



# EAB Newsletter

Edition December 2012

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Production:

European Association for Biometrics

## From the EAB Chairman



Congratulations!

We just celebrated our first anniversary. What a year! With your help we could achieve much more than we ever have dreamed of when we started in Darmstadt on November 17, 2011: so far we welcomed almost 100 members. We were able to establish remarkable partnerships and liaisons. A website provides valuable information to all stakeholders in the area of

biometrics be it on our association, be it on interesting events or be it on additional information. A regular Newsletter covers news hot from the press. We re-established the European Biometrics Research Award and won a well-known and high-ranking company to sponsor it for the next 4 years. And we initiated Special Interest Groups, Committees and Working Groups in order to discuss current issues and make biometrics a technology that the European citizens can take advantage of and that is to the benefit of our society. And exactly about the latter I am keen to discuss with you in our upcoming EAB Members Conference on December 11, 2012 in Berlin. I am sure you will be thrilled of the news we have for you in this 3<sup>rd</sup> issue of our Newsletter and I am looking forward to sharing a compelling outlook to a fruitful and fascinating year 2.

The Management Board of EAB sends you season greetings and wishes you a merry Christmas and a happy New Year!

Alexander Nouak, EAB Chairman

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## 1. News from the EAB

### Eurosmart and the EAB agreed on partnership

Last week the EAB and Eurosmart have agreed on establishing a partnership alliance. The two associations will cooperate in the following areas:

- Information exchange between members and associated communities;
- Undertaking joint efforts on education and training regarding various aspects of biometrics and smart secure devices, such as target market, use cases, business models, functional and technical integration, standardization and testing;
- Cooperation on various activities, such as joint workshops, seminars, production of educational materials, standards development and testing/evaluation;
- Mutual involvement of members from both organizations in relevant activities;
- Dissemination of industrial, academic and governmental information, focusing on research and development, project development and implementation, and industrial excellence;

The partnership results into Europe's largest cooperative platform on biometrics, smart secure devices and identity.

Read the press release at: [www.eab.org/news/press.html](http://www.eab.org/news/press.html)

### Biosecure and EAB enter into partnership agreement

Association BioSecure ([www.biosecure.it-sudparis.eu/AB/](http://www.biosecure.it-sudparis.eu/AB/)) and the EAB had a joint management meeting earlier this. The board members mutually agreed a cooperation would create various possibilities and benefits for both organization. It was therefore decided that a partnership agreement will be established. Part of the envisaged cooperation will be the organization of a joint event on biometric databases and testing. Both associations will finalize further details early 2013.

### European Biometrics Research and Industry Award sponsored by Morpho

We are delighted that we can announce Morpho to be sponsor of the EAB Research Award for the next three editions until 2015. For the EAB it means that this unique award, is being supported by Europe's largest biometric provider and global leader in biometric systems, components and solutions. Mr. Jean Paul Jainsky, Chairman and CEO of Safran Morpho, says: *"We are proud to be a sponsor of the efforts deployed by the EAB in fostering research in Europe in the field of biometrics. As a responsible leader of the industry, we feel it is our responsibility to acknowledge and recognize the work and achievements of young and gifted scientists in the field of biometrics."*

Read more about the award: [www.eab.org/award/cfp.html](http://www.eab.org/award/cfp.html)

[Read the report of the 2012 award...](#)

## Members of the EAB Advisory Council announced

The EAB Management Board proudly announces the members of the EAB Advisory Council (EABAC):

- Erik Berglund (Head of Capacity Building, Frontex)
- Christer Bergman (Board Member IBIA, USA)
- Ann Cavoukian (IPC Ontario, Canada)
- Bernard Didier (Safran Morpho, France)
- Waldemar Grudzien (Director German Banking Association)
- Marek Rejman Greene (UK Home Office)
- Ram Sewak Sharma (Director General and Mission Director UIDAI)
- Ruth Wandhöfer (Citigroup, Chair of the Information Security Support Group (ISSG) of the European Payment Council, EPC)
- Jim Wayman (San José Univ. USA)

The EAB Biometrics Advisory Council (EABAC) is the EAB's internal advisory council, as laid down by the EAB's constitution. It consists of selected representatives from the wider biometrics and identity community, including from outside Europe. The EABAC seeks to enhance information exchange and cooperation in the area of biometrics on European and international level by coordinating experts' responses and providing a platform to work towards a concerted approach to the proper and beneficial use of biometrics.

Read more: [www.eab.org/about/eabac.html](http://www.eab.org/about/eabac.html)

## Raymond Veldhuis appointed as Chair of the EAB Academia Special Interest Group

Raymond Veldhuis is professor at the Twente University, working in the fields of biometrics and signal processing and leading a research team in this area, involved in national and international projects. Raymond Veldhuis has published over 100 papers in international conferences and journals and has 20 patents in the field of sound, image and speech processing. He is also co-author of the book *An Introduction to Source Coding*, Prentice Hall, and author of the book *Restoration of Lost Samples in Digital Signals*, Prentice Hall. His expertise involves digital signal processing for audio, images and speech; statistical pattern recognition and biometrics.

Professor Veldhuis is currently preparing the charter for the Academia SIG, which will be ready for discussion at the EAB Members Meeting in Berlin, next week Tuesday December 11<sup>th</sup> (please register at: [www.eab.org/events/program/23](http://www.eab.org/events/program/23)).

## Sébastien Marcel appointed as Chair of the EAB Evaluation and Testing Committee (ETC)

Sébastien Marcel, coordinator of the two European projects BEAT and TabulaRasa, has accepted his nomination to chair the EAB committee on testing and evaluation. Bernadette



Dorizzi (Institut National des Télécommunications, France) and Raoul Sanchez (Universidad Carlos III de Madrid, Spain) will act as co-chair.

