOVERNMENT</i>).....	26
US DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY TO IMPLEMENT BIOSCRYPT TECHNOLOGY AS	26
REFERENCE BIOMETRIC FOR TRANSPORTATION WORKER IDENTIFICATION CARD PROTOTYPE	26
PROGRAM (<i>BIOMETRICS</i>).....	27

BUSH TO ADDRESS CYBERSECURITY (*E-GOVERNMENT / PKI*).....27
 THREE TAPPED FOR PKI (*PKI / E-SIGNATURE*).....27
 IRS MANDATES E-FILING (*E-GOVERNMENT*).....27
 WHO OWNS YOUR E-MAILS? (*PRIVACY*).....28
 FEDERAL ENTERPRISE ARCHITECTURE PROGRAM MANAGEMENT OFFICE - SECURITY AND
 PRIVACY PROFILE PHASE 1 FINAL (*PRIVACY / INTEROPERABILITY*).....28
 TECH ECONOMY SITE OPENS (*E-GOVERNMENT / E-COMMERCE/ E-SERVICES*).....28
 ARMY AWARDS CONTRACT FOR DIGITAL SIGNATURES (*DIGITAL SIGNATURE*).....28
 CRITICS WARY ABOUT BIOMETRIC SMART CARDS (*PRIVACY / SMART CARDS / BIOMETRICS*)29
 XML DEAL INKED FOR RESPONDERS (*INTEROPERABILITY*).....29
 E-GOV MATURES (*E-GOVERNMENT*).....29
 MILITARY EYES NEW TECHNOLOGY (*CRYPTOGRAPHY / PKI / INTEROPERABILITY*).....29
 LE FBI ABANDONNE CARNIVORE, SON SYSTÈME D'ESPIONNAGE DU COURRIEL (*CARNIVORE*)30
 GOVERNMENT SMART CARD SPECS ALMOST READY (*SMART CARD*).....30
 WITH HIGH-COST `SMART CARDS,' MILITARY TARGETS TIGHTER SECURITY (*SMART CARD / PKI /
 BIOMETRICS / DIGITAL SIGNATURES*).....30
VENEZUELA30
VIET NAM31
MISCELLANEOUS32
 FINGERPRINTING PLAYS KEY ROLE IN BIOMETRICS BOOM (*BIOMETRICS / AUTHENTICATION*)32
 CONTROVERSY GOES ON OVER GLOBAL BIOMETRIC PASSPORT STANDARDS (*BIOMETRICS /
 PRIVACY / ENCRYPTION*).....32
 ONLINE ID FRAUD FEARS 'OUT OF PROPORTION' (*E-COMMERCE / AUTHENTICATION*).....32

International PKI Scan

Introduction

This report represents ongoing research conducted by the Government of Canada (GoC) to keep abreast of developments in secure electronic transactions and service delivery. The primary focus is on how federal governments are addressing the requirement to ensure a trusted environment to enable electronic delivery of services to the public. The document is compiled using information gathered from web sites, news reports, presentations from visiting delegations, and ongoing information exchanges with internal and external parties. Since most of the research has been compiled through secondary sources, the information in this document reflects how the profiled organizations present their situation, rather than a detailed and vetted analysis of actual progress. Also, due to the rapid pace of change in this area, new developments are happening all the time. The report should not be considered a final report, but rather an evolving source of compiled information for reference purposes.

Global/Multi-nation Activities

e-Government Services Yield Real Benefits for EU Citizens and Businesses ¹ (*e-Government*)

A new survey of e-Government services prepared for the European Commission found that European Union (EU) citizens are saving 7 million hours a year on the time it takes to do their income tax returns, while the EU firms are saving about EUR10 per transaction on their Value Added Tax (VAT) returns by doing them on line. Viviane Reding, Information Society and Media Commissioner, welcomed these latest findings, and said "The survey shows that public services on line clearly deliver concrete added value both to citizens and business. The challenge now for public authorities is to provide online public services interactively wherever possible and relevant." The 2004 eGovernment-impact survey that covered 48,228 users (19,896 replies from citizens and 28,332 from businesses) found the most commonly reported benefits are saving time and gaining flexibility.

Council of Europe Issues Recommendation On e-Governance ² (*e-Government*)

The Council of Europe (COE) adopted on December 15th, 2004 a recommendation on e-governance that urges its member states to use Information and Communication Technology (ICT) to enhance good governance and democracy. The COE recommends that member states review their e-governance policies, legislation and practice in light of the recommendation, and work together with the appropriate international, national, regional and local stakeholders to develop a shared vision of e-governance. In this respect, the developed e-governance strategy has to aim at (1) enhancing the effectiveness of democratic processes, (2) widening the choices available to users to communicate with government by providing additional channels, (3) involving users in strategic choices and respects their needs and priorities, (4) providing a framework for partnership between public authorities, private sector, and other organizations of civil society, (5) ensuring system availability, security, integrity and interoperability, (6) providing an ICT policy based on technology neutrality, open standard, and on the assessment of possibilities offered by different software models, including open source models.

¹

<http://europa.eu.int/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/05/41&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>

² <http://europa.eu.int/idabc/en/document/3765/194>

European Commission Launches Consultation On e-Accessibility ³ (e-Government / e-Services)

On January 10th, 2005, the European Commission launched a public consultation expected at collecting input on how to make the benefits of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) available to the widest possible range of citizens, including older people and people with disabilities. Results of the consultation will feed into an upcoming Commission Communication on e-accessibility. The consultation is a first step in the Commission's endeavor to remove the technical challenges and difficulties that many people experience when trying to use electronic products or services such as computers, mobile phones or the Internet. Viviane Reding, the Information Society and Media Commissioner said, "Information and communication technologies can be powerful tools for bringing people together, improving their health and welfare, and making their jobs and social lives richer and more rewarding. However, over 90 million European Union (EU) citizens either cannot reap these benefits in full, or are effectively cut off from them because of age or disabilities. Making ICT products and services more accessible is thus a social, ethical and political imperative"

New Pan-European e-Government Programme Kicks Off ⁴ (e-Government / Interoperability)

On January 1st, 2005 the new pan-European e-Government programme named Interoperable Delivery of pan-European e-Government Services to Administrations, Businesses and Citizens (IDABC) that covers the period 2005-2009 was launched. IDABC succeeds the previous Interchange of Data between Administrations (IDA) programme. While IDA aimed at supporting efficient exchange of information between member states' administrations and the European institutions, IDABC points to identify, support and promote the development and establishment of pan-European e-Government services (PEGS). To achieve its objectives, IDABC will develop a series of projects of common interest designed to make use of the horizontal services and contribute to their further development. Therefore, it will constitute a key element supporting the objectives of the Lisbon Strategy and the eEurope action plan.

European Visa Information System Project Making Progress ⁵ (e-Commerce / Biometrics / Smart Card)

On January 7th, 2005 the European Commission adopted a proposal for the regulation that defines the purpose, functionalities and responsibilities for the future Visa Information System (VIS), which is expected to include biometric data such as digital facial image and fingerprints in a second phase by the end of 2007. So far, and with 70 million travellers over a decade, the VIS would become the largest biometric database in the world. Nevertheless, its development is raising more technical problems than initially expected so, in November 2004, the Visa Working Group concluded that although the integration of a radio frequency identification (RFID) chip safely storing two biometric identifiers in the European passport would be technically possible, collisions between several RFID chips in a same document would make current plans to include visa stickers containing RFID chips into passports technically not possible. The committee's report concluded that these plans should be dropped, and recommended that the visa sticker be accompanied by a separate smart card. This would solve the collision problem, as the card could be separated from the passport and read individually. Reacting to the report conclusions, the Luxembourg presidency suggested that the issue be submitted to the political level in order to make progress on the subject.

³ <http://europa.eu.int/idabc/en/document/3766/194>

⁴ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsp/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3748&lg=en

⁵ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsp/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3762&lg=en

e-Procurement: The Time Is Now for the Public Sector ⁶ (e-Commerce)

The European Union (EU) has issued an action plan detailing how member governments can switch to e-procurement before the implementation deadline scheduled on January 31st, 2006. The action plan says the spread of e-procurement can save governments "up to five per cent on expenditure and 50 to 80 per cent on transaction costs for buyers and suppliers." However the document warns, "The inappropriate introduction of e-procurement carries high risks of market fragmentation. The legal, technical and organizational barriers that may result from procurement online are one of the greatest challenges for policy makers." The EU isn't expecting all member states to be on time, therefore, "Slippages cannot be excluded," the action plan adds.

