

PKI International Scan

June 30, 2004^o

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International PKI Scan

Introduction

This report represents ongoing research conducted by the Government of Canada (GoC) PKI Secretariat 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

EU-Funded Project Provides Possible Solution to Privacy Concerns Over Biometric Databases ¹ *(Authentication)*

Privacy concerns and compatibility with existing infrastructures are major barriers to the adoption of biometric identification technologies. A project co-financed by the European Union's IST programme, called VIPBOB (Virtual PIN Based On Biometrics), has delivered a solution to overcome these obstacles. The "Virtual PIN" solution developed by the VIPBOB project links biometrics with cryptographic authentication. While conventional methods compare a biometric identifier with a sample stored in a database, the Virtual PIN maps a user's biometric trait to a unique number. This means that no biometric sample has to be stored in a database, which drastically reduces the privacy concerns usually implied by the use of biometric identification technologies. Moreover, the Virtual PIN ensures compatibility of biometrics with current cryptographic infrastructure, such as ATMs for instance. Although the two-year VIPBOB project ended in February 2004, project partners said they are continuing their collaboration to optimize an iris biometric application.

Pan-European e-Government Services: e-Enabling Cross-Country Address Verification ² *(e-Services)*

A project partly funded by the EU's eTEN programme (Trans-European Networks) is currently preparing the introduction of a pan-European address validation service called RISER (Registry Information Service on European Residents). The project's service would be an online one-stop shop providing uniform, centralized access to the registries of various European countries. It is currently at the market validation stage, and a pilot operation between Germany, Austria and Ireland is scheduled to begin as early as this summer. Built on open standards – such as the emerging XML-based formats for e-government transactions in Germany (Online Services Computer Interface – OSCI) and in particular the data format for citizens registration processes OSCI-XMeld – the service

¹ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2578

² http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2577

will be supplied with data by the national and local civil registration offices. If market validation is successful and the business plan proves fully adapted to pan-European requirements, the consortium will deploy RISER in Europe by mid-2005.

Passenger Data Deal Signed by EU and US ³ (Privacy)

Despite the disapproval of the European Parliament, the European Commission and the US Department of Homeland Security signed the controversial agreement permitting the transfer of air passenger data to the US. Airlines operating passenger flights to, from or through the US have been transferring passenger data contained in their reservation and departure control systems to US Customs since March last year, in order to comply with US anti-terror requirements. The transfer has been controversial, not only because the US does not meet general EU data protection requirements, but because a proposed agreement setting out the terms of the transfer has also been found wanting. The agreement will be in effect for three-and-a-half years once implemented, with renegotiations to start within one year of the agreement's expiration date. It will, says the Department of Homeland Security, strike a balance between facilitating legitimate travel while contributing to the security of the US and EU member states.

European Public Sector Advised to Use Open Document Formats ⁴ (Interoperability)

Open document formats are officially the way forward for the public sector. European Union e-government policy-makers recently underlined their belief that formats such as Sun's Open Office.org and Microsoft's WordML will benefit administrations across the Community and improve their interactions with citizens and businesses. On 25 May 2004, members of the Telematics between Administrations Committee (TAC) endorsed several recommendations that promote the use of open document formats by the public sector. European governments, say the recommendations, must ensure that the products and technologies they use are not proprietary. The Sun-supported OpenOffice.org format and Microsoft's WordML specifications are both referred to in the recommendations, which invite industry to promote a consensus around these within Oasis (Organization for the Advancement of Structured Information Standards) as well as formal standardisation bodies. They also call for the development of tools that will help the public sector to transform its documents to XML-based formats (eXtensible Markup Language), and place particular importance on standardisation to ensure market access to industry actors.

Public Consultation on the Future EU Visa Information System ⁵ (Authentication)

The European Commission is consulting the public in view of presenting a proposal for a Council regulation to establish a Visa Information System (VIS). The regulation proposal will define the VIS and its operation, including the categories of data to be entered into the system, the purposes for which they are to be entered and the criteria for their entry, the rules concerning the content of VIS records, the rights of access for authorities to enter, update and consult the data and rules on the protection of personal data and their control. Once approved by the Council, the future regulation will establish the VIS.

³ http://www.out-law.com/php/page.php?page_id=passengerdatadeal1086090340&area=news

⁴ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2601

⁵ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2600

Among other things, the main issues for which the Commission is seeking comments are the following: What will be the impact of integrating biometric data in the VIS from a data protection point of view?

European Health Insurance Card Officially Launched ⁶ (Smart Cards)

Twelve EU countries (Belgium, Denmark, Estonia, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Ireland, Luxembourg, Slovenia, Spain, and Sweden) plus Norway introduced the European Health Insurance Card (EHIC) June 1st, 2004. Other countries will launch the card by December 31st, 2005. The card will progressively replace paper forms to entitle citizens to healthcare treatment while on temporary stay in another European country. At a later stage, the card will incorporate a chip and be based on automated cross-border healthcare procedures. Valid for up to two years, the EHIC will complement rather than replace national health insurance cards, and those countries that do have national cards have the choice between either incorporating the elements of the EHIC into their national card, or issuing separate European cards. By incorporating a chip, the EHIC will then become a "smart" card.

EU to Launch Europe-Wide Public Services Portal ⁷ (e-Government)

The EU has issued revised plans for the development of an online public services portal. The portal, to be known as 'Your Europe', is hoped to become the EU's main Web site offering cross border e-government services for businesses and citizens. A pilot version of the portal is to run until the end of 2004 after which the EU will launch a "fully operational" service, according to the plans. The EU is moving ahead with the portal despite earlier reports acknowledging the difficulties with the initiative. A report at the end of last year said: "Behind the political will, it should be noted that there are huge practical difficulties involved in coordinating such a type of portal. All EU national administration Web sites are structured in their own unique way, providing different levels of information on their public services, according to their importance and availability locally." The latest report signalled the intent to link with national governments.