Read more on the ETC: [www.eab.org/expertise/com/etc.html](http://www.eab.org/expertise/com/etc.html)

## Meet a new EAB member: GFT Technologies AG

GFT Technologies, keeping its head office in Germany and having a history of GFT that stretches back more than 20 years, is a well established IT company, providing services and solutions in the area of the financial services industry. GFT technologies combines technological expertise and seamless project management with a deep understanding of the industry. The company has 21 offices in seven countries to serve customers in over 30 different countries and can therefore be seen as a major international player from the European continent. Main markets for GFT technologies are banking, insurance and postal& logistics.

GFT Technologies AG is part of the biometric community supporting the use of biometrics in IT. Mr. Andreas Bongers, Principal Consultant - International Business Consulting of GFT Technologies, says:

*"We combine our banking and IT know-how with a focus on identity and security management. Building on our biometric experience in developing and evaluating biometric solutions, we work on secure banking with a focus on secure payments solutions and identity management. We develop examples for application and biometric prototypes for banking transactions and identity management. GFT's approach for developing and deploying biometric solutions ranges from evaluating the suitability of technologies and business requirements to evaluating and improving customer benefits and overall system performance, including reasonable risk assessments."*

To learn more about GFT Technologies, please go to

[www.gft.com/index/company/company.html](http://www.gft.com/index/company/company.html).

## EAB to organize workshop on NFIQ2 on 26 April 2013

The NFIQ2 workshop, will be co-organized with NIST (US), the German Federal Office of Information Security (BSI) and the Biometrics Institute. The objectives of the workshop are to promote the NFIQ2.0 project and the SW-framework, to present progress in research on Sample Quality Metrics and to discuss to which extent current approaches satisfy the need of industry and operators of mobile capture devices. Co-chairs will be Christoph Busch (EAB), Elham Tabassi (NIST) and Oliver Bausinger (BSI). The details of the program and location will be announced soon through the EAB website ([www.eab.org](http://www.eab.org)).

## EAB signs up to the advisory board of BEAT

The EAB has joined the Advisory Board of BEAT. This has been agreed by the members of the project board of BEAT and the Management Board of the EAB. BEAT is a project on biometrics evaluation and testing, funded by the European Commission under the Seventh Framework Program (Evaluation of identification technologies, including Biometrics, SEC-

2011.5.1-1). The EAB will keep close relations with the BEAT project in order to ensure a broad interaction with the wider biometrics community in Europe.

Read More about BEAT: [www.beat-eu.org/](http://www.beat-eu.org/)

## **EAB members service: comprehensive information on public Biometric Datasets soon available**

A comprehensive overview of publicly available biometric databases will soon be provided to EAB members. Twelve different modalities are being considered in this overview, including 2D palmprint, signature (on/offline), 2D/3D face, 2D/3D ear, fingerprint, speaker recognition, vascular vein pattern, iris, keystroke dynamics, mouse dynamics, gait and face from video. Detailed information on each of these datasets will be provided in the form of No. of subjects, No. of session, Samples/session, Samples/subject, Special characteristics (describing the variability of the data acquisition) and Total number of samples. All EAB members will be notified as soon this overview will be available through the members section of the EAB website.

## **EAB Members Conference: Berlin, 11 December 2012**

On 11 December 2012 the first EAB members' conference will be held in Berlin. The conference will enable all members, committees and working groups to directly interact with each other together. There will also be discussions on major market developments and how the EAB should respond to those. Ideas and suggestions for projects and other activities for the EAB will be discussed. Proposals may emerge, which could be prepared to be formalized at the following General Assembly on 14 February 2013.

The EAB members' conference will be co-located with the December meeting of the TeleTrust German Biometric Working Group, which will meet on 12 December 2012 at the BdB (Bundesverband deutscher Banken) in Berlin.

Program available at: [www.eab.org/events/program/23](http://www.eab.org/events/program/23)

To register: [www.eab.org/events/registration/23](http://www.eab.org/events/registration/23)

See [ANNEX](#) for more details

## **EAB General Assembly: 14 February 2013**

On Thursday, 14 February 2013, the EAB General Assembly takes place in Brussels at the Meeting Centre of the CEN-CENELEC. The meeting will start at 13.00 hrs. and end at 15.00 hrs. (CET). Only EAB members can participate. A detailed agenda will be sent shortly.

(see address details of CEN-CENELEC below)

## **European Biometrics Symposium: 15 February 2013**

On Friday, 15 February 2013, the European Biometrics Symposium will take place in the Meeting Centre of CEN-CENELEC. The event will zoom in to recent developments in Europe



and abroad, including areas such as policy, industrial R&D, academic achievements and roadmaps, evaluation and testing.

The European Biometrics Symposium is quality driven. The event seeks to provide in depth information on the most actual and relevant issues on biometrics and ID management, targeted to policy makers, industrial decision makers, end users, system designers and academic and other educational institutions.

For more information please take a look at [www.eab.org](http://www.eab.org) regularly or send an email to [secretariat@eab.org](mailto:secretariat@eab.org) .

The Meeting Centre is located at:  
CEN-CENELEC Meeting Centre (4th floor)  
Avenue Marnix 17  
B - 1000 Brussels

Directions can be found at:  
[www.cencenelec.eu/aboutus/ourservices/MeetingCentre/Location/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.cencenelec.eu/aboutus/ourservices/MeetingCentre/Location/Pages/default.aspx)

## 2. EU/EC/EP

### E-Gates in Italy financed by the EU External Border Fund

Next year Italian National Police will start a pilot project to test e-gates at Milan Malpensa. The action, financed by the External Borders Fund annual Plan 2012, aims to evaluate impact and benefits from adopting e-gates to verify the identity of European citizens with e-passport at border crossing points. Three different systems will be tested and compared for a period of 9 months at the International Airport at Milan Malpensa. The pilot would enable border guards and Milan Malpensa Airport Company (SEA) to evaluate usability, performance and costs/benefits for such systems. The trial will end at June 2014 and will be conducted with the support of a research institution.