European Interoperability Framework v 1.0 Released ⁷ (Interoperability)

Interoperable Delivery of pan-European e-Government Services to Public Administrations, Businesses and Citizens (IDABC), the European Union (EU)'s new pan-European e-government programme, has released version 1.0 of the European Interoperability Framework (EIF), the reference interoperability document for the development and delivery of e-Government services at pan-European level. The EIF defines interoperability as "the ability of information and communication technology (ICT) systems and of the business processes they support to exchange data and to enable the sharing of information and knowledge", while the interoperability framework is defined as "a set of standards and guidelines that describes the way in which organizations have agreed, or should agree, to interact with each other".

Identity Management for Pan-European e-Government Services ⁸ (PKI / Authentication)

By extending to citizens and businesses the benefits of electronic exchange of data between public administrations, the new Interoperable Delivery of pan-European e-Government Services to Public Administrations, Businesses and Citizens (IDABC) programme is set to gain a generic security services, particularly with regard to user identification and authentication. Number of initiatives, like the Interchange of Data between Administrations (IDA) Bridge/Gateway CA Pilot Project, has already been launched in this regard to provide the foundations of an identity management defined as the set of policies, rules, mechanisms, processes and applications that encompasses four key components: authentication, access control, accounting, and user management. For additional information on the Bridge/Gateway Certification Authority (BGCA), the link is : http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsps/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=2318&lg=en

Does e-Government Pay Off? ⁹ (e-Government)

Under the authority of the Dutch Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, research has been carried out into the effective use of information and communication technology (ICT) in the public sector in Europe. Precisely, the objective of the study was to investigate if it is worth investing in e-Government initiatives, and to identify the back office changes required for that. Two Dutch companies, Capgemini Netherlands and TNO Strategy, Technology and Policy, have carried out the study, and their conclusion is that e-Government does pay off and that back office changes are required to achieve results.

⁶ <http://management.silicon.com/government/0,39024677,39127255,00.html> CIOB News 2005-01-24

⁷ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsps/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3797&lg=en

⁸ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsps/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3784&lg=en

⁹ <http://www.eupan.org/index.asp?option=documents§ion=details&id=19> CIOB News 2005-01-28

Africa (Continent of)

No new item to report.

South Africa

No new item to report.

South Africa

No new item to report.

Argentina

No new item to report.

Austria

Austria Launches Electronic Health Insurance Card Pilot ¹⁰ (e-Services)

A pilot of the Austrian electronic health insurance card (e-card) that also will be prepared for a digital signature function started on December 15th, 2004 in the region of Burgenland, while countrywide rollout is due to start at the end of February 2005. The chip card will contain administrative data such as the holder's name, title, date of birth, and social insurance number. The central element of the e-card project is to connect 12,000 doctors to the computing centre network of the Federation of Austrian Social Security Institutions. The network required for running the system through the country will be provided by Telekom Austria.

Australia

You Can Lead a Government To XML ¹¹ (Interoperability)

In 2002, the Australian Prudential Regulatory Authority (APRA) as the government body responsible for supervision of Australia's financial services and insurance industries announced that it would be among the first such bodies in the world to support eXtensible Business Reporting Language (XBRL), built around the eXtensible Markup Language (XML) standard. APRA believed that the standard's enablement of consistent financial reporting structures would make it extremely popular among the 10,000 institutions required to report regularly to it. By configuring their systems to output XBRL documents and send them straight to APRA, the supporters of the initiative believed that organizations could save considerable amounts of time, money and effort.

Privacy 'Risk' In National ID Plan ¹² (Biometrics / Privacy)

¹⁰ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsps/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3691&lg=en

¹¹ <http://www.cio.com.au/index.php/id:1160512555:fp:4:fpid:21> CIOB News 2005-01-19

The identity of Australians could be subjected to unprecedented scrutiny under the biggest security protection plan since the failed Australia Card. In fact, Federal cabinet will soon see a proposal for a national "document verification service" designed to combat identity-related crimes ranging from welfare fraud to terrorism. It would give federal and state government agencies and key businesses the right to verify the identity of clients by crosschecking birth certificates, drivers' licences and passports through a central data exchange hub. The Attorney General's Department is finalizing the proposal for the online system. Airlines, banks and other businesses vulnerable to welfare fraud or terrorism are keen to be part of the project. But unlike the previous proposal, the Government is opposing a single number to identify every Australian.

Tax Office Serious About Wireless ¹³ *(PKI)*

The Australian Taxation Office (ATO) will introduce a wireless data pilot project next month to give senior managers mobile access to its core corporate applications. ATO chief information officer Bill Gibson said the wireless system might be extended to field service and audit staff, and added "we are doing pilots of some wireless technologies to support staff who are remote from the office. The biggest challenges for us are security and integrity matters. A lot of staff are out and about, so we are looking at piloting some mobile phone technology that will give them high-speed access to these core systems." If the wireless pilot are successful, the ATO would consider including the system in its 2006 technology refresh.

Belgium

No new item to report.

Bermuda

No new item to report.

Bosnia-Herzegovina

No new item to report.

Brazil

No new item to report.

Brunei

Canadian e-Govt Expert In Brunei ¹⁴ *(e-Government)*

Dr Jim Tam, Associate Professor of IT Management with a Canadian university, is in Brunei advising officials about the progress of their e-Government implementation. Mr. Tam has been

¹² <http://australianit.news.com.au/articles/0,7204,12003945%5E15306%5E%5Enbv%5E,00.html>

¹³ <http://australianit.news.com.au/articles/0,7204,12038150%5E15321%5E%5Enbv%5E15306,00.htm>

¹⁴ <http://www.pstm.net/article/index.php?articleid=490> CIOB News 2005-01-14

instrumental in setting up a number of computer standards working committees for the government of Canada. The deadline for implementing the first stage of Brunei's e-Government programme is this year. Speaking in Brunei, Professor Tam said that Brunei's efforts were contributing to the quality and efficiency of the services delivered to the citizens and the customers, and commended the authorities on their evaluation of interactive, network information and communication technologies.

Bulgaria

No new item to report.

Canada

Bidding Opens For Residual Wireless Spectrum In The 2300 MHz and 3500 MHz Bands ¹⁵ *(PKI / Digital Signature)*

On January 10th, 2005 Industry Canada opens bidding in the second phase of the two phase residual licence auction in the 2300 Megahertz (MHz) and 3500 MHz frequency bands. To ensure confidentiality and authenticity, phase two bids were conducted securely over the Internet using Canadian public key infrastructure encryption and digital signature technologies. Canada has held three successful spectrum auctions to facilitate the implementation of new and innovative telecommunications services. This fourth auction is taking place in two phases. The first phase was for the identification and allocation of licences where the supply was greater than the demand. The second phase is for the allocation of licences where the demand for licences exceeds the available supply. For more information, see Industry Canada's Spectrum Management and Telecommunications Web site at <http://strategis.gc.ca/spectrumbauctions>.

On-Line Payments Consultation Report ¹⁶ *(e-Commerce)*

The report provides an overview of the comments received as well as an update on the status of the rule for on-line payments. The most comments and inquiries are related to three areas: (1) the framework's implications for on-line merchants, (2) the processing of on-line payments, and (3) consumer protection matters. For the third point, and in its efforts to address the consumer protection concerns, the Canadian Payments Association (CPA) consulted with the consumer groups and government to identify possible courses of action. The preferred solution would be the development of a broad national consumer protection framework for all types of electronic payments in Canada. To address consumer issues respecting on-line payments cleared and settled through the CPA's retail payments system, the CPA has developed a Statement of Policy encouraging its members to apply, where appropriate, the principles set out in the [Canadian Code of Practice for Consumer Debit Card Services](#) to the on-line payments effected by their clients.

Facial-Scan Technology Unproven, Says Internal Report On Biometrics ¹⁷ *(Biometrics)*

An internal federal report obtained by The Canadian Press under the *Access to Information Act*, raises questions about the effectiveness of electronic photo-matching technology, the technique that Passport Office plans to use in an effort to prevent terrorists from obtaining travel documents. The office recently tested a computer program that compares an image of a face with thousands of

¹⁵ <http://www.news.gc.ca/cfmx/CCP/view/en/index.cfm?articleid=119919> Thanks to HD

¹⁶ <http://www.cdnpay.ca/news/consultation.asp>

¹⁷ http://story.news.yahoo.com/news?tmpl=story&cid=2152&ncid=2152&e=1&u=/cpress/20050104/ca_pr_on_tc/biometric_doubts CIOB News 2005-01-05

other mugshot-style photos and zeroes in on possible matches. The report that examined various biometric applications, was completed in March for the Communications Security Establishment (CSE) established that while a digital system has the potential to sift through large batches of pictures and return likely matches, "[i]ts suitability for this purpose remains uncertain."