EU Looks Ahead ⁸ (e-Government)

European e-government policy makers are gathering in Dublin to discuss how to improve the delivery of online public services and redesign their organizations. The conference will contribute to the European Commission's e-government programme, the eEurope 2005 Action Plan. Erkki Liikanen, Information Society Commissioner for the EU said: "Productivity and efficiency in public administrations and high-quality services can revitalize the economy and society as a whole. eGovernment means less red tape, less waiting in queues, fewer errors and more readily accessible services are cutting the cost of doing business, and making life better for citizens. But to ensure that everyone shares these benefits, we need to be able to better measure progress and see that the best ideas are taken up as widely as possible." The conference follows the 2003 high level

⁶ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2589

⁷ <http://news.zdnet.co.uk/business/legal/0,39020651,39157309,00.htm> CIOB News 2004-06-10

⁸ <http://www.kablenet.com/kd.nsf/Frontpage/A4620ADA1E40338D80256EB70030EF3B?OpenDocument>

ministerial meeting in Italy on e-government and is broadcast live online. Hosting the conference, Ireland's information society minister Mary Hanafin said: "Facilitating in-depth discussion and debate on a variety of eGovernment issues among policy makers and these diverse, yet inter-related interests, will greatly assist us in mapping out how best to advance e-government services locally, nationally and, indeed, internationally.

Africa (Continent of)

No new item to report.

Argentina

No new item to report.

Austria

Austria Introduces Official e-Mail Service ⁹ (*Cryptography*)

The Austrian Government has launched an official electronic mail service that will allow public administrations and citizens to exchange e-mails with the guarantee that messages are effectively sent and received. The service, which gives legal status to registered e-mail, is free for receivers. When desired, users may send encrypted messages for additional security. The new service, launched May 19, 2004, provides users with official acknowledgements of receipt, and registered e-mail delivered through the system has therefore legal status. Such a service, previously only available for letters sent by traditional mail, will facilitate and encourage the use of e-mail for official correspondence between administrations and citizens, thereby reducing costs and increasing efficiency. Acknowledgements of receipt, currently sent by e-mail, will at a later stage also be available via SMS. The service is operated by a number of licensed private companies, and users must open an e-mail account with the provider of their choice. The e-mail address used for the official e-mail service is published then public authorities can verify whether or not they can contact a given citizen by official e-mail. Users must also have a traditional postal address, to which messages can be delivered should the electronic delivery fail.

Australia

Victoria Fingerprints Go Digital ¹⁰ (*Biometrics*)

Livescan digital fingerprinting systems, which will improve the speed and accuracy of fingerprint collection, were launched in Victoria today. Victorian police and emergency services minister, Andre Haermeyer said Livescan reduced the time taken to gather and match fingerprints and was linked to the national fingerprint database. "Livescan will help solve more crimes in Victoria and across Australia," he said. The Livescan used optical

⁹ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2594

¹⁰ <http://australianit.news.com.au/articles/0,7204,9872459%5E15319%5E%5Enbv%5E,00.html> CIOB News 2004-06-18

light to digitally scan and capture finger and palm prints in six minutes. Within 20 minutes, prints are electronically transmitted to the National Automated Fingerprint Identification System (NAFIS) database maintained by the federal CrimTrac agency and the Victoria Police Fingerprint Branch and cross-referenced against existing prints on the system.

Border Security Going Digital¹¹ (Biometrics)

The Department of Immigration will build a giant database to store digital photographs, fingerprints and other biometric identifiers from visa applicants and immigration detainees as part of a multimillion-dollar upgrade to border security. The move comes ahead of next week's launch of a biometrics capture lab that will allow the department to test the new technologies. The development of the Identity Services Repository database is a major part of a \$4.4 million project announced in this year's federal budget for the department to test biometric technology. The budget announcement also contained \$3.1 million for Customs to extend the trial of its SmartGate facial recognition system, and \$2.2 million for the Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade's biometric passports project. The three projects are likely to be wrapped together to develop a seamless border control system. The three departments will report on the success of their trials next year, when a final decision on funding will be made.

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

Paperless Society In Brunei By 2005¹² (e-Government)

By 2005, Brunei will be a Paperless Society pursuing 116 projects with 100 per cent expectations under its e-Government programmes. Awang Haji Umar Ali bin Haji Abdullah, Head of the Computer Services at the Ministry of Finance, disclosed this in his talk on the "Current Situation of Brunei e-Government Project and Its Perspective" during the Brunei-Korea e-Government Seminar yesterday morning. He said Brunei Darussalam's Information Technology (IT) programme includes the nation's vision to exploit IT to its full potential for national prosperity. Through the national IT Council, the mission aims to lead and facilitate the strategic development and diffusion of the state-of-

¹¹ <http://australianit.news.com.au/articles/0,7204,9983162%5E15306%5E%5Enbv%5E,00.html>, CIOB News 2004-06-29

¹² <http://www.brudirect.com/DailyInfo/News/Archive/Jun04/100604/nite07.htm> CIOB News 2004-06-10

the-art IT for all. "The IT programme also includes its core strategy where the national drive is directed towards a Paperless Society, that is e-Brunei, and institution of an e-Government structural framework to realise and sustain actual outcomes," he stressed. The Brunei e-Government has several core strategies, among which are to establish e-Government Institutional framework, architecture, monitoring and regulatory mechanisms.