*Read more:*

[www.interno.gov.it/mininterno/export/sites/default/it/assets/files/24/2012\\_07\\_25\\_DECIS\\_APP\\_2012.pdf](http://www.interno.gov.it/mininterno/export/sites/default/it/assets/files/24/2012_07_25_DECIS_APP_2012.pdf)

### Prague eGATE reached 95 000 proceeded passengers

The gate system used on the Vaclav Havel Airport Prague successfully processed nearly 95k passengers during the 9 month of operation time. You can find it in Terminal 1 - arrival area. In this time just one ABC system is deployed. The average process time is around 17 seconds. The record we measured is 12.80 seconds needed for the complete border control process including all security measures. The Czech border police and airport operator have observed maximum usage within the rush hours where the system capacity is used on 100%. We've also identified more than 230 passengers who used the system at least 10 times within this period, maximum was 23 entries by the one person. The major part of users comes from the Czech Republic, UK and Ireland.

*Source: Czech Border Police*

### Facebook to switch off controversial facial recognition feature following data protection concerns by the EU commission

Facebook is switching off its controversial facial recognition feature following concerns that members are unaware of what happens to the data they give up. The tool takes information provided when users tag friends' faces in photos to make suggestions on the correct tags for future images. The company has been heavily criticised for bringing in the feature in Europe in June last year without formally announcing its arrival on the site.

*Read more: [www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2207098/](http://www.dailymail.co.uk/news/article-2207098/)*

## Frontex releases latest version “Best Practice Operational Guidelines for ABC Systems”

Frontex has recently released the version-2 of the “Best Practice Operational Guidelines for Automated Border Control”. It constitutes a compendium of best practice guidelines on the design, deployment and operation of automated border control systems with a focus on their operational dimension. These Best Practice Guidelines have been drafted by the Frontex Working Group (WG) on ABC in an effort to promote harmonisation of practice, similar traveller experience, and consistent security levels at the different border control points where ABC systems have been deployed.

Read more: [www.frontex.europa.eu/publications](http://www.frontex.europa.eu/publications)

## The Secrets of Fortress Europe: Eurosur and Smart Borders

The EU is constantly looking to strengthen surveillance of its external borders, using increasingly expensive technologies. But are they effective? And in a democracy, who control the controller? asks the Groene Amsterdammer. According to the authors of the Borderline report commissioned by the Heinrich Böll Foundation, Eurosur is both technically and organisationally unsound. “The only people to have investigated whether it will actually work are Frontex and the firms that sell the technology”, Mathias Vermeulen claims (co-author of the report and a specialist in international law at the European University Institute in Florence). “There’s no supervisory body and, while the Commission insists it will only cost 340 million euros up to 2020, we have calculated that it may amount to two or three times as much.”

Read more: [www.presseurop.eu/en/content/article/2803431-secrets-fortress-europe](http://www.presseurop.eu/en/content/article/2803431-secrets-fortress-europe)

## Testing and evaluation in Europe: BEAT and Tabula Rasa release multiple evaluation programs

Two major European projects on testing and evaluation of biometric components and systems, BEAT ([www.beat-eu.org](http://www.beat-eu.org)) and Tabula Rasa ([www.tabularasa-euproject.org](http://www.tabularasa-euproject.org)), have announced a series of testing and evaluation projects.

### **TABULA RASA Spoofing Challenge**

June 4-7, 2013 Madrid Spain

[www.tabularasa-euproject.org/evaluations/tabula-rasa-spoofing-challenge-2013](http://www.tabularasa-euproject.org/evaluations/tabula-rasa-spoofing-challenge-2013)

The TABULA RASA project ( <http://www.tabularasa-euproject.org> ) is organizing a Spoofing Challenge and is inviting researchers to develop ingenious attack plans and to deceive various biometric authentication systems of different modalities that will be demonstrated at the 6th International Conference of Biometrics (ICB 2013 <http://atvs.ii.uam.es/icb2013/> ).

The most brilliant attempt, which will be decided on its spoofing success and originality, will be awarded with the “**Best Spoofing Attack Award**”, accompanied by an incentive prize.

### **TABULA RASA 2nd competition on counter measures to 2D facial spoofing attacks**

Jan 14-April 8, 2013

[www.tabularasa-euproject.org/evaluations/icb-2013-face-anti-spoofing](http://www.tabularasa-euproject.org/evaluations/icb-2013-face-anti-spoofing)

Following the first competition on **counter measures to 2D spoofing attacks** consisting of printed photographs, The TABULA RASA project ( [www.tabularasa-euproject.org](http://www.tabularasa-euproject.org) ) organizes a second competition for comparison of the performance of spoofing counter measures, this time on a more diverse set of spoofing attacks (photos and videos replay on iPhone and iPad). The competition will be part of the 6th International Conference of Biometrics (ICB 2013 <http://atvs.ii.uam.es/icb2013/> ).

### **BEAT Competition on face recognition in mobile environment using the MOBIO database**

Jan 14-April 8, 2013

[www.beat-eu.org/evaluations/icb-2013-face-recognition-mobio](http://www.beat-eu.org/evaluations/icb-2013-face-recognition-mobio)

In the context of BEAT project ( [www.beat-eu.org](http://www.beat-eu.org) ), the Biometric group at the Idiap Research Institute ( [www.idiap.ch/~marcel/professional/Research\\_Team.html](http://www.idiap.ch/~marcel/professional/Research_Team.html) ) is organizing the second competition on **face recognition** during the 6th International Conference of Biometrics (ICB 2013 <http://atvs.ii.uam.es/icb2013/> ) to be held in Madrid, Spain on June 4-7, 2013. Researchers in biometrics are highly invited to participate in this competition. This will help them to evaluate the progress made in the last couple of years.

### **BEAT Competition on speaker recognition in mobile environment using the MOBIO database**

Jan 14-April 8, 2013

[www.beat-eu.org/evaluations/icb-2013-face-recognition-mobio](http://www.beat-eu.org/evaluations/icb-2013-face-recognition-mobio)

In the context of BEAT project the biometric group at the Idiap Research Institute (CH) is organizing the second competition on **text independent speaker recognition** during the 6th International Conference of Biometrics (ICB 2013 <http://atvs.ii.uam.es/icb2013/> ) to be held in Madrid, Spain on June 4-7, 2013. Researchers in biometrics are highly invited to participate in this competition. This will help them to evaluate the progress made in the last couple of years.