National Web Library Do-Able, Affordable, Visionary ¹⁸ (e-Services)

In the mid-1990s, the Government of Canada established a bold new vision for the Internet in Canada. The centerpiece was a commitment to establish national Internet access from coast to coast, supported by a program that would enable the country to quickly become the first in the world to connect every single school, no matter how small or large, to the Internet. Not only did Canada meet its goal, but also it completed the program ahead of schedule. As we enter the middle of this decade, the time has come for Industry Minister David Emerson and his colleagues to articulate a new future-oriented vision for the Canadian Internet. While the last decade centered on access to the Internet, the dominant issue this decade is focused on access to the content on the Internet. To address that issue, the federal government should again think big. One opportunity is to greatly expand the National Library of Canada's digital efforts by becoming the first country in the world to create a comprehensive national digital library. The library, which would be fully accessible online, would contain a digitally scanned copy of every book, government report, and legal decision ever published in Canada.

DND Puts Vanguard On Sensitive Mainframe Data ¹⁹ (Cryptography)

The Department of National Defence (DND) has upgraded its security software to protect sensitive information stored on its zSeries mainframe, the department's foundation for centralized security. DND realized it needs to concentrate management of its security system to better handle thousands of users with access to the same pool of information, explained George Mitchell, an IT security analyst with the department in Ottawa. DND chose Vanguard Security Solutions 5.3 from Vanguard Integrity Professionals of Las Vegas, an IBM partner.

The Cheque Is In The Virtual Mail ²⁰ (e-Commerce)

After making its debut almost 200 years ago the Canadian cheque is being dragged into the electronic age. Although the use of cheques has been on the decline for years because of Internet banking, and bank machines, the country still processes about 5 million cheques a day. But now, the Canadian Payments Association (CPA) unveiled changes in cheque specifications that will see cheques processed electronically rather than manually. Roger Dowdall, vice-president of communications and education at the Canadian Payments Association said "Cheque clearing is now based on the physical movement of cheques between financial institutions. The new cheques will continue to exist as hard copies, but once they reach their first institution, they will be electronically scanned and processed."

EDC Adds Trade Finance Access To Unique Government Site For Exporters ²¹ (e-Commerce)

¹⁸ http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Article_Type1&call_pageid=971358637177&c=Article&cid=1105312209757 CIOB News 2004-01-10

¹⁹ <http://www.itbusiness.ca/index.asp?theaction=61&lid=1&sid=57818>

²⁰ http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Article_Type1&call_pageid=971358637177&c=Article&cid=1105397411748 CIOB News 2005-01-11

²¹ <http://www.news.qc.ca/cfm/CCP/view/en/index.cfm?articleid=119949&> CIOB News 2005-01-11

Export Development Canada (EDC) is partnering with the Canadian Trade Commissioner Service to expand the tool kit of the online virtual trade commissioner for Canadian exporters. This free, password protected website provides customized market information, business leads, and now, a quick entry to EDC's trade finance and risk management tools. Suzanne Morris, EDC's Vice-President of Small Business Services said, "Canadian exporters who use this site can gain immediate access to trade finance services that are relevant to their particular international deal, whether that means doing a credit check on a potential foreign buyer, or getting a quick quote on credit insurance for a single transaction or multiple exports. Canadian business can use the Virtual Trade Commissioner to conveniently keep up to date on market reports, business news, trade events, business leads and trade finance services that match their international business activities and interests.

Telus Case Calls Role of Privacy Commissioner Into Question ²² (PIPEDA)

A recent federal court decision to overturn one of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada's first findings under the country's *Privacy Act* has raised questions about how well the Commissioner can enforce the law. Matthew Englander, a Vancouver-based lawyer who brought a complaint against Telus minutes after the act came into effect four years ago, won a partial victory last November, when an appeals court said Telus did not go to sufficient lengths to inform him of how telephone directory listings could be used. The complaint involved both the issue of consent (over whether his phone number should be listed in the white pages) and whether Telus should be allowed to charge a \$2 fee to keep his number unlisted. The complaint was the first made under the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act* (PIPEDA). According to Englander, Telus's listing policy meant his personal information could be packaged on CD-ROMs and sent to telemarketers, political parties and charities. But George Radwanski, who at the time served as the Privacy Commissioner of Canada, concluded the complaint was not well-founded. He also said it passed the act's Reasonable Person test, which states the "[c]ollection, use and disclosure of personal information must be limited to purposes that a reasonable person would consider appropriate in the circumstances." The federal court agreed, but an appeals court overturned those decisions.

NeCST Standard To Bring Cohesion To e-Claims Process ²³ (Interoperability / e-Services)

Canada Health Infoway has invested \$1.1 million in the last phase of a project that provides a single, open-source standard for exchanging financial claim information among health-care organizations. The national e-Claims Standard (NeCST) messaging project is the product of the public and private sectors collaboration, as well as national health associations over the last five years. Grant Gillis, manager of standards liaison at the Canadian Institute for Health Information (CIHI) in Toronto, a sponsor of the project said "There were all sorts of e-claims, or electronic-based claims systems, across Canada. Usually each profession, or each insurer would have to develop from scratch their own software to support their e-claims transactions. This resulted in a lot of overhead and a lot of redundancy. It also meant that a lot of the information could not be shared." NeCST allows insurers to use a globally well-recognized standard, Health Level Seven (HL7) to share messages, or transactions, more easily while working on claims settlements.

Secret Network To Link Agencies In Emergency ²⁴ (e-Government / Authentication / Interoperability)

The federal government is laying plans for a secret electronic network to ensure confidential information sharing following a terrorist strike or natural disaster. The Public Safety Department hopes to spearhead a three-year pilot project this spring that will link as many as 500 security and emergency personnel, including the Canadian Security Intelligence Service, the Royal Canadian

²² <http://www.itbusiness.ca/index.asp?theaction=61&lid=1&sid=57830> CIOB News 2005-01-12

²³ <http://www.itbusiness.ca/index.asp?theaction=61&lid=1&sid=57865&adBanner=eGovernment>

²⁴ CIOB News 2005-01-14

Mounted Police (RCMP) and the Canada Border Services Agency. Internal notes, obtained by The Canadian Press under the *Access to Information Act*, show that officials from Public Safety, the Privy Council Office, Treasury Board, Public Works and the Communications Security Establishment have discussed the project.

Encryption Makes e-Messages Secure ²⁵ *(Cryptography / Privacy)*

In the era of paper and pen, keeping a message private was easy. However, in the digital world, discretion can be far more challenging. Judging by a recent lawsuit launched by Canadian Imperial Bank of Commerce (CIBC) against a group of employees who left to join the upstart firm Genuity Capital Markets, many people don't know how to keep electronic messages private. CIBC alleges some former employees used corporate resources, including the bank's e-mail system, to help form the firm. Some of the e-mail sent via Blackberry handheld devices has been entered into evidence. The Genuity people deny the allegations, but the case has left many executives wondering how to keep private conversations private. Experts in electronic security agree that the best way to secure digital messages is with encryption.

Federal Systems Likely Targets of Hackers ²⁶ *(Cryptography / Privacy / Authentication)*

Speaking at a conference held by the Communications Security Establishment (CSE), Rob Wright, the prime minister's national security adviser said federal public servants are looking for ways to work with the private sector to ensure the security of sensitive information. "[T]here have been various examples of hackers who have created some activities and there's some evidence of individuals who might sell that as a service to others, so clearly we have to be conscious of that. I mean, the government's committed to working with the private sector and creating a private-public partnership to establish a cyber-security framework for Canada." Former Canadian Security Intelligence Service agent Michel Juneau-Katsuya said "[a]ll governments are faced with regular attacks from hackers. Most of the attempts are from loners who enjoy breaking into government computers and are motivated by a host of reasons, but terrorists and foreign intelligence agencies are also in on the act."

Scotiabank Offers e-Post ²⁷ *(Authentication / e-Services)*

Scotiabank has implemented electronic billing through epost, a Canada Post service that delivers bills, statements and other documents on-line. Scotiabank customers can now receive and pay, free of charges, more than 200 distinct bills from 100 different Canadian organizations. To access the service, Scotiabank customers register through a Scotia Online account.