Bulgaria

No new item to report.

Canada

The Impact of PIPEDA ¹³ (Privacy)

The best kept secret in privacy law is what to do about cross-border information transfers. There has been a lot written about the new Canadian privacy law, the *Personal Information Protection and Electronic Documents Act* (PIPEDA), but few lawyers or other experts are willing to offer an opinion on the legality of international cross-border information transfers under PIPEDA. To date there is little to be found within the published rulings of the Privacy Commissioner that can definitively answer the numerous questions that this issue poses. This is surprising given that nearly every business in Canada faces the privacy question almost on a daily basis. The following is a practical overview for any business that sends or receives any personal information from or to Canada across international borders. By way of background, PIPEDA prohibits the collection, storage and disclosure of 'personal information' without the appropriate express or implicit consent from the individual concerned. Personal information is any factual or subjective information, recorded or not, about an identifiable individual.

L'Information circule peu dans l'État Fédéral ¹⁴ (Privacy)

Chez nos voisins du Sud, les événements du 11 septembre ont creusé l'appétit des autorités policières et gouvernementales pour les outils informatiques d'exploration de données (data mining en anglais). Par l'entremise d'un programme du Pentagone intitulé Total Information Awareness, l'État américain veut identifier des modèles de comportement déviants, censément typiques à des " terroristes ", en fouillant à travers des milliers de bases de données. Et au Canada? Selon la vérificatrice générale, Sheila Fraser, Ottawa ne sait même pas qui, parmi les demandeurs de visa (il y en avait 900 000 en 2003) fait partie ou non d'organisations terroristes. On est bien loin du data mining. Mais est-ce une si mauvaise chose pour autant? " En dehors du fait qu'on s'évite des gaspillages d'argents, car le data mining peut coûter très cher, je ne crois pas que la situation dépeinte par la vérificatrice générale soit une si mauvaise nouvelle, car ce genre d'outils informatiques comporte des risques énormes d'envahissement de la vie privée ainsi que de violations de la liberté d'expression et d'association ", dit Yves Lapierre, associé chez VDL2, un concepteur montréalais de sites Internet.

¹³ <http://www.globetechnology.com/servlet/story/RTGAM.20040517.gtflatlasmay17/BNStory/Technology/> CIOB News 2004-06-03

¹⁴ <http://www.directioninformatique.com/index.asp?theaction=61&lid=1&sid=52088> CIOB News 2004-06-10

What Happened: Lac Carling, the Results ¹⁵ (e-Government)

Participants in the Lac Carling Congress in May identified a new set of priorities for the national e-government agenda. The priorities exercise followed three days of plenary sessions and workshops, which addressed a broad of issues around electronic service delivery. In Lac Carling's "digital democracy," voters do more than vote with handheld wireless keypads; they pick the questions to go on the ballot and are largely responsible for turning the results into action. This year, they were asked to provide guidance for the year ahead on three broad areas of electronic service delivery: Multi-Jurisdictional Service Transformation; Privacy and Service Delivery; and Identification, Registration and Authorization. Recommendations from the Congress go to the Public Sector CIO Council (PSCIOC) and the Public Sector Service Delivery Council (PSSDC), which use them to guide decision making on e-government issues.

Sizing Up Coded Message Options ¹⁶ (Cryptography)

Government agencies face a communications dilemma. On the one hand, officials are asked to share more information with other agencies, businesses and citizens. On the other, they are under pressure to boost data protection. E-mail, the ubiquitous communication backbone, lies at the center of this quandary. Applications ranging from emergency response to e-government depend on e-mail. But e-mail's universality and openness, typically considered strengths, can be security weaknesses. Secure e-mail solutions aim to keep information flowing while providing greater protection. Solutions include a variety of encryption schemes to secure messages as they travel across cyberspace. Each encryption approach has nuances. Some solutions use multiple encryption protocols, allowing customers to select the right security tool for each messaging job.

Government-Wide IT Services – It's Better to Share ¹⁷ (Service Delivery)

The Government of Canada is counting on Public Works and Government Services Canada's (PWGSC) Information Technology Services Branch (ITSB) to play a key role in a plan that will improve government efficiency and reap huge taxpayer savings. The plan - to share services like Human Resources, IT and procurement across all departments and agencies - will lead to better resource management and better service for Canadians. Building on ITSB's established expertise as a common IT service provider for government, Ken Cochrane, Chief Executive Officer for ITSB, will lead his branch in making shared government IT services a reality. "Technology is not just for technology's sake anymore. It's become an integral part of delivering government services and enables government to be more effective," says Mr. Cochrane. "A move towards shared services will mean cost savings, better management of information for decision-making and an improvement in quality and delivery of service," for Mr. Cochrane. "When the government runs more effectively it results in better service for Canadians." Delivering shared IT services means PWGSC would provide the technological underpinnings - like phone lines, networks, data centers, backup and recovery services - for all departments and agencies.