For more information please contact Sébastien Marcel at [marcel@idiap.ch](mailto:marcel@idiap.ch).

## 3. Academia

### The Liveness Detection Competition 2013 announced

The Department of Electrical and Electronic Engineering of the University of Cagliari (Italy) and the Department of Electrical and Computer Engineering of the Clarkson University (USA) have announced the third edition of the Liveness Detection Competition – LivDet2013. LivDet 2013 will feature both fingerprint and iris biometrics and will consist of four separate parts:

- Fingerprint Part 1: Algorithms
- Fingerprint Part 2: Systems
- Iris Part 1: Algorithms
- Iris Part 2: Systems

Read more: [www.clarkson.edu/citer/research/collections/livdet2011/index.html](http://www.clarkson.edu/citer/research/collections/livdet2011/index.html)

### Reverse-Engineered Irises Look So Real, They Fool Eye-Scanners

Researchers from Biometric Recognition Group-ATVS, at the Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, and researchers at West Virginia University have found a way to recreate iris images that match digital iris codes that are stored in databases and used by iris-recognition systems to identify people. The replica images, they say, can trick commercial iris-recognition systems into believing they're real images and could help someone thwart identification at border crossings or gain entry to secure facilities protected by biometric systems.

Read more: [www.wired.com/threatlevel/2012/07/reverse-engineering-iris-scans/all/](http://www.wired.com/threatlevel/2012/07/reverse-engineering-iris-scans/all/)

### University of Amsterdam: Cloud services and US Patriot Act

Research from the University of Amsterdam revealed that the US Patriot Act has significant implications on privacy, specifically regarding the access of foreign government services to the data that are stored in the cloud. Also other US legislation such as the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, the FISA Amendment Act from 2008 and the Electronic Communications Privacy Act provides the US government the means to request for information and data that fall under their jurisdiction. In case a cloud provider/enterprise undertakes activities within the US (e.g. by having a registered office on US soil or being a subsidiary of a US company) than this provider and its activities will fall under US jurisdiction. An additional risk is that non-US citizens receive only little protection from US law. The legal protection provided by US constitution is mainly to protect US citizens. In case data are being stored in a cloud that is provided by a company falling under US jurisdiction, these data can be directly accessed from the US through the provider of the cloud service. In such cases it won't make a difference whether these data are physically stored in the US or in another part of the world. Commercial contracts can't provide sufficient protection against this risk of data being requested by US authorities.



*Read more:*

[www.itenrecht.nl/?//Rapport+IViR+biedt+inzicht+in+rol+Patriot+Act+bij+gebruik+cloud+computing/](http://www.itenrecht.nl/?//Rapport+IViR+biedt+inzicht+in+rol+Patriot+Act+bij+gebruik+cloud+computing/)

*Read the original report:*

[www.ivir.nl/publicaties/vanhoboken/Clouddiensten\\_in\\_HO\\_en\\_USA\\_Patriot\\_Act.pdf](http://www.ivir.nl/publicaties/vanhoboken/Clouddiensten_in_HO_en_USA_Patriot_Act.pdf)

## **Report PhD-thesis Christian Rathgeb (EAB Research Award 2012 winner)**

Christian Rathgeb, successfully finished PhD studies on April 18th, 2012, focusing on iris biometrics. Since 2008 he was a member of the Multimedia Signal Processing and Security Lab ([www.wavelab.at](http://www.wavelab.at)) at the Department of Computer Sciences at the Paris Lodron University of Salzburg, Austria, where he worked on his PhD thesis, entitled "Iris Biometrics: Template Protection and Advanced Comparators", supervised by Prof. Andreas Uhl. Currently Christian Rathgeb is employed as a PostDoc researcher at the Center of Applied Security Research Darmstadt (CASED) ([www.cased.de](http://www.cased.de)), Germany.

Iris recognition is gaining popularity as a robust and reliable biometric technology. The intricate structure of the iris constitutes a powerful biometric modality utilized by iris recognition algorithms to extract biometric templates. Proposed approaches report recognition rates above 99% and equal error rates less than 1% on diverse data sets. Providing high accuracy iris recognition appears to be well suitable for access control systems managing large-scale user databases.

[Read more ...](#)

## 4. Industry & Projects

### Apple invents biometrics for e-commerce

On 11 October 2012 Apple introduced an all-new unlock screen feature that utilizes higher integrated security features via biometrics that could also be used in e-Commerce transactions.

*Read more:* [www.patentlyapple.com/patently-apple/2012/10/apple-invents-biometric-features-for-e-commerce-security.html](http://www.patentlyapple.com/patently-apple/2012/10/apple-invents-biometric-features-for-e-commerce-security.html)

### Frost & Sullivan Genetic Technology Alert: Real time DNA

IntegenX, a DNA identification and sequencing focused company based out of California has recently launched a real-time human DNA identification kit known as the RapidHIT200 Human DNA Identification System. The kit was released at the 2012 International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference and Exposition (CA), where the functioning of this rapid, desktop device was demonstrated to the police personnel.

*Read more ....*

### Skype hands 16 year olds personal information to IT-company during a policy investigation

Skype illegally distributed a user's personal information to a private company during a police investigation into Anonymous-sanctioned cyber attacks on PayPal. The company handed over the personal information of a 16-year-old to an IT firm, which later informed Dutch authorities.

*Read more:* [www.nu.nl/internet/2950158/skype-hands-16-year-olds-personal-information-to-it-company.html](http://www.nu.nl/internet/2950158/skype-hands-16-year-olds-personal-information-to-it-company.html)

### Superrich fast track at Heathrow and other UK airports: priority treatment for high value citizens

The UK Border Agency has disclosed that it is working on plans for fast-track passport lanes for rich travellers at Heathrow and other British airports so it can avoid a repeat of the two-hour queues witnessed this year. Brian Moore, the departing head of the UK Border Force, told MPs that "high-value" people who were considered valuable passengers by the airlines or valuable to the British economy would be given priority treatment at immigration control under the plans. UKBA declined to give any further detail on who would qualify as a "high-value business person" to get such preferential treatment.