Take a Page From The Germans, Privacy Commissioner Tells Canadian Companies ²⁸ *(Privacy)*

When creating a corporate privacy strategy, Canadian companies should look to the Germans for simplicity, said Ontario privacy commissioner Ann Cavoukian at a breakfast talk in Toronto in January 19th, 2005. She added, "The German term - informational self-determination - is a perfect fit, because it drives home the idea of an individual controlling his or her personal data. They are

²⁵

http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Article_Type1&call_pageid=971358637177&c=Article&cid=1105917010471 CIOB News 2005-01-17

²⁶ http://www.infomedia.gc.ca/AllContent/articles/unrestricted/2005/01/all021256787254_9.html CIOB News 2005-01-19

²⁷ <http://www.theglobeandmail.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20050118.gtepost0118/BNStory/Technology> CIOB News 2005-01-19

²⁸ <http://www.itworldcanada.com/Pages/Docbase/ViewArticle.aspx?ID=idgml-2edef360-c1e7-4ac2-b1f2-a18ba9955a27&News=Daily%20ITwire> CIOB News 2005-01-20

the ones who know if information is accurate (and) you want accurate information." However, actual experiments conducted by Computer World Canada indicate that more often than not, customers have a huge problem getting at their personal data. The publication's writers contacted companies to access their personal information. Only one company, got back to the writer in a timely manner with his personal information. When queried about these results, Cavoukian said it was "utterly unacceptable" but admitted there was little she could do as a provincial privacy commissioner with federally regulated companies.

Ottawa Rewords Contracts To Thwart *Patriot Act*²⁹ (Privacy)

The government will revamp the wording of future federal contracts with the aim of countering US powers, granted under anti-terrorism laws, to tap into personal information about Canadians. The move is intended to prevent the US Federal Bureau of Investigation (FBI) from seeing sensitive Canadian data the government supplies to American firms doing business with federal departments. The government has also asked all agencies and departments to conduct a "comprehensive assessment of risks" on Canadian information they release to US companies carrying out work under contract. Treasury Board leads a working group to finalize special clauses to be used in future business proposal requests and contracts. The group is consulting with Privacy Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart's office on clauses "that we believe to be fundamental" to include in future request proposals and contracts, says a recently circulated federal notice.

Ten Research Projects Funded To Examine Privacy Threats In A Digital Age³⁰ (Privacy/PIPEDA)

The Privacy Commissioner of Canada, Jennifer Stoddart, has announced the awarding of \$371,590 under the Office of the Privacy Commissioner of Canada's (OPC) Contributions Program, launched in June 2004, to support non-profit organizations including universities, advocacy organizations and trade associations in conducting research into the privacy impact of emerging technologies. In this respect, Ms. Stoddart said, "Canadians are becoming increasingly aware of privacy threats in an age of global and inter-organizational transmission of personal information. This is the first time the Office of the OPC has launched a program to enhance knowledge in addressing those concerns, by building strong links between the research community and privacy rights practitioners in Canada." An additional \$171,590 was allocated to the program to foster an understanding of the social value of privacy and the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act* (PIPEDA) in addressing emerging issues. The funded projects are expected to be completed this year, and the OPC says it intends to organize a national conference to assist in the dissemination of the results of the research.

Canadians At Risk of Online Identity Theft: Too Trusting: Survey: 20% Give Out Passwords Over Phone, Internet³¹ (Authentication / Online Transactions)

An online survey conducted by Ipsos-Reid showed that, while most Canadians are hesitant to give out information such as their Social Insurance Number and debit or credit card numbers, nearly 20% of respondents said they would reveal account numbers and personal passwords over the phone when doing business with a company. The number was even higher 27% when the exchange took place over the Internet. Michel Brazeau, an executive vice-president with consulting firm EDS Corp., which commissioned the survey said. "If two out of every 10 people you call would give you their passwords, that's a huge security issue, no matter what the functionality of that password." The survey of 1,735 people concluded that consumers need further education about identity theft. It also noted that the Royal Canadian Mounted Police (RCMP) saw a 63% rise in identity theft complaints between 2002 and 2003.

²⁹

http://www.thestar.com/NASApp/cs/ContentServer?pagename=thestar/Layout/Article_Type1&call_pageid=971358637177&c=Article&cid=1107126609544 CIOB News 2005-01-31

³⁰ <http://www.siliconvalleynorth.com/home/newsGhrryXsCSR20050128.html> CIOB News 2005-01-31

³¹ CIOB News 2005-01-31

New Brunswick: SNB Serves As A World Model; We Say: Service New Brunswick Is Proving To Be A Model For The Nation and The World for Delivery of Government Services ³² *(e-Government)*

The latest, and perhaps most profitable for the province, of such cutting-edge approaches is proving to be Service New Brunswick (SNB), which is now bringing in revenue of \$50 million a year for the province and employs 700 people. SNB President Jacques Dubé is working to increase that revenue to \$75 million per year as a result of contracts with governments across Canada and around the world. In fact, and further to the federal government's keen in studying SNB system of delivering government services to the public via one-stop service centers and the Internet with a view to adopting the system for its own services; Quebec and Manitoba have already adopted the SNB model, as have Britain and several municipalities in the US State of Georgia. Other nations, including Brazil and Chile in South America and other European countries are also considering adopting the made-in-New Brunswick service delivery system. So far, more than 50 nations have shown interest.

Newfoundland & Labrador: Online Services Now Available for Registry of Deeds and Companies ³³ *(e-Commerce / e-Services)*

The Registry of Deeds and Companies has taken an important step in modernizing its operations with the launch of new online electronic services now available through the government's Web site. The Companies and Deeds Online (CADO) Internet system provides for the registration of companies and the filing of certain forms online, as well as enabling basic searches of the Registry of Deeds and Companies from any computer. Minister Whalen said, "the services provided by the registries are a critical part of business in this province and this new system makes dealing with government in this area easier and less time consuming".

Ontario: Parents Can Keep Online Eye On Student Attendance: French Public Schools Put Information Online ³⁴ *(e-Services)*

The French public school board introduced a system in 12 schools that allows parents to log onto its computer and check on daily attendance, among other things. Remi Asselin, the board's director of information technology, said "[e]verything is based on the student information system we've had at the board office since 1998. The schools usually enter the data inside this system, so they don't have to change anything." The board mails IDs and passwords to parents and they can use these to access the database in real time, directly from the special website the board created for them. He added, "at the moment, we don't display information such as upcoming tests and what the student should be studying, but that's planned for Phase 2 of the portal, which will be piloted early in the coming school year."

Chile

No new item to report.

³² CIOB News 2005-01-05

³³ <http://www.gov.nl.ca/releases/2005/gs/0118n02.html> CIOB News 2005-01-19

³⁴ CIOB News 2005-01-05

China

No new item to report.

Denmark

No new item to report.

Dubai

No new item to report.

Estonia

No new item to report.

Finland

Finland On Track To Issue First Biometric Passport in Europe ³⁵ *(Biometrics/Cryptography)*

On May 2005, the Finnish Government could start issuing biometric passports that will have high-tech security features, including a polycarbonate data page containing a contactless crypto processor chip storing the holder's personal details and biometric identifiers. In addition to the facial image of the holder, a second biometric identifier fingerprint scans will be introduced in 2006-2007.

According to the Finnish Interior Ministry, in addition to complying with the standards set by the International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO), the passport will include the following optional security features: (1) a personal identity code, to be stored in the chip, (2) prevention of unauthorised reading, copying or substitution of the chip, (3) encryption of data communication between chips and chip readers.

France

France Launches Six-Month Biometrics Study ³⁶ *(Biometrics)*

On January 3th, 2005, the French civil aviation authority, Direction Générale de l'Aviation Civile (DGAC) launched a study that will help the French Government to decide which biometric technology is the most reliable for securing airports. Laurent Wagneur, director of French IT firm Euxia, who is working with Belgian biometric systems integrator BioWise on the project said, "the objective is to decide which biometric technology is the most reliable, then let each airport choose its own." It is expected that after the six months study, the DGAC will select and certify one or more biometric technologies to be deployed by French airports that wish to improve their internal security processes. Also, the results of the study, will feed plans to use biometrics for border control.

Legal Milestone for e-Procurement in France ³⁷ *(e-Commerce)*

³⁵ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsps/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3763&lg=en

³⁶ <http://europa.eu.int/idabc/en/document/3764/194>

All French public entities are now obliged to accept bids submitted electronically in response to formal call for tenders published on January 1st, 2005. According to the new code, the publication of a call for tenders is mandatory for all goods and services contracts which value exceeds EUR 150,000 net of Value Added Tax (VAT) for central government bodies, EUR 230,000 for local authorities, and for all public works and construction contracts which value exceeds EUR 230,000. All central government ministries, with the exception of the Ministry of Defence, which has its own platform, will meet the new legal requirement by using a recently launched e-procurement platform, which is a public-private initiative based on the achatpublic.com solution. The implementation of the government-wide system is one of the 140 measures of the [ADELE e-government action plan](#) for 2004-2007.

Germany

No new item to report.