¹⁵ <http://www.itworldcanada.com/Pages/Docbase/ViewArticle.aspx?ID=idgml-ab983c93-32e4-4dcc-b44c-30e594a036d0&Portal=E-Government> CIOB News 2004-06-18

¹⁶ <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0621/feat-coded-06-21-04.asp> CIOB News 2004-06-21

¹⁷ CIOB News 2004-06-29

Alberta : Biometric ID Business Takes Off: Endless New Applications Found for Fingerprint, Retina, Voice Recognition ¹⁸ (*Biometrics*)

Frequent flyers will get through Edmonton International Airport quicker because of technology that identifies them by scanning their eyes. At CN's Edmonton intermodal yard, fingerprint scanners identify truck drivers moving in and out. Homeowners can buy fingerprint-activated locks that require no keys or cards - if they have a spare \$500. It's all part of the boom in biometrics that is growing at 70 per cent a year and will hit \$1 billion U.S. a year worldwide by 2006, and double that by 2009. The applications that can be used for are almost unlimited. It can replace passwords or code numbers on any system. And like most new technologies, it's taken a while for biometrics to move into the mainstream, says Bogart, whose clients include the U.S. Army, NASA, NATO and the New York Police Department. But prices are coming down significantly, and the systems are very reliable now after a spotty early history, he says. Most analysts believe the fingerprint reader will be the most popular device, because it's semi-portable and can be incorporated into many platforms. Sometimes it is used in conjunction with a keypad code for extra security.

Nova Scotia - Provincial Website Privacy Policy Launched ¹⁹ (*Privacy*)

A new policy that will further protect the personal information of Nova Scotians was launched on June 1. Government websites are being used more frequently to submit requests for information, to access services and to obtain public opinion. The Website Privacy Policy is designed to ensure that personal information is used only for stated purposes and that it is not shared without specific permission. "We are now offering the convenience of more online services. Due to the increase in online access to these services, we needed a policy to protect personal information provided to us by Nova Scotians," said Economic Development Minister Ernest Fage. The policy takes into account the requirements of the provincial *Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy (FOIPOP) Act*. It will protect all personal information including names, addresses, telephone numbers, credit card information, driver's licence numbers, and health-care history.

Québec : Un pas de plus vers la mise en place de services Québec – Dépôt d'un projet de Loi ²⁰ (*e-Government*)

La présidente du Conseil du Trésor et ministre responsable de l'Administration gouvernementale, Mme Monique Jérôme-Forget, a déposé à l'Assemblée nationale le projet de loi sur Services Québec. "Dans le Plan de modernisation 2004-2007 que nous avons rendu public en mai dernier, nous avons pris l'engagement de faciliter la vie des citoyens et des entreprises dans leurs relations avec le gouvernement du Québec, et c'est en partie avec Services Québec que nous réussissons", a déclaré la ministre Jérôme-Forget. Services Québec agirait comme un courtier de services et de renseignements gouvernementaux auprès de certains ministères et organismes. Ces derniers lui délègueraient la livraison de leur prestation de services tout en préservant leurs responsabilités en matière de politiques et de programmes. En rendant Services Québec pleinement fonctionnel, les Québécois pourraient obtenir une vaste gamme de services et de renseignements en se rendant à un seul endroit, en appelant un seul numéro de téléphone ou en consultant un seul site Internet. Le nombre de services offerts à

¹⁸ <http://intranet/tbnews/stories/2004/20040618i1004.htm> CIOB News 2004-06-18

¹⁹ <http://www.gov.ns.ca/news/details.asp?id=20040609002> CIOB New 2004-06-10

²⁰ <http://communiqués.gouv.qc.ca/gouvqc/communiqués/GPQF/Juin2004/17/c5852.html> CIOB News 2004-06-

Services Québec s'élargirait année après année en s'inspirant à bien des égards de ce qui s'est fait au Nouveau-Brunswick. Services Nouveau-Brunswick offrait au départ 40 services, il en est rendu à 176!

Chile

No new item to report.

China

No new item to report.

Denmark

No new item to report.

Estonia

No new item to report.

Finland

Finland to Develop Smart Card-Based Solution for e-Enabled Elections ²¹ (*Smart Cards*)

Finnish citizens might be able to vote electronically through the Internet or via mobile phone in 2007. This is the goal of a new project to develop a smart card-based solution for e-enabled elections. According to a committee appointed by the Finnish Ministry of Justice remote voting no longer implies any significant technical problems. However, data security still has to be improved, and this is precisely what the smart card project is currently addressing. A first version of the e-voting smart card should be available before the end of 2004, while the test electronic voting would take place during the 2006 presidential elections.

Finland Combines Electronic ID Card and Health Insurance Card²² (*Smart Cards*)

As of June 2004, Finnish citizens can request to have their health insurance data included in their electronic ID card. Citizens deciding to include their health insurance data in their electronic ID card will no longer have to carry the health insurance card issued by the Social Insurance Institution of Finland. This is generally seen as a more practical option than carrying two separate cards. The Government's proposal to combine the electronic identity card and health insurance card into a single ID card dates back to November 2002. At the recommendation of the Data Protection Ombudsman, it was decided that each individual could decide whether he or she would opt for a single card. Launched in 1999, the Finnish electronic ID card is equipped with a microchip storing personal data and a "citizen certificate". Its take-up by the population has however been slower than expected so far.

²¹ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2567

²²

<http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/index.jsp?fuseAction=showDocument&parent=whatsnew&documentID=2649>,
CIOB News2004-06-29

France

French Government Presents Electronic Health Records Programme ²³ (e-Services)

The French Government announced it would soon launch a centralised, electronic “shared medical file” programme, designed to enable health professionals to access patient care records electronically from any location. The electronic medical file project, presented by Health and Social Affairs Minister Philippe Douste-Blazy on 26 May 2004, will create a single, centralised mandatory medical file for each insured individual aged 16 or above. Each computerised file will centralise all available healthcare-related data for a given individual and will be accessible online by both the patient and previously authorised health professionals via a secure Internet connection, by telephone or by requesting a paper copy. The Government plans to start deploying the new system during the first half of 2005. By 2007, an electronic medical file should be in place for each eligible individual. Explaining the benefits of the system, Mr Douste-Blazy said it will provide significant benefits for doctors (who will be able to benefit from real-time information on their patients’ health records), patients (who will benefit from higher standards of healthcare and from a centralised access to their own medical file) and, to the health insurance system itself. Indeed, this initiative, which forms part of the wider reform programme of the French social security system, is expected to help reduce the quantity of “redundant, useless or dangerous” medical actions. Finally, it should help generate savings of EUR 3.5 billion per year.