*Read more:* [www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/mar/16/new-immigration-rules-super-rich](http://www.guardian.co.uk/uk/2011/mar/16/new-immigration-rules-super-rich)



## Biometrics facial, fingerprint and iris recognition technologies still face challenges

The constant clamor for a centralized and overall better means of international identification has led for advanced technologies in the field of biometrics to surface. Politicians believe that a more advanced identification system will ultimately make the world a safer place. However, several global studies have shed new light as the reliability and effectiveness of these technologies have been questioned.

*Read more: [www.biometricupdate.com/201206/biometrics-facial-fingerprint-and-iris-recognition-technologies-still-face-challenges/](http://www.biometricupdate.com/201206/biometrics-facial-fingerprint-and-iris-recognition-technologies-still-face-challenges/)*

## 5. Outside Europe

### China's sharp focus on biometrics

Biometrics is in its heyday in China. A large research force, generous government support, and advances in the algorithm speeds that enable biometric applications have pushed innovation in areas like intelligent surveillance and infrared face recognition. The leading Chinese image-processing and machine-learning labs now compete with the top institutions in the United States. Chinese biometric applications are being put to use for security in areas such as banking and sporting events. But critics worry that concerns about an Orwellian state—often overblown in the past—are finally well-founded. They fear that the new technologies will help China's one-party state clamp down on dissent and monitor political opponents.

Read more: [www.sciencemag.org/content/337/6101/1448.summary?sid=6562ffcc-d51f-47e4-b195-073cccc5b100](http://www.sciencemag.org/content/337/6101/1448.summary?sid=6562ffcc-d51f-47e4-b195-073cccc5b100)

### FTC recommends Best Practices for companies using facial recognition

The US [Federal Trade Commission](#) has released a report aimed at the increasing number of companies using facial recognition technologies. The purpose is to help them protect consumers' privacy as they use the technologies to create innovative new commercial products and services. Facial recognition technologies have been adopted in a variety of contexts, ranging from online social networks and mobile apps to digital signs, the FTC staff report (Facing Facts: Best Practices for Common Uses of Facial Recognition Technologies) states. They have a number of potential uses, such as determining an individual's age range and gender in order to deliver targeted advertising; assessing viewers' emotions to see if they are engaged in a video game or a movie; or matching faces and identifying anonymous individuals in images. FTC says that facial recognition has also raised a variety of privacy concerns because – for example – it holds the prospect of identifying anonymous individuals in public, and because the data collected may be susceptible to security breaches and hacking.

Read more: [www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/1319/](http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/1319/)

### Customs eyes tech future beyond SmartGate: Future traveller processing technologies sought by Customs and Australian Border Protection

Customs and Border Protection has called for ideas to enable more efficient processing of international travellers through sea and air ports over the next decade. The service issued a request for information (RFI) seeking solutions that "do not rely [on] simply implementing more of the current technology and associated traveller processing infrastructure". The outcome of the RFI is expected to be a shortlist of suitable suppliers, from whom Customs will seek tenders for delivering technology solutions and refining its bid for Government funding over the 2013-2023 period.

*Read more:*

[www.itnews.com.au/News/317237,customs-eyes-tech-future-beyond-smartgate.aspx](http://www.itnews.com.au/News/317237,customs-eyes-tech-future-beyond-smartgate.aspx)

## **FTC backs \$22.5 million Google settlement over Safari**

U.S. regulators will require Google Inc to pay a civil penalty of \$22.5 million to settle charges that it bypassed the privacy settings of customers using Apple Inc's Safari browser, two people familiar with the matter said on Tuesday. Members of the Federal Trade Commission voted to approve a consent decree that will allow Google to settle the agency's investigation but admit no liability, said one of the sources, who was not authorized to speak on the record. The probe was prompted by allegations that Google used computer code known as "cookies" to trick Apple's Safari browser so Google could monitor users who had blocked such tracking.

*Read more:*

[www.reuters.com/article/2012/07/31/google-ftc-penalty-idUSL2E8IVFRO20120731](http://www.reuters.com/article/2012/07/31/google-ftc-penalty-idUSL2E8IVFRO20120731)

## **Biometric ID card Iran to control internet**

The government of Iran is introducing a biometric id-card, that should also provide access to the internet. Without using this smartcard the internet will remain closed. It is being considered as another way of supervising the opposition parties on the internet. Identification takes place with a fingerprint and personal data that are stored on the card. Online a comparison with a central database will be made. However, the card will not only be able to open, but also to close access. The Iran regime repeatedly states that a national 'Halal intranet' should be created.

*Read more:* <http://www.spiegel.de/politik/ausland/iran-ueberwachung-der-buerger-mit-biometrischem-ausweis-a-868076.html>

## **Israel to create tourist biometric database?**

The Interior Ministry has suggested creating a biometric database for all foreigners entering Israel. A memo regarding this issue has been distributed by the Ministry, and reveals that a tourist who refuses to provide fingerprints and a picture of his physical features will not receive an entry visa. According to the memo, Interior Ministry workers will not be the only ones authorized to collect biometric identification data from foreigners. They will be joined by police officers, wardens, Mossad and Shin Bet agents, soldiers, authorized security guards, members of the Knesset Guard, HMO workers, and in some places even local authority workers.

What about the tens of thousands of refuge seekers and over 100,000 other foreigners who are already residing in Israel illegally? They too will be forced to provide the Interior Ministry with biometric identification data, which in this case could be taken from them using "reasonable force" should they refuse, as long as they appear more than 14 years old.

*Read more:* [www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4281369,00.html](http://www.ynetnews.com/articles/0,7340,L-4281369,00.html)

## 6. Events

### EAB Members Conference: Berlin, 11 December 2012

On 11 December 2012 the first EAB members' conference will be held in Berlin. The conference will enable all members, committees and working groups to directly interact with each other together. There will also be discussions on major market developments and how the EAB should respond to those. Ideas and suggestions for projects and other activities for the EAB will be discussed. Proposals may emerge, which could be prepared to be formalized at the following General Assembly on 14 February 2013.