Hong Kong

Hong Kong Signs e-Govt Deal With UK ³⁸ (*e-Government*)

Hong Kong and the United Kingdom (UK) have signed the second Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) on co-operation in information and communications technology (ICT). A wide range of collaboration activities between the two places is envisaged, ranging from exchange of policy and regulatory information to promoting joint research programmes and educational exchanges. Speaking at the signing ceremony, Francis Ho, representing the Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government and the Permanent Secretary said, "the bonds between Hong Kong and the United Kingdom had been strengthened with the signing of the first ICT - MOU between the two governments in 1999. Today, the signing ceremony serves not only to commemorate the fruitful exchanges conducted in the first five years, but it also marks the beginning of a new phase of closer and deeper collaboration between the two governments, particularly in such areas as e-Government."

Strategy for e-Service Delivery Backed ³⁹ (*e-Government / Interoperability / e-Services*)

The Digital 21 Strategy Advisory Committee endorsed a new strategy for the future delivery of e-Government services. In conformity with the strategy, the Government will group the related e-Government services into a number of clusters having regard to the specific needs of the individual customer segments, and will consider setting up a one-stop access portal with links to various service clusters. In the next few months, the Government will invite expression of interest in developing and operating the clusters.

Hungary

Hungarian Government Extends Mandatory e-Filing of Tax Returns ⁴⁰ (*Digital Signature / PKI*)

³⁷ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsp/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3750&lg=en

³⁸ <http://www.pstm.net/article/index.php?articleid=488> CIOB News 2005-01-11

³⁹ <http://news.gov.hk/en/category/infrastructureandlogistics/050120/html/050120en06001.html> CIOB News 2005-01-25

⁴⁰ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsp/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3694&lg=en

The Hungarian Tax and Financial Control Administration (APEH) notified the country's 10,000 largest taxpayers in 2005. Originally introduced in 2002 for the top 500 corporate taxpayers, the e-filing obligation had already been extended to the largest 3,000 taxpayers in 2004. The online filing system, called eBEV, enables the electronic submission of tax returns through the Internet, using digital signatures. The extension of the eBEV was prescribed by the *Hungarian Tax Law*, and is expected to generate significant savings on the processing of tax returns. According to the APEH, the enlarged eBEV circle represents less than 1% of the total of Hungarian taxpayers but more than half of the net money circulation.

India

No new item to report.

Ireland

Irish Government Launches New Passport ⁴¹ (*Biometrics*)

On December 10th, 2004, Minister for Foreign Affairs Dermot Ahern launched the new Irish passport that incorporates the most advanced security features, and provides greater security for Irish citizens travelling abroad. The new travel document includes a polycarbonate datapage featuring laser-engraved and perforated images of the holder's photograph and signature, making it one of the most modern and secure passports in the world. According to BearingPoint, the head of the consortium that implement the system, the implemented solution for the new travel document will fully support the inclusion of biometric identifiers at a later stage.

Israel

No new item to report.

Italy

Italy Launches Electronic Health Card ⁴² (*Biometrics /Privacy*)

Designed to help better control health expenditure, the Italian electronic health card should be issued to about 15 million citizens by April 2005. According to the Minister for Innovation and Technologies Lucio Stanca, the e-health programme will deliver "hundreds of millions of euros in savings thanks to increased rationalisation and efficiencies." In addition to the expected benefits for patients, health professionals, and government, Mr Stanca also pointed out that the programme will facilitate relevant scientific research by centralising health data in a digital database. However, privacy advocates criticised the programme arguing that it will put the confidentiality of the patients' medical records at risk. Recognising the fact, the Minister said that risks could be effectively mitigated by adequate legislation and secure technologies.

Stancia Issues "Technology Commandments" for Digitalization of Government ⁴³ (*Digital Signatures / PKI*)

The Minister for Innovation and Technologies Lucio Stanca issued a Directive containing "Guidelines for the Digitalization of Government" that serve as a reference framework to set the second phase of the implementation of e-government. The related first phase brought around 50%

⁴¹ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsp/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3696&lg=en

⁴² http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsp/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3768&lg=en

⁴³ http://www.mininnovazione.it/eng/comunicati/2005/2005_01_09.shtml CIOB News 2005-01-25

of priority and secondary services on line, increased the use of e-mail in internal communications in government, led to the distribution of 1,600,000 digital signatures. Regarding the second phase, the Minister said "It must be characterized by leveraging investments that have already been made, rationalization of the system as a whole, interoperability among government offices, an effective and extensive shift to the online delivery of services, and complete harmonization of digitalization with organizational structures, processes and public services".

Japan

No new item to report.

Kenya

No new item to report.

Korea

No new item to report.

Lithuania

Lithuanian Administration Promotes e-Document Exchange ⁴⁴ (*PKI / Digital Signature / Smart Cards*)

The Lithuanian Government is promoting the introduction of electronic document exchange in the country's public administration, using electronic signatures. To do so, special smart cards have been distributed to heads of the participating institutions, containing certificates with public and private keys, and signature creation devices installed. The e-signature authentication software is free of charge and freely available on the project website. If successfully completed, the pilot project will be followed by further deployment of secure e-document exchange in other public institutions. The ultimate objective is to ensure that all public institutions move to electronic documents exchange by the end of 2007, based on practical operational models, standardized software solutions and a robust electronic signature infrastructure. It is expected that the project will provide a major contribution in reaching the strategic objective, which is establishing a cost-efficient, performance-oriented, and citizens-centered public administration in Lithuania.

Luxemburg

No new item to report.

Malaysia

No new item to report.

Malta

No new item to report.

⁴⁴ <http://europa.eu.int/ida/en/document/3697/194>

Mexico

No new item to report.

Netherlands (the)

ID Documents Become Mandatory In the Netherlands ⁴⁵ (*Biometrics*)

The Government is still working on the introduction of biometric e-passports and e-ID cards, as well as on the introduction of a unique administrative identification number for citizens based on the current social security number. Both documents will feature a Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) chip storing biometric data. In the case of the ID card, the chip will also offer the possibility of storing digital certificates, which will enable holders to securely access transactional e-government services. In August 2004, the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom relations launched the six-month pilot test of the future biometric passport and ID card. The test, during which 15,000 volunteers are to be issued with an e-passport or e-ID card, is meant to refine the process of collecting citizens' fingerprints and facial pictures. According to current Government plans, the e-ID card should replace the current ID card by 2007.

New Zealand

Datacom Wins Government ID Project ⁴⁶ (*Cryptography / Authentication*)

Kiwi IT services firm Datacom is poised to get the job of developing the technology that will let people access government services over the web using a single log-on and password. Laurence Millar, director of the State Services Commission's e-Government unit, which is overseeing the project, says Datacom has been chosen as the preferred tendered for the technical infrastructure and envisages using technology developed by US security specialist RSA Security; the company behind Auckland Savings Bank (ASB) Bank's pioneering "Netcode", the anti-fraud service launched in December 2004. Netcode uses "two factor" authentication technology provided by RSA to protect customers who use Internet banking from the likes of phishers and key-loggers. Mr. Millar is coy as to whether the e-Government Unit believes two-factor authentication should also play a role in authenticating the identity of people accessing government services online, and said, "all we would say is we note the financial services industry is starting to implement it and we are watching that with interest."

Norway

No new item to report.

Pakistan

No new item to report.

⁴⁵ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsps/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3752&lg=en

⁴⁶ <http://www.stuff.co.nz/stuff/0,2106,3157814a28,00.html> CIOB News 2005-01-17

Poland

No new item to report.

Portugal

Portugal To Introduce Electronic Medical Prescriptions in 2005 ⁴⁷ (*e-Services*)

Starting in January 2005, the Portuguese Government would pilot electronic prescriptions in the city of Portalegre, with a view to generalise the system to the entire country by the end of the year. The adoption of e-prescriptions is part of a European Commission's e-Health Action Plan, and by launching the electronic prescriptions pilot, Portugal will join a growing list of European countries that are currently in different stages of modernising their medical prescription practices such as Sweden, Finland. Similar initiatives are currently being studied in Belgium and France, while Germany is planning to introduce electronic medical prescriptions in 2006 after the launch of its e-health insurance card.

Portuguese Government To Create Electronic ID Card ⁴⁸ (*Biometrics / Smart Cards*)

The Portuguese e-cards will be shaped like a credit card and contain a chip and a magnetic stripe that will store personal information and biometric data. In addition to fingerprints, the future electronic ID card might also include iris scans and/or other biometric identifiers. Biometrics will not be a novelty for Portuguese citizens, as the current Portuguese national ID document already includes the holder's right hand forefinger fingerprint that is not digitally stored. According to press reports, the procurement process for the new ID document could be launched in early 2005.

Russia

No new item to report.

Singapore

No new item to report.

Slovak Republic

No new item to report.