Germany

Germany's Electronic Health Insurance Card Needs More Investment, Says Study ²⁴ (e-Services)

A recent study suggests that the German electronic health insurance card may generate fewer saving than originally expected. Financing the German electronic health insurance card project without raising health contributions paid by employers, will represent a significant challenge. According to Soreon Research, financial incentives will have to be provided to ensure that both doctors and patients adopt and use some of the non-mandatory applications of the future electronic health insurance card system. In order to “motivate” the practitioners, the study suggests that they should receive a “generous auxiliary remuneration” per e-prescription and per use of the “electronic patient document”. According to Soreon, the suggested optimal solution would guarantee that pharmacists, doctors and hospitals would amortise their initial investments in the first 12 months. Therefore, financial incentives could be significantly reduced after the initial phase. With this model, the new system would be sustainable and generate economies after its early years, the study says. The introduction of the health card, initially foreseen for 2006, is likely to be delayed until 2007.

German Labour Eyes Online Authentication ²⁵ (Smart Cards, Authentication)

Germany's pensions agency and labour department will provide staff with electronic smartcards and set up a centre for verifying online transactions. In a deal worth almost

²³ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2570

²⁴ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2608

²⁵ <http://news.zdnet.co.uk/business/0,39020645,39158869,00.htm>, CIOB News 2004-06-29

EUR10M (£6.7M), Germany's pensions administrator and labour department are implementing online authentication systems. The centre will also be used by the Regional Insurance Institution of the province of Rhenania and the other 22 German regional insurance bodies.

Hungary

No new item to report.

India

No new item to report.

Ireland

Irish Government to Develop Health Services Portal ²⁶ (*e-Services*)

The Irish Health Minister Micheál Martin has officially launched the development phase of Ireland's health services portal. The portal will act as a one-stop shop for information and services for the general public and health professionals. Called HealthIreland.ie, the new portal will initially be available via the Internet, but there are plans to roll it out across a variety of channels in the future, such as call centre, walk-in centre, television, PDA and mobile phone text messaging. Development work on the portal started in March 2004 and the initial set of launch services will be made available during the summer. Health-related information and services are in the list of 20 "basic public services" identified by the European Commission within the eEurope initiative and used to benchmark the availability of online public services in European countries.

Israel

Recognition Keys Access ²⁷ (*Authentication*)

Researchers from Hebrew University in Israel are addressing the problem of password management with a scheme that allows people to use a type of password that they don't have to consciously remember. The scheme taps the way people learn through the instinctive imprinting process. When a person learns information via imprinting, he can recognize the information later but can't recall it in a way he can describe to someone else. The scheme is fairly secure because it is truly random and cannot be stolen or shared voluntarily, said Scott Kirkpatrick, a professor of engineering and computer science at Hebrew University. "We don't know what we know." The idea came from thinking about human memory as an inherent one-way function, said Kirkpatrick. A one-way function is a mathematical formula that is easy to solve in one direction but difficult solve in the other. Factoring, for instance, is a common mathematical one-way function. It is easy to multiply the factors of a number together to get the number, but difficult to derive the factors from the number, especially with very large numbers.

²⁶ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2563

²⁷ http://www.trnmag.com/Stories/2004/060204/Recognition_keys_access_060204.html CIOB News 2004-06-04

Italy

Italian e-Government Services Card to Integrate e-Payment Function ²⁸ (Smart Cards)

The Italian Government has announced that the National Services Card (CNS) a smart card designed to facilitate access to e-government services, will also allow citizens to make secure online payments. Bankpass Web will accept the individual identification data contained in the National Services Card as proof of the holder's identity, and will be compatible with most existing payment means, such as debit and credit cards. Any public administration will have the possibility to issue CNS cards, valid for up to six years, for which they will bear all production and distribution costs. The Italian Government has set a target to distribute 10 million CNS cards before the end of the current Parliament in 2006.

Italian Government to Power Up Business Portal²⁹ (Digital Signatures)

The Italian Government's business portal Impresa.gov.it - which offers information and interactive public services for businesses - will be available to all Italian businesses in December 2004. Interactive services provided via the portal, which is still in its pilot phase, are currently only available to registered users from the provinces of Milan, Verona and Catanzaro. Businesses from Trapani, Treviso and Varese will soon be able to use the portal's services and, by December 2004, interactive services will be available to all businesses throughout the Italian territory. According to Italy's Minister for Innovation and Technologies Lucio Stanca, the offer of a number of convenient electronic procedures through the business portal, combined with the planned distribution of over 1.5 million digital signatures to Italian businesses, is expected to generate considerable savings for companies. For instance, the Government believes that businesses will save EUR 260 million per year only in minor administrative costs related to the sending of documents to the companies register.

India

No new item to report.