The EAB members' conference will be co-located with the December meeting of the TeleTrust German Biometric Working Group, which will meet on 12 December 2012 at the BdB (Bundesverband deutscher Banken) in Berlin.

Program available at: [www.eab.org/events/program/23](http://www.eab.org/events/program/23)

To register: [www.eab.org/events/registration/23](http://www.eab.org/events/registration/23)

See [ANNEX](#) for more details

### EAB General Assembly and the European Biometrics Symposium, Brussels 14-15 February 2013

#### **Mark these dates:**

EAB General Assembly	-	Brussels, 14 February 2012, 13.00 – 15.00 hrs. (EAB members only)
European Biometrics Symposium	-	Brussels, 15 February 2012 09.00 – 17.30 hrs. (public event)

For more information please consult the EAB website at [www.eab.org](http://www.eab.org) or contact the EAB secretariat at [secretariat@eab.org](mailto:secretariat@eab.org).

### IEEE ICB 2013, Madrid 4-7 June 2013 – CALL FOR SPONSORS

The International Conference on Biometrics, ICB-2013, will be held in Madrid, Spain, during 4-7 June 2013. The 6<sup>th</sup> International Conference on Biometrics, ICB-2013, following the success of previous editions, is nowadays recognized as the reference conference in biometrics, a unique event where all actors of the biometric scenario will necessarily play their role. ICB-2013 will have a broad scope on biometric technologies, sensor design, feature extraction and comparison algorithms, analysis of security and privacy, and evaluation of social impact of biometrics technology. Topics will include biometric systems based on fingerprint, iris, face, voice, hand, handwriting, gait and other modalities as well as biometric fusion and emerging biometrics based on novel sensing technologies. ICB is currently seeking for sponsors to support the event. EAB members are kindly invited to consider this option. You will find a Sponsorship Brochure at:

<http://atvs.ii.uam.es/icb2013/sponsors/Sponsorship%20Brochure%20ICB-2013.pdf>

Read more: <http://atvs.ii.uam.es/icb2013/>

## SDW2013: reduced rates for for EAB members

According to latest industry estimates, approximately 100 countries out of 191 have now implemented electronic Machine Readable Travel Documents (eMRTDs) and more than 420 million ePassports are now in circulation worldwide. This rapid adoption of ePassports – and other electronic ID documents - has underpinned the stunning growth displayed by the *Security Document World* (SDW) conference and exhibition, which is now entering its seventh year, and last year managed to attract in excess of 1300 attendees.

SDW 2013 is to be held in Westminster, London, on 21-23 May next year, but with more than 6 months to go the show, it already has more than 90 companies signed up to exhibit, with just 9 stands left on the exhibition floor.

EAB members will be able to access the special members' rate for SDW2013 on-line now. There are also some other spectacular rates that are available too which might be of interest. To register for SDW2013 at a reduced rate please link to the Delegates' Booking Page:

<http://www.sdw2013.com/delegate-booking/>

## Report: EAB-award-2012

On 5 September 2012 the European Association for Biometrics awarded young researchers for their outstanding works in the area of biometrics. A renowned jury chose 3 candidates out of a range submitted high quality papers to present their significant contribution in front of the jury, the EAB members and the public audience. This years' finalist were:

- Christian Rathgeb from University of Salzburg with  
„Towards enhancing security and accuracy of iris recognition systems“
- Anindya Roy from Idiap Institute with  
„A fast parts-based approach to speaker verification using boosted slice classifiers“
- Daniel Hartung from Gjøvik University College with  
„Template protected vascular patterns for secure online banking transactions“

[Read more ...](#)

## Report: BIOSIG 2012 report

On September 6 and 7 the 2012 International Conference of the Biometrics Special Interest Group (BIOSIG) took place at the Fraunhofer Institute for Computer Graphics Research IGD in Darmstadt, Germany and attracted 111 participants from 21 countries. The rich programme included scientific research results and intriguing perspectives on large-scale biometric applications like the European Union Visa Information System (VIS) and the Indian UID System.

[Read more ...](#)

## 7. Read more....

### Report European Biometrics Research Award 2012

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The 6th European Biometrics Research Award that was kindly sponsored with a prize of € 2,000 by GenKey Europe went to Christian Rathgeb from the University of Salzburg, Austria. The selection has been made on the basis of the academic and scientific quality of the

submitted works as well as on the quality of their presentations. A separate selection was made during the final presentation in order to appoint the winner of the industry award. Criteria for this award are next to the scientific level the novelty, impact, applicability and other business aspects. The European Biometrics Industry Award 2012 has been given to Anindya Roy from Idiap Institute (Switzerland) and was awarded by Safran Morpho with a prize of another € 2,000.



The chairman of the jury, Prof. Patrizio Campisi from the University of Roma TRE (Italy), says about this year's competition:

*“I am happy that again the jury had a choice out of a range of submissions of very high quality.*

*This prestigious award, which is unique in its kind, stimulates innovation in high level research in biometrics both in academia and in industry. I am grateful to the members of the jury, who did an excellent job by spending their precious time to the selection process.”*

The European Biometrics Research and Industry Award is granted annually to individuals who have been judged by a panel of internationally respected experts to be making a significant contribution to the field of biometrics research in Europe. The intention of the award is to stimulate innovation in academic research as well as in industry.



The international jury of this year’s competition consisted of the following members:

- Prof. Christoph Busch, Gjøvik University College, Norway
- Prof. Bernadette Dorizzi, Telecom SudParis, France
- Prof. Mike Fairhurst, University of Kent, UK
- Prof. Patrick Flynn, University of Notre Dame, USA
- Jean Christophe Fondeur, Morpho, France
- Prof. Anil Jain, Michigan State University, USA
- Dr. Tom Kevenaer, GenKey, The Netherlands
- Prof. Josef Kittler, University of Surrey, UK
- Prof. Arun Ross, West Virginia University, USA
- Dr. Günter Schumacher, JRC, European Commission
- Prof. Raymond Veldhuis, Twente University, The Netherlands

The call for submissions for the EAB Research and Industry Award 2013 will soon be available at:

<http://www.eab.org>



The first European Biometrics Research Award was announced in 2006. The EAB is continuing this tradition. Below you will see the ‘Hall of Fame’, listing all award winners since 2006.