Slovenia (Republic of)

No new item to report.

South Korea

No new item to report.

⁴⁷ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsp/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3693&lg=en

⁴⁸ http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsp/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3769&lg=en

Spain

No new item to report.

Sweden

No new item to report.

Switzerland

No new item to report.

Taiwan

New Identification Cards To Be Available From July ⁴⁹ (Biometrics / Smart Cards)

The Ministry of the Interior announced that the renewal of national identification cards that will include 21 duplication-proof features will begin on July 1st, 2005. Fingerprints amendments to the *Household Registration Law* passed in 1997 require all Republic of China citizens over the age of 14 to submit a full set of fingerprints when applying for an ID card. The amendment caused controversy among human rights groups, who consider compulsory fingerprinting a violation of human rights. As a result, an amendment to abolish the fingerprinting stipulation has been submitted to the Legislative Yuan but has not been passed. Minister of the Interior Su Jia-chyuan said that whether or not the new ID cards would include fingerprints would depend on what the law stipulates at the time of the renewal period.

Tanzania

No new item to report.

Thailand

Finally Software Win Thai Government PKI Project ⁵⁰ (PKI)

"Finally Software", a security software company won a contract to provide a OnePKI Public Key Infrastructure, Certificate Authority for a Government project in Thailand. Details of the project are confidential, but the contract represents a major win against the larger and more established PKI suppliers. In this respect, Neo Kafkarides, Finally's Director of Marketing said, "having the Government of Thailand select OnePKI in preference to more established products is a great endorsement, particularly for such an important project. "One-PKI is a global public-key infrastructure, which provides registration, and certification functions in local environments and also in a global and open network: creation, issuing, distribution, verification, and revocation of certificates and Certificate Revocation Lists (CRLs). It supports multiple secure network

⁴⁹ <http://www.taipeitimes.com/News/taiwan/archives/2005/01/28/2003221245> CIOB News 2005-01-28

⁵⁰ <http://www.emediawire.com/releases/2005/1/emw200947.html> CIOB News 2005-01-26

applications from the Fin-Net range: secure Web, secure e-mail, and secure proprietary applications as well as any certificate-enabled applications."

Turkish

No new item to report.

United Kingdom

British ID Card Gains Ground ⁵¹ (*Smart Card / Biometrics*)

The British government's quest to institute a national identity card faces a critical phase in the next few weeks, as the legislation will be scrutinized and amended in committee at the House of Commons before going to the House of Lords to undergo the same process. The heart of the Identity Cards Bill is the creation of a national database that contains 51 categories of detailed information on every British citizen and resident, including fingerprints and iris scan. The bill calls for a 2,500-pound (\$4,760) fine for refusing to register for the card, and a 1,000-pound (\$1,904) fine for failing to inform the government of changes in personal information.

UK Parliament Backs ID Cards Bill ⁵² (*Biometrics / Privacy*)

The United Kingdom (UK) identity cards bill, which calls for the first ID cards to be issued in 2008 with biometric passports, passed its first reading in the House of Commons. According to the Government, the scheme will offer a simple and secure gold standard for proving identity, while its use would be voluntary. However, Mr Clarke made clear that subject to the adoption of further legislation, ID cards will eventually become compulsory at a later stage. In the meantime, the UK Government has been accused of lack of transparency, as it emerged that it banned the release of advice given by the Attorney General to cabinet ministers on whether the ID Cards Bill would infringe privacy or human rights.

Information Commissioner Says He'll Uphold FOI Act In a Robust Manner ⁵³ (*PIPEDA*)

The Information Commissioner, Richard Thomas, says his office will be "independent, robust and responsible in carrying out its duties under the *Freedom of Information Act 2000*, in force since 1st January 2005." He added, "the right to know signals a fundamental culture change that makes all public services moving away from excessive official secrecy, while our job is to be the referee if a request for information has been refused. Our independence means that we can be robust in ensuring that information is released where the new law requires. This involves a presumption in favor of disclosure. In practice, this will mean deciding whether exemptions have been properly applied by public bodies and, in most cases, ensuring that the public interest in disclosure is fully considered. However, we must be responsible in our approach, recognizing that greater openness should strengthen, not undermine, effective government."

Freedom of Information Act: CILIP Launches Guide To Available FOI Resources ⁵⁴ (*PIPEDA*)

⁵¹ http://www.wired.com/news/politics/0,1283,66125,00.html?tw=wn_tophead_4 CIOB News 2005-01-04

⁵² http://europa.eu.int/idabc/jsp/documents/dsp_showPrinterDocument.jsp?docID=3695&lg=en

⁵³ <http://www.publictechnology.net/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=2285> CIOB News 2005-01-06

The Chartered Institute of Library and Information Professionals (CILIP) has launched a guide to freedom of information resources on the web. Timed to coincide with the coming into force of the *Freedom of Information Act* (FOI) on January 1st, 2005, the guide provides links direct to the Government departments and regulators involved, as well as to the relevant United Kingdom (UK) legislation and to FOI law in other countries. Guy Daines, Head of Policy & Governance at CILIP said, "information professionals are well placed to offer help on freedom of information issues, whether dealing with the public in local libraries, or supporting their own client users in business and industry, public bodies, law firms or the health sector, they will be in the front line for enquiries on what the new law will mean and where to go for advice."

rGet Connected! - New Business Opportunities Via a Planned Government Web Portal ⁵⁵ (*e-Commerce*)

Thanks to a new national web portal the Small Business Service (SBS) and Office of Government Commerce (OGC) jointly announced that millions of businesses nationwide will soon have direct access to local and central government business opportunities. All businesses will benefit, but the SBS and OGC believe the portal will quickly become popular with the 4 million small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) operating in the UK, which make up around 99% of all UK companies. The planned launch of the national portal follows one of the recommendations of the 2003 Better Regulation Task Force/Small Business Council report on reducing barriers facing any business wishing to become involved in public procurement.

Digital Signature Confirms Latest North Sea Oil Contract ⁵⁶ (*Digital Signature / Authentication / e-Commerce*)

The first digitally signed chemical consent for the Shell Shearwater platform was marked in January 12th, 2005 at a meeting with Energy Minister Mike O'Brien and Keiron McFadyen, Director, Shell Holdings United Kingdom (UK) Limited. In a major step forward for the Government's e-agenda, the whole process has been conducted electronically between all stakeholders using the UK Oil Portal. Commenting on the milestone, Mike O'Brien said: "paperless working required a change of culture in the Civil Service but one that will be of increasing benefit to everyone." Kieron McFadyen added: "we feel that the use of the Department of Trade and Industry (DTI) portal, and the innovative introduction of digital signatures will have a considerable impact on the consent process, and will be a key enabler in replacing paper with trusted electronic documents.

Voters Could Get ID System ⁵⁷ (*Privacy / Smart Cards*)

A committee of Members of Parliament (MPs) was told on January 25th, 2005 that the government's proposed ID card database could serve as a nationwide electronic voter register to cut down on the duplication of systems. Francis Aldhouse, deputy information commissioner, told the inquiry commission that some people might want to use a different name or address on separate government databases. But with voter enrolment it may make sense to use the ID database. Mr. Aldhouse told the committee, "sometimes it's a good idea to collect similar information separately because individuals might want to use different name or address on different databases. I do see the strength in that argument." In its submission to the inquiry the Electoral Commission said, although it could have no official view on the ID programme, the identity database could help with a voter register.

⁵⁴ <http://www.publictechnology.net/modules.php?op=modload&name=News&file=article&sid=2284> CIOB News 2004-01-06

⁵⁵ http://www.ogc.gov.uk/index.asp?id=58&app=press_release.asp&process=full_record&recordid=89 CIOB News 2005-01-11

⁵⁶ <http://www.gnn.gov.uk/environment/detail.asp?ReleaseID=141470&NewsAreaID=2&NavigatedFromDepartment=False> CIOB News 2005-01-12

⁵⁷ <http://www.kablenet.com/kd.nsf/Frontpage/99CED39A599B9DA180256F95003FFF23?OpenDocument>

United States

GSA Confirms Data Charges ⁵⁸ *(e-Commerce)*

The General Services Administration (GSA) made it official: people who want direct access to the government's central procurement database must pay a one-time hook-up fee of \$2,500. Those users also could be limited to accessing the Federal Procurement Data System during non-peak hours, according to the rule published in the Federal Register. In the past, when GSA managed the database, it charged only a nominal fee, then such firms as Eagle Eye and Federal Sources request access to raw data so their analysts can produce custom reports, which they in turn provide to clients selling to the federal government. Eventually, GSA and Gem City Engineering (GCE) agreed that the contractor would generate 40 standard reports from the database for anyone at no cost. Only people who want access to the database itself would have to pay.