Japan

Japan Eyes Biometrics to Tighten Immigration Steps ³⁰ (Biometrics)

Japan will consider using unique biological data about individuals such as fingerprints and facial features to tighten immigration controls as part of its counter-terrorism policy, government officials said Wednesday. Japan has decided to introduce passports with chips containing biometrics information next year, and would look into whether to make use of such data in screening foreign visitors. A working team of officials, including those from foreign and justice ministries, plan to start discussions on the issue later this month,

²⁸ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2617

²⁹ <http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/index.jsp?fuseAction=showDocument&parent=whatsnew&documentID=2654>, CIOB News 2004-06-29

³⁰ <http://www.reuters.com/newsArticle.jhtml?type=technologyNews&storyID=5489858> CIOB News 2004-06-23

"We are aware of the debate over private information and the potential impact on our tourism policy," said an official at the Cabinet Office.

Kenya

No new item to report.

Korea

No new item to report.

Malaysia

No new item to report.

Malta

No new item to report.

Mexico

No new item to report.

Netherlands (the)

Dutch Biometric Passport Trials Taking Shape ³¹ (*Biometrics*)

The Dutch Government has appointed two Canadian companies specialising in biometric identification technologies, Biocrypt and BioDentity, to provide advanced fingerprint and face recognition technologies for its biometric passports and ID cards pilot tests. The trials, which were due to start in early 2004, will finally begin in September. Bioscrypt will provide the fingerprint technology, while BioDentity will be supplying the face recognition system as well as the necessary border clearance technology to deliver fully operational kiosks and counter inspection systems. In addition to technical issues, the trials will assess the impact of the biometric elements in the lifecycle of passports and ID cards, from document request to delivery and use by the holder. The biometric pilots, codenamed "2B or not 2B", will start on 1 September 2004.

New Zealand

No new item to report.

Norway

No new item to report.

³¹ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2615

Pakistan

No new item to report.

Poland

No new item to report.

Portugal

Portugal to Test e-Voting in June 2004 European Elections ³² (e-Government)

The Portuguese Government will conduct a non-binding electronic voting pilot during the June 2004 European Elections, when 100,000 voters will have the possibility to try one of three different e-voting systems. The trial will be conducted in 9 municipalities across the country, chosen according to criteria such as geographical location, size, and traditional political preferences. About 100,000 voters will thus be offered the possibility of testing an e-voting system – but only after casting their legal vote by using the usual paper ballot method. “In this phase, we want to test these solutions in order to evaluate the receptivity of voters and also to put electronic voting on the agenda”, said Diogo Vasconcelos, president of the Portuguese Government's Mission for Innovation and Knowledge (UMIC), adding that the ultimate objective is to “deepen participative democracy”.

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.

Spain

City of Madrid to Hold e-Referendum ³³ (e-Government)

On June 2004, about 120,000 residents of central Madrid will have the opportunity to participate in a referendum labelled as Spain's “biggest and most important pilot” in the e-

³² http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2595

³³ http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2610

citizenship area via the Internet or through a mobile phone. Madrid Participa, the first multi-channel e-democracy referendum organised in Spain, will allow people to have their say on a number of local policy issues. Citizens voting via mobile phone will have the choice between voting by text message (SMS) or by using a downloadable java application available for certain types of mobile phones. Prior to voting, citizens will have to request a digital certificate either online or physically at one of the dedicated registry offices. According to the local authorities, Madrid Participa will be the most sophisticated pilot ever undertaken in Spain in the field of e-democracy, in terms of variety of channels employed, security technologies used to safeguard vote secrecy and integrity, and expected number of participants. Observers from a number of countries and from the European Union were invited to follow this initiative and assess it from a political, sociological and technological point of view.

Sweden

No new item to report.

Switzerland

No e-Services for Swiss Portal ³⁴ (e-Government)

Switzerland is to scale down its e-government plans, offering only online information rather than transactional services, according to reports on 3 June 2004. The Swiss Government's main website will not be as ambitious as originally planned after some of the country's canton authorities refused to pay the full cost of the development. A review of the e-government programme was conducted after objections were raised over its cost and complexity. Cantons were opposed to the main portal offering interactive services and wanted to make a reduced contribution of SFr1.2m (£500,000) to the project out of a total budget of SFr3.6m (£1.57m). The Swiss federal authorities have been keen to make progress with e-government after a report earlier this year showed a lack of awareness among the public about the programme.

Tanzania

No new item to report.

Thailand

No new item to report.

United Kingdom

Devil's Advocate: Who Wants Government Run Like a Business?³⁵ (e-Government)

The government has appointed a new head of e-government. Ian Watmore is moving to the job from being managing director of the consultancy Accenture. According to British

³⁴ <http://www.kablenet.com/kd.nsf/Frontpage/075E01E96492E09180256EA800382655?OpenDocument> CIOB News 2004-06-03

³⁵ <http://comment.silicon.com/0.39024711.39121003.00.htm> CIOB News 2004-06-01

Prime Minister, Tony Blair, Watmore will play a "pivotal role ensuring that IT supports the business transformation of government".

Government Scheme Seeks to End IT Project Failures ³⁶ (e-Government)

The government has launched a new accreditation scheme that it hopes will help bring to an end public sector IT project failures. The e-Government Interoperability Framework (e-GIF) Accreditation Authority Programme will be run by the National Computing Centre (NCC) and the Institute of IT Training under the auspices of the Cabinet Office's e-Government Unit (formerly the Office of the e-Envoy). The e-GIF framework aims to set out best practice for the development and delivery of e-government services, while the Accreditation Authority Programme aims to ensure that those procuring and supplying systems and services understand and can apply the framework. Andy Hopkirk, director of the e-GIF Programme at the NCC, said: "This is about giving people the power to make better judgements. "The government wants to raise the level of professionalism and recognise competence in the belief that this will lead to better discussions and decisions about what to buy, rather than people taking the first thing that comes along based on a short-term 'best value' calculation." Compliance with e-GIF is mandatory across the public sector, but accreditation is currently voluntary.