	<b>Research Award</b>	<b>Industry Award</b>
<b>2006</b>	<p>Albert Ali Salah (Bogaziçi University, Turkey)</p> <p>“2D - 3D Facial Feature Localization with Mixtures of Factor Analyzers”</p>	<p>Julian Fierrez-Aguilar (University of Madrid, Spain)</p> <p>„Incorporating Biometric Quality in User-Dependent Multimodal Biometric Authentication“</p>
<b>2007</b>	<p>Krzysztof Kryszczuk (EPFL, Switzerland)</p> <p>“Improving biometrics verification with class-independent quality information”</p>	<p>Hervé Bredin (GET-ENST, France)</p> <p>“Making Talking-Face Authentication Robust to Deliberate Imposture”</p>
<b>2008</b>	<p>The award has been jointly awarded to :</p> <p>Savvas Argyropoulos (AUT, Greece)</p> <p>„Secure biometric authentication using distributed source coding“</p> <p>Hazim Kemal Ekenel (Universität Karlsruhe, Germany)</p> <p>„A Robust Face Recognition Algorithm for Real-World Biometric Identification“</p>	<p>Ileana Buhan (University of Twente, Netherlands)</p> <p>„Spontaneous Secure Pairing using Biometrics“</p>
<b>2009</b>	<p>Emile Kelkboom (University of Twente - Phillips Research, Netherlands)</p> <p>„Relating the Analytical Template Protection System Performance with the Theoretical Maximum Key Size Under Gaussian Assumption“</p>	<p>Haiyun Xu (University of Twente, Netherlands)</p> <p>„Complex Spectral Minutiae Representation For Fingerprint Recognition“</p>
<b>2010</b>	<p>Xuebing Zhou (Fraunhofer IGD, Germany)</p> <p>„Template Protection – Security and Privacy Assessment“</p>	<p>Budhaditya Goswami (University of Surrey, UK)</p> <p>„Speaker Authentication using Video Based Lip Information“</p>
<b>2012</b>	<p>Christian Rathgeb (University of Salzburg , Austria)</p> <p>„Towards enhancing security and accuracy of iris recognition systems“</p>	<p>Anindya Roy (Idiap, Switzerland)</p> <p>„A fast parts-based approach to speaker verification using boosted slice classifiers“</p>

### **Report PhD-thesis Christian Rathgeb (EAB Research Award 2012 winner)**

From a privacy perspective most concerns against the common use of biometrics arise from the storage and misuse of biometric data, e.g. tracking persons without consent. Biometric cryptosystems and cancelable biometrics represent emerging technologies of biometric template protection addressing these concerns and improving public confidence and acceptance of biometric systems. In order to protect templates from infiltration, e.g. based on brute-force attacks, underlying biometric features are required to exhibit sufficient entropy, i.e. iris represents the biometric modality of choice for high security authentication based on template protection technologies. Most publications regarding iris recognition aim at extracting discriminative biometric templates while only few, usually trivial, comparison techniques, e.g. fractional Hamming distance, have been proposed. Advanced iris-biometric comparators have received only little consideration, i.e. potential improvements in the comparison stage are frequently neglected.

In the PhD thesis of Christian Rathgeb issues regarding iris-biometric template protection and advanced comparators are investigated. Regarding template protection diverse enhancements, security analysis and attacks to existing iris-based schemes are presented. In addition new iris-biometric template protection schemes are proposed. With respect to biometric comparators several advanced iris-biometric (binary) comparators are suggested and evaluated according to different factors, e.g. accuracy, operational speed, and storage cost. The thesis is presented in cumulative form. A brief introduction to the topics of biometric template protection and iris-biometric comparators is given, the author's contribution to both research subareas is described in detail and corresponding papers as published are reprinted. Subsequently, a comprehensive experimental evaluation of proposed approaches carried out on a unified test set is presented, based on which concluding remarks are stated. A list of works published in biometric-related journals and international biometric-related conferences (mostly) resulting out of Christian Rathgeb's PhD studies can be found at [www.wavelab.at/member-crathgeb.shtml](http://www.wavelab.at/member-crathgeb.shtml).

### **Report: BIOSIG 2012**

On September 6 and 7 the 2012 International Conference of the Biometrics Special Interest Group (BIOSIG) took place at the Fraunhofer Institute for Computer Graphics Research IGD in Darmstadt, Germany and attracted 111 participants from 21 countries.

The rich programme included scientific research results and intriguing perspectives on large-scale biometric applications like the European Union Visa Information System (VIS) and the Indian UID System. In an impressive keynote Srikanth Nadhamuni, who is the head of technology with the Unique Identification Authority of



India (UIDAI), presented the processes of the multi-biometric system that enables biometric de-duplication with low FPIR and FNIR. In addition he outlined the fingerprint based authentication for inclusion services that provide a digital identity to each Indian citizen.

The second keynote was given jointly by Fares Rahmun (Bundesverwaltungsamt BVA) and Oliver Bausinger (Bundesamt für Sicherheit in der Informationstechnik BSI) about the VIS. They presented their first year experience with the application processes in EU member states embassies. Furthermore, Luuk Spreeuwiers from University of Twente, presented his evaluation and results about automatic face recognition. He compiled his research from actual data that he recorded from the travellers at Schiphol Airport. Didier Meuwly (Netherlands Forensic Institute NFI) spoke about Forensic Biometrics and inspired the audience to link the two communities.



Accepted conference contributions included 17 presentations and covered new modalities such as EEG biometrics or new methods such as a topology based approach to analyse fingerprints. The poster session with 19 papers was a good mix of research results from academic and industrial research labs. The social event on September 6 was organized as a late summer barbecue with lots of opportunities for networking.