IRS Predicts Electronic Tax Filings Will Pass 50 Percent ⁵⁹ *(Online Transactions / e-Services)*

The Internal Revenue Service (IRS) anticipates that more than half of all taxpayers will file electronically during the 2005 tax-filing season that begins today, January 24th, 2005. IRS commissioner Mark Everson said "More than half of the expected 133 million individual tax returns will be filed through the IRS' e-file program this year. Last year, almost 62 million people used e-file, or roughly 49 percent. We will continue to improve customer service as we work to strengthen our enforcement efforts."

DIC Says Better Authentication Is Needed To Combat ID Theft ⁶⁰ *(e-Commerce / Authentication)*

Although reliable statistics are difficult to come by, a new study from the Federal Deposit Insurance Corp (FDIC), the agency that insures US bank deposits is concerned about the growth of identity theft and the ability of thieves to gain access to financial accounts. The report concludes "account hijacking is now a small but growing problem for financial institutions and consumers, and that conducting financial transactions online may place consumers at more risk." The growth of online banking and electronic transfers is fueling the growth of identification theft through scams such as phishing.

NIST Issues Recommendations for Secure VOIP ⁶¹ *(Online Transactions / Authentication)*

The National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) has offered some cautionary advice for offices considering moving their telephone systems to voice over IP (VoIP). In a recently released report NIST said, "VoIP introduces both security risks and opportunities, and lower cost and greater flexibility are among their promises for the enterprise, but VoIP should not be installed without careful consideration of the security problems introduced." According to NIST, the need to logically separate voice and data traffic, provide backup power and ensure business continuity could seriously compromise the promise of a single, inexpensive voice and data network.

e-Gov Spending Expected To Rise, Despite Congressional Dissatisfaction ⁶² *(e-Government)*

⁵⁸ <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/1227/web-fee-12-28-04.asp>

⁵⁹ http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/e_gov/31436-1.html

⁶⁰ http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/31445-1.html

⁶¹ http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/34747-1.html

⁶² <http://www.govexec.com/dailyfed/1204/010605p1.html> CIOB News 2005-01-07

Agency spending on e-Government projects is expected to grow 6.9 percent annually to \$5.8 billion by fiscal 2009, according to a report from an information technology-consulting firm. Spending on e-Government projects reached \$4.2 billion in fiscal 2004, but congressional dissatisfaction with the projects' development kept appropriations for the e-Government fund to a minimum. The report's claim that spending on e-Government initiatives will rise is based on the premise that more funds will go towards e-Government once agencies start demonstrating they are saving money by consolidating redundant back-office systems, such as payroll and procurement operations.

US Department of Homeland Security To Implement Bioscrypt Technology as Reference Biometric for Transportation Worker Identification Card Prototype Program ⁶³ *(Biometrics)*

Bioscrypt Inc., a leading provider of identity verification technology, announced that BearingPoint, Inc. has selected their software and hardware for use in the US Department of Homeland Security's Prototype Phase of the Transportation Worker Identification Credential Program (TWIC). The goal of the program is to improve security, enhance commerce and protect personal privacy by establishing a system-wide common credential used across all transportation modes for all personnel requiring unescorted physical and/or logical access to secure areas of the national transportation system. Particularly, Bioscrypt's fingerprint verification technology will be used to verify the identities of transportation workers involved in this prototype program. The Transportation Security Administration has previously announced that, following the prototype; its intent is to deploy the TWIC to 6 million transportation workers.

Bush To Address Cybersecurity ⁶⁴ *(e-Government / PKI)*

The Bush administration plans in its second term to pay closer attention to cybersecurity among federal agencies, but some critics question whether the administration will go far enough to protect the United States from increasingly sophisticated cyberattacks and security breaches. The administration's stance is that cybersecurity will be part of any new federal government IT initiatives. But some believe the president should create a distinct administrative cybersecurity position within the Homeland Security Department to oversee progress in the federal government, and act as a liaison with private industry. Cybersecurity costs are expected to be factored into all agency budget requests.

Three Tapped for PKI ⁶⁵ *(PKI / e-Signature)*

The Office of Management and Budget (OMB) is requiring agencies to use one of three approved shared-service providers for public-key infrastructure and electronic-signature services. These three service providers are: Agriculture Department's National Finance Center, VeriSign Inc. of Mountain View - California, and Betrustrusted US Inc. of New York. They meet the level-four certification outlined in OMB's December 2003 memo where Karen Evans, OMB's administrator for IT and e-government, and David Safavian, administrator of the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, said agencies must use these shared-service providers to mitigate security risks.

IRS Mandates e-Filing ⁶⁶ *(e-Government)*

Tax agency officials announced that starting in 2006, officials at large companies and tax-exempt organizations must electronically file their Internal Revenue Service (IRS) forms. The new regulations will first apply to corporations worth more than \$50 million and tax-exempt organizations

⁶³ <http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/January2005/11/c1536.html> CIOB News 2005-01-11

⁶⁴ <http://www.internetweek.com/story/showArticle.jhtml?articleID=57700355> CIOB News 2005-01-11

⁶⁵ http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/20_1/datastream/25257-1.html CIOB News 2005-01-11

⁶⁶ <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2005/0110/web-irs-01-11-05.asp>

with assets of at least \$100 million. The threshold lowers in 2007 to businesses and tax-exempt organizations worth \$10 million. IRS officials expect that by then at least 20,000 large corporate taxpayers and up to 10,000 tax-exempt entities will be covered by the electronic filing requirement. However, companies that file fewer than 250 annual IRS returns, such as income, excise, information and employment tax forms, will be exempt from the new electronic submission rules.

Who Owns Your e-Mails? ⁶⁷ (Privacy)

A father decided to create a memorial to his dead son L/Cpl Justin Ellsworth killed in Iraq using the e-mails he wrote and received while in the Middle East. But Yahoo! is refusing to release the messages. Who owns your e-mail after you die? Police sergeant John Ellsworth has sparked a privacy debate in the US that has prompted many to reconsider who can access their e-mail. Mr Ellsworth is locked in a legal fight with Yahoo who turned down a request to release his dead son's e-mails, on the basis of privacy.

Federal Enterprise Architecture Program Management Office - Security and Privacy Profile Phase 1 Final ⁶⁸ (Privacy / Interoperability)

To complement and continue the process of developing the Federal Enterprise Architecture (FEA), the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and the Chief Information Officer (CIO) Council's Architecture and Infrastructure Committee have specified the need for an additional view of the FEA that addresses and highlights elements of security and privacy. To safeguard business data and information, trade-offs among three families of controls should be considered: management, operational, and technical. In the meantime, the benefits, costs, and risks associated with achieving adequate protection must be weighed. To accomplish this, a primary objective of the FEA Security and Privacy Profile is to provide a methodology for making risk-based decisions that will balance the critical need for information sharing between organizations with the prudent application of security policies and mechanisms. It states also, that information assurance specialists by themselves can no longer be charged to protect enterprise resources, especially when the enterprise extends along horizontal and vertical business lines.

Tech Economy Site Opens ⁶⁹ (e-Government / e-Commerce/ e-Services)

Representatives from the Commerce Department and an Ohio-based nonprofit research firm unveiled a Web site intended to serve as a resource of reports, strategic plans and other research to help communities developed technology-based economies. The Tech-Based Economic Development (TBED) Resource Center www.tbedresourcecenter.org categorizes and offers links to more than 1,300 research papers, strategic plans, best practices, impact analysis studies and other reports collected from state and federal governments, universities and foundations. There are 33 topics, including aerospace, digital divide, federal programs, intellectual property, research and development, technology commercialization and workforce issues that users can research, or they could search by keyword or author.

Army Awards Contract for Digital Signatures ⁷⁰ (Digital Signature)

Silanis Technology Inc. the Montreal's company will provide the US Army with an enterprise license for its digital signature and approval management solution, company officials said. The enterprise license was awarded as part of the Forms Content Management Program, the Army's initiative to

⁶⁷ <http://news.bbc.co.uk/1/hi/magazine/4164669.stm> CIOB News 2005-01-13

⁶⁸ http://cio.gov/documents/FEA_Security_Profile_Phase_I_Final_07-29-2004.pdf CIOB News 2005-01-14

⁶⁹ <http://www.fcw.com/geb/articles/2005/0117/web-tbed-01-19-05.asp>

⁷⁰ http://www.washingtontechnology.com/news/1_1/egov/25341-1.html CIOB News 2005-01-20

automate forms-based processes. The Army already has converted most of its 100,000 form-based processes to digital files that are accessed online. Without digital signatures, users were unable to push forms from computer to computer. Then adding digital signatures and content management solutions now lets the Army fully automate the process. The Forms Content Management Program combines digital signatures with XML-based e-forms and content management software to create a single infrastructure.