Customs Under Fire ³⁷ (e-Government)

The Public Accounts Committee (PAC) has criticised HM Customs & Excise for spending millions on its e-government programme without being confident of the benefits for either itself or for UK businesses. In a report released June 22nd, 2004, the PAC said the department, currently being merged with the Inland Revenue, has already spent £100m on its e-government programme and is spending £327m in total over the 10 years to 2010, plus a further £250m to enhance its existing ICT infrastructure. But businesses are still paying their VAT using a paper based system, because the Customs' e-VAT service, launched in March 2000, offers them no tangible benefits. The report says Customs is only now considering a strategy to achieve the 50% level of take-up needed to make the new e-VAT service viable. It says Customs must ensure it offers a good quality service that a high proportion of businesses are willing to use before proceeding with a possible plan to make it mandatory for businesses to submit VAT returns electronically.

UK Eyes Flyers ³⁸ (Biometrics)

U.K. officials announced plans today to install an iris-recognition system during the next year to provide greater security and faster travel through major airports. The new Iris Recognition Immigration System (IRIS) is the first big initiative in the government's e-Borders program. Officials will start installing the system at Heathrow airport and then expand it to five airports that handle the majority of the international arrivals to the United

³⁶ <http://www.whatpc.co.uk/News/1155608> CIOB News 2004-06-04

³⁷ <http://www.kablenet.com/kd.nsf/Frontpage/9C513F3D83C6194680256EBA0055C848?OpenDocument>

³⁸ <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0614/web-iris-06-15-04.asp>

Kingdom. Enrollment in the IRIS program will be voluntary, and for now, the system will be used only by a select group of foreign nationals that the government plans to invite into the program. Government officials will invite individuals with proven records of compliance with U.K. immigration laws. They will first seek those who live in the country permanently or hold work permits, officials said.

United States

State Dept. Wants to Leverage PKI ³⁹ (PKI)

The State Department, one of the four entities cross-certified this year by the Federal Bridge Certification Authority, has big plans for its public-key infrastructure. "The bridge is going to be invaluable to us," deputy CIO David Ames said at an event this month recognizing the department's certification. The State Department already was operating an internal PKI with digital certificates and encryption keys to securely sign e-mail, documents and authenticated code, as well as to share information with the Homeland Security Department. But the cross-certification opens up new opportunities for secure transactions with other agencies, business partners and citizens. "As soon as we implement PKI for logical access and single sign-on, there are a hundred other applications that will pop up," said Alan Herto, acting chief of State's Systems Integrity Division. Since the mid-1990s, federal bridge proponents have been trying to evolve ways to identify users and devices that access the government online. Now their focus has shifted from government-issued digital IDs to a federated trust system. Under the new approach, each agency can decide whose third-party digital certificates to accept.

E-gov Services Go Unused ⁴⁰ (e-Government)

The federal government has a long way to go to sell e-government services to the public, according to a survey for the E-Gov Institute's Government Solutions Forum released today. In a study measuring the public awareness and effectiveness of three of the president's e-government initiatives, the nationwide poll found that most Americans do not turn to the government for information - not even for their hobbies. But when they do, they find the online services useful and are surprised at the depth of the information offered on the sites. The E-Gov Institute is a subsidiary of FCW Media Group, publisher of Federal Computer Week and FCW.com. This summer marks the third year in the Bush administration's effort to rely on electronic government to improve services to citizens and make government work more efficiently. The survey found that most Americans had not yet visited some of the more popular government Web sites, including whitehouse.gov, NASA.gov, recreation.gov or IRS.gov.

DOD Begins Cross-Credentialing Pilot ⁴¹ (Authentication, Biometrics, Smart Cards)

The Defense Department is sponsoring in the summer-long a pilot program to test interoperability of government and private-sector identification credentials. The goal is to enable contractors to validate and accept DOD's Common Access Card at company

³⁹ http://www.gcn.com/23_12/news/26013-1.html CIOB News 2004-06-01

⁴⁰ <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0531/web-egov-06-02-04.asp> CIOB News 2004-06-03 CIOB News 2004-06-01

⁴¹ http://www.gcn.com/vol1_no1/daily-updates/26077-1.html

facilities, and for DOD to validate private-sector IDs at military facilities. The program does not specify the type of credentials to be used, but requires the issuer to maintain a secure database that meets DCIS standards. An option for the system would let a facility gather a fingerprint scan at an entry point for verification with the issuing party's database. Fingerprints are the only biometric identifier being used in the pilot.

US Government Builds Up Electronic Borders ⁴² (Biometrics)

The US Government has appointed a consortium led by consulting firm Accenture to further develop and implement the US-VISIT programme, designed to secure US borders using an electronic entry/exit management system and biometric technologies. The system will collect biometric data at the ports of entry by either capturing digital finger scans and photos or by reading data from machine-readable biometric travel documents, and then check this data against several law enforcement and counter-terrorism databases. The US-VISIT programme was officially launched in January 2004 and has been managed directly by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in its first phase of operation. In a report assessing this first phase published May 11 2004, the General Accounting Office (GAO) reiterated previous warnings and recommendations aimed at establishing effective management capabilities for the programme. Although the DHS has been able to implement an initial programme operating capability at 115 air and 14 sea ports, the GAO found that it "has not employed rigorous, disciplined management controls typically associated with successful programs, such as test management". More specifically, the GAO report found that "testing of the initial phase of the implemented system was not well managed and was completed after the system became operational". Furthermore, "DHS's plans for future US-VISIT resource needs at the land ports of entry, such as staff and facilities, are based on questionable assumptions, making future resource needs uncertain".