A panel discussion about the services and benefits of the European Association for Biometrics (EAB) concluded the conference.

The 2012 BIOSIG conference was jointly organized by the Competence Center for Applied Security Technology (CAST) and the special interest group BIOSIG of the Gesellschaft für Informatik e.V. (GI). The conference was technically co-sponsored by IEEE and papers will be added to IEEE Xplore.



Next year the BIOSIG conference will take place on September 5 and 6, 2013 in Darmstadt, Germany.

### **Real Time Rapid DNA Identification**

An ideal biometric system should be able to provide real-time identification of individuals based on permanent, reliable biological traits. While fingerprint-based techniques and voice/speech recognition methods are well recognized and widely used for authentication purposes, DNA matching is quite popular for forensic and law enforcement applications. For law enforcement and crime identification cases, DNA analysis is the method of choice, but the lack of real-time DNA identification tools and the high cost and laborious protocol involved have limited its use. Contamination of DNA samples, lack of fully automated steps in DNA analysis, and need for large sample amounts are some of the major limiting factors for large scale adoption of DNA analysis as a biometric solution. IntegenX, a DNA identification and sequencing focused company based out of California has recently launched a real-time human DNA identification kit known as the RapidHIT200 Human DNA Identification System. The kit was released at the 2012 International Association of Chiefs of Police Conference and Exposition (CA), where the functioning of this rapid, desktop device was demonstrated to the police personnel. The system is basically a benchtop device that can be operated with minimal training and carries out the entire multistep analysis process in an automated fashion. Being a mobile device that can carry out DNA testing in a remote setting, the

RapidHit200 is expected to simplify and reduce the overall forensic and crime study costs. This system is the first commercially available fully automated device for DNA analysis of short tandem repeats (STRs). The test is as accurate as standard DNA analysis methods, and has been validated by three outside organizations in addition to the company. Key Forensics Sciences Ltd (KFS), UK was the first international partner of IntegenX's RapidHIT 200 Early Access Program, and was pivotal in validating the integrated system and introducing it to the police forces in England and Wales. The key advantages of this system when compared to standard DNA analysis methods is that it does not require specialized instrumentation or trained personnel. In addition, the total time to result is only about 90 minutes, which is way faster than other methods that usually require a minimum of a few days before the results reach the police. The output from this system is compatible with national human identification databases Use of an advanced and accurate system like the RapidHIT200 could help bring down crime rates significantly and also help police to simplify the entire investigation process. The company has won several grants and contracts for advancing its other technology focus areas such as, DNA sample library preparation, next gen sequencing, and the rapid DNA identification kits.

Details: Stevan Jovanovich, Ph.D., Co-Founder, President, and Chief Executive Officer, IntegenX, 5720 Stoneridge Drive, Suite 300, Pleasanton, CA 94588. Phone: 925-701-3400.



## 8. Colofon

Publisher: European Association for Biometrics

Editors: Georg Hasse / Max Snijder

Production: European Association for Biometrics

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**9. ANNEX Program of the EAB Members Conference, 11 December 2012**



**EAB Members Conference, Berlin 11 December 2012  
(10.00 – 17.30)**

Location:  
Fraunhofer IuK-Technologie  
Spreepalais, Auditorium in the Fraunhofer FORUM (2nd Floor)  
Anna-Louisa-Karsch-Straße 2  
10178 Berlin

Registration (EAB members only): <http://eab.org/events/program/23>  
**Free Entrance, lunch included!**

**AGENDA**

<i>Time</i>	<i>Topic</i>	<i>Speaker</i>
10.00 – 10.45	<b>Welcome</b> <b>EAB achievements and strategy</b> - activities in the first year - research award 2012 - partnerships, future events and meetings	Alexander Nouak, EAB Chairman Max Snijder, Secretary
10.45 - 12.15	SIG's: charter, progress, activities, members etc.	
	<b>Industry SIG</b> - presence at events - inventory biometric deployments in Europe	Cyrille Bataller (Accenture), Chairman Industry SIG
	- white paper on best practices - inventory of privacy/data protection entities/regulations - developing industry vision: The Future of Biometric Identity in Europe	Ralph Lessmann (CrossMatch), member Industry SIG
	<b>Academia SIG</b> - Charter, activities, participants	Raymond Veldhuis (University of Twente), Chairman Academia SIG
	<b>Operators SIG</b> - Charter, activities, participants	John Forrester (Ancitel), Chairman Operators SIG
12.15 – 13.00	New working groups and committees	
	<b>Working group on Data sharing</b>	Introduction by Mario Savastano (tbc)
	<b>Biometrics and Forensics Working Group</b>	Introduction by Didier Meuwly (Netherlands Forensic Institute)
13.00 – 14.00	LUNCH	

14.00 – 16.15	Committees	
14.00 – 14.45	<b>Training and Education</b> - Charter, activities, participants - EAB endorsement of courses, seminars, workshops etc.	Christoph Busch (Gjovik University College), Deputy Chair TEC Farzin Deravi (University of Kent), Chairman TEC (through Skype dial in)
14.45 – 15.30	<b>Ethics and privacy</b> - Charter, activities, participants	Emilio Mordini (CSSC), Chairman EPC
15.30 – 16.15	<b>Testing and Evaluation</b> - Charter, activities, participants - cooperation with BEAT	Sébastien Marcel (IDIAP, Coordinator BEAT), Chairman ETC
16.15 – 16.45	COFFEE/TEA	
16.45 – 17.30	<b>Privacy Impact Assessment WG</b>	
	- progress and planning - next meeting/activities	Els Kindt (University of Leuven), Co-chair PIA WG
	- Proposal for a biometrics PIA framework method	Matthias Pocs (University of Kassel), PIA WG Member
17.30	Wrap up and closure	Alexander Nouak, EAB Chairman

Information: [secretariat@eab.org](mailto:secretariat@eab.org) / t. +31624 603809