Critics Wary About Biometric Smart Cards (Privacy / Smart Cards / Biometrics)⁷¹

Federal workers and privacy advocates are worried about a presidential directive requiring all federal employees and contractors to carry biometric smart cards to access federal buildings and computer systems. At a public meeting held in February 2004, in Washington, DC, they expressed fears that the new identity card mandate could mean greater personal surveillance and even loss of employment. Policy officials will address those concerns as they write the rules for issuing and using the new federal ID cards, Karen Evans, administrator for e-government and information technology at the Office of Management and Budget (OMB), told an audience of more than 150 at the meeting. "We want to make sure we adequately protect the information of employees." Officials have received 1,900 written comments from the public about a proposed government wide standard for the biometric smart cards, indicating a high level of interest among federal employees, IT vendors, and security and privacy advocate.

XML Deal Inked for Responders⁷² (Interoperability)

Homeland Security Department (DHS) officials and members of the Emergency Interoperability Consortium (EIC) say they have formally signed a memorandum of agreement to jointly design, develop, release and use Extensible Markup Language (XML) data-sharing standards for emergency response. Matt Walton, EIC chairman and vice chairman, and founder of E Team, said "This DHS/EIC alliance is an important step toward realizing the potential of a public/private partnership to rapidly develop and proliferate valid and commercially sustainable interoperability standards." Officials are already working on a next generation data sharing standard called the Emergency Data Exchange Language (EDXL) that goes beyond the Common Alerting Protocol (CAP), an open standard for exchanging hazard warnings and reports.

e-Gov Matures⁷³ (e-Government)

According to a new Office of Management and Budget (OMB) report that lays out goals for the office of e-Government and information technology over the next year, the Federal e-Government initiatives will be judged primarily by the extent of their adoption by agencies and public. Indeed, the move of e-Government initiatives away from development and implementation phase into maturity means that the percentage of online transactions between citizens and the government would be an appropriate metric for some projects. Greater government wide use of federal enterprise architecture will be one way to achieve greater efficiencies and savings, the report states.

Military Eyes New Technology⁷⁴ (Cryptography / PKI / Interoperability)

Officials who led the 2004 Joint Warrior Interoperability Demonstration (JWID) cited nine of 61 trials as capable of providing capabilities to the military during the next 18 months. The trials, which occurred during the annual military exercise last summer, ranged from encryption and public key infrastructure to network management and network boundary control technologies. According to the

⁷¹ <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2005/0124/news-biomet-01-24-05.asp>

⁷² <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2005/0117/web-xml-01-17-05.asp>

⁷³ <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/1220/web-egov-12-20-04.asp>

⁷⁴ <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2005/0117/web-jwid-01-18-05.asp>

"JWID Final Report" participants examine new and emerging command, control, communications, computers, intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance technologies and explore solutions to interoperability challenges in a multidomain environment." To view the report, click on the following link <https://www.cwid.js.mil/public/cwid05fr/pdffiles/briefs.pdf>

Le FBI Abandonne Carnivore, Son Système d'Espionnage du Courriel ⁷⁵ (*Carnivore*)

Carnivore est un système électronique que le FBI a développé dans le but de surveiller les courriels expédiés et reçus par des individus suspectés de crimes. Ce système qui a soulevé de vives inquiétudes au cours de l'an 2000 et a été rebaptisé DCS 1000 en 2001. Selon des rapports obtenus récemment par l'Electronic Privacy Information Center (EPIC) en vertu de la *Loi américaine sur le libre accès à l'information*, le FBI n'aurait pas utilisé Carnivore en 2002 et 2003, mais des produits analogues commerciaux. Après avoir étudié les rapports du FBI, l'EPIC estime que la demande pour de tels systèmes de surveillance semble décroître, probablement parce que les Fournisseurs d'Accès Internet (FAI) fournissent les informations de trafic directement au gouvernement.

Government Smart Card Specs Almost Ready ⁷⁶ (*Smart Card*)

On Monday, January 31st, 2005 the Government Smart Card Interagency Advisory Board at the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) will unveil its revised specifications for a government-wide personal identity verification (PIV) card. Late last year, NIST had put out draft versions of the Special Publication 800-73 as well as Federal Information Processing Standard 201 for PIV cards, as required by Homeland Security Presidential Directive 12. The draft SP 800-73 described two models for the PIV card-file system-oriented and Java object-oriented-but emphasized the first model. The first specs required that cards embed contact and contactless chip interfaces, digital left and right index fingerprints, public key infrastructure certificates and a cryptographic algorithm. For additional information the link is available at: http://www.gcn.com/23_34/biometrics/28079-1.html

With High-Cost `Smart Cards,' Military Targets Tighter Security ⁷⁷ (*Smart Card / PKI / Biometrics / Digital Signatures*)

About 4 million "smart cards" have been issued to every member of the US armed forces and civilian workers in the Defense Department to use as high-tech ID cards. However, the military has abandoned many of the uses first envisioned, such as storing user's medical and financial information on the card. Instead, the cards carry a photograph along with standard information such as name, rank and Social Security number. But what makes each card "smart" is the embedded computer chip inside used to positively identify its holder for tasks such as logging onto a military computer system. Finally, the cards use the encryption technology called public key infrastructure (PKI) to access networks and Web sites instead of using user names and passwords. Many think the cards are more likely to prevent unauthorized access to sensitive government information, and in the meantime, to place "digital signatures" for tasks such as filing a travel claim online.

Venezuela

No new item to report.

⁷⁵ <http://www.branchez-vous.com/actu/05-01/09-135302.html>

⁷⁶ http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/34909-1.html (thanks to HD)

⁷⁷ http://www.menafn.com/qn_news_story.asp?StoryId=CqFCJ0eicq1bulvnnqvjuq0fsr#top (thanks to HD)

Viet Nam

No new item to report.

Miscellaneous

Fingerprinting Plays Key Role in Biometrics Boom ⁷⁸ (*Biometrics / Authentication*)

Companies need to supplement password systems, which can be easily compromised, and fingerprinting represents a stronger security check with the potential to lower IT costs. Fingerprinting is an authentication technique that has helped law enforcement officials identify potential criminals for decades, but recently it has started to gain wider usage. The technique is emerging as the most popular form of biometrics, and much of the budding interest is coming from government agencies looking to enhance physical security, such as access to buildings. Corporations are also making a move toward using fingerprinting technology to provide more reliable identification of employees, business partners and customers. In 2004, fingerprinting accounted for US\$367 million of the \$1.2 billion biometric companies generated in worldwide revenue, according to market research firm International Biometric Group. This time-tested technique has gained popularity because it is the most mature biometric system. As use has expanded beyond law enforcement, pricing has dropped. According to David Ostlund, a consultant with International Biometric Group "a fingerprint scanner costs only \$50 to \$100."

Controversy Goes On Over Global Biometric Passport Standards ⁷⁹ (*Biometrics / Privacy / Encryption*)

Almost two years after the adoption of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) recommendations, and as the introduction of digital passports is getting closer, the decision to issue travel documents storing facial biometric data and other personal information on Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) chips is still feeding controversial arguments and technical discussions on both sides of the Atlantic. In the US, while the choice of RFID technology is attacked by privacy advocates and security experts as representing a major threat to users, State Department officials consider that encryption instead of the RFID would hinder interoperability between countries, and make the system too expensive for poorer nations to implement. In Europe, a technical committee concluded that, although the integration of a RFID chip safely storing two biometric identifiers is technically possible, collisions between several RFID chips in a same document would make current plans to include visa stickers containing RFID chips into passports "technically not possible".

Online ID Fraud Fears 'Out of Proportion' ⁸⁰ (*e-Commerce / Authentication*)

The 2005 Identity Fraud Survey Report, released by the Better Business Bureau and Javelin Strategy & Research, found that those who access accounts online could provide earlier detection of crime than those who received only monthly paper statements by post. By managing their financial activities online, consumers can reduce access to personal information on paper bills and statements that could be used to commit identity theft and fraud, the study claimed. Victims of identity theft who detected the crime by monitoring accounts online experienced financial losses less than one-eighth of those who detected the crime via paper statements. "Our numbers show that fears about online identity fraud may be out of proportion to the relative risk, causing consumers to ignore the most glaring issues," said James Van Dyke, Javelin's founder and principal analyst.

⁷⁸ <http://www.technewsworld.com/story/39467.html>

⁷⁹ <http://europa.eu.int/ida/en/document/3757/194>

⁸⁰ <http://www.vnunet.com/news/1160796> CIOB News 2005-01-27