Biometric Reprieve Granted ⁴³ (Biometrics)

The House approved by voice vote on June 14 2004 a one-year deadline extension for visa-waiver countries to have machine-readable, tamper-resistant passports with embedded biometric identifiers. Most of the 27 countries, whose citizens do not need visas to enter the United States, will have until Oct. 26, 2005, to have tamper-resistant entry and exit documents ready. Face mapping is currently the only internationally recognized standard. Several House lawmakers have said they favored an extension for economic reasons. They said if the deadline had not been extended, travelers from visa-waiver countries that did not have such passports might not be inclined to visit the United States, thereby reducing tourism, education and business dollars.

Venezuela

No new item to report.

⁴² http://europa.eu.int/ISPO/ida/jsps/dsp_showDocument.jsp?printerVersion=1&documentID=2593

⁴³ <http://www.fcw.com/fcw/articles/2004/0614/web-biomt-06-15-04.asp>

Viet Nam

No new item to report.

Miscellaneous

Microsoft and WISEKey Teaming to Deploy a Trusted PKI Based on WISEKey Trust Model and Infrastructure and Microsoft's Windows Server 2003⁴⁴ (Authentication)

Following the Microsoft EMEA VC Summit 2004 where the description of the intended service was announced, WISEKey has now launched its new service to enable users of Microsoft's Windows Server 2003 to issue globally trusted digital signatures using PKI technology that allows use of digital signatures with Microsoft applications. Microsoft includes a certification authority within its Windows Server 2003 thus bringing the issuance of digital signatures within the easy reach of even the smallest organization. Whilst this is a revolution for enabling organizations to secure their transactions, until WISEKey trust authentication service, the weakness of any organization issuing its own digital signatures was the question of procedure and security of the issuing process required for trusting those digital signatures, only obtainable through recognition of the process by an independent trusted third party.

RIAA Wants Your Fingerprints⁴⁵ (Biometrics)

The Recording Industry Association of America (RIAA) is hoping that a new breed of music player, which requires biometric authentication will put an end to file sharing. Established biometric vendor Veritouch has teamed up with Swedish design company, Thinking Material, to produce iVue: a wireless media player that allows content producers to lock down media files with biometric security. Veritouch announced that it had demonstrated the device to the RIAA and MPAA. "In practical terms, VeriTouch's breakthrough in anti-piracy technology means that no delivered content to a customer may be copied, shared or otherwise distributed because each file is uniquely locked by the customer's live fingerprint scan," claims the company.

Entrust Achieves OPSEC Certification From Check Point⁴⁶ (Authentication)

Entrust. Inc a world-leading provider of Identity and Access Management solutions announced that the Entrust(R) Secure Identity Management Solution has achieved OPSEC(TM) (Open Platform for Security) certification from Check Point Software Technologies Ltd(TM). The worldwide leader in securing the Internet OPSEC certification attests that the certified Entrust products have passed rigorous interoperability testing to provide strong authentication for Check Point's market-leading VPN-1(R) software. The integration of Entrust and Check Point products provides a highly scalable and secure remote access solution for business communications over the Internet. It reduces the complexity of authentication by seamlessly provisioning and managing digital IDs used to access sensitive enterprise resources. The solution can help organizations to improve the productivity of mobile employees and remote partners while, at the same time, addressing information security risks such as breaches and data misuse.

⁴⁴ <http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/June2004/04/c0211.html> CIOB News 2004-06-04

⁴⁵ http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/06/04/biometric_drm/ CIOB News 2004-06-23

⁴⁶ <http://www.newswire.ca/en/releases/archive/June2004/23/c7730.html> CIOB News 2004-06-23

ORC Begins Issuing DoD External Certification Authority Certificates⁴⁷ (*Certificates*)

Operational Research Consultants (ORC), Inc. put into full operation the ORC External Certification Authority (ECA) for issuing Department of Defense authorized digital certificates to contractors, vendors, allied partners, North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) allies, Foreign Nationals, members of other Government agencies and their trading partners. The commencement of full operational status follows the recent signing of a Memorandum of Agreement between the External Certificate Authority Policy Management Authority (EPMA) and ORC, as signed by the Acting Assistant Secretary of Defense (NII), Mr. Linton Wells II. The ECA program supersedes the Interim External Certificate Authority program by dropping the Interim designation and becoming fully operational.

Anti-Phishing Group Backs EMail Authentication⁴⁸ (*Authentication*)

The Anti-Phishing Working Group (APWG), which includes Internet service providers (ISPs), banks and on-line retailers, said that 95 per cent of phishing attacks in May came from spoofed email addresses. Email authentication technology, if widely deployed, could go a long way in stopping phishing attacks. Microsoft supports this idea and its Chairman, Bill Gates, issued an update on its plans in this area on June 28 2004. Microsoft would look to proliferate new technical standards for email authentication and while working closely with service providers and law enforcement officials to help end spam.

The primary source for the information contained in this document is the Internet – most articles are footnoted with links to source documents on various web sites. The reader is reminded that much of the information on Internet news sites is transitory and may only exist on a site for a short period of time. Readers wishing to maintain copies of the source information are encouraged to capture the text in a word processing application. Where possible, the date that an article appeared on a web site is provided following the link. Please do not report “broken links”.

⁴⁷ http://www.marketwire.com/mw/release_html_b1?release_id=69317, CIOB News 2004-06-30

⁴⁸ http://www.theregister.co.uk/2004/06/29/anti-phishing_authentication/