



EAB Newsletter

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This newsletter is issued by the European Association for Biometrics (EAB). Its content is contributed by the members of the EAB. If you feel an important news from your biometric sector or from your Region missing – do not hesitate to submit a news item to the secretariat before the next newsletter is issued (December 2013).



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1. News from the EAB

2nd EAB Members Meeting: Frankfurt, 4 November 2013 (09.00 – 15.30 hrs)

For the 2nd time the EAB members meeting is being organized. This time it will take place the day before the IDWorld conference and the EuroID trade show will start.

The EAB members meeting is an important opportunity for EAB members to meet, discuss and to learn about the various ongoing activities. All Special Interest Groups, Committees and Working Groups are invited to participate and to gather input and feedback to their work. The members meeting will also be an excellent opportunity to look for potential partners for European projects.

In addition a discussion will take place on the recent development regarding the iPhone 5S, in particular the introduction of the iTouch finger print sensor. Soon a discussion paper prepared by the EAB Board and the EABAC will be sent out to all members for further consultation and feedback. The consolidated version will be brought to the members meeting to be finalized.

EAB Community Stand at IDWorld – Euro ID Frankfurt

During the IDWorld / EuroID conference and exhibition the EAB will have a community stand. Together with VisionBox and Dermalog the EAB has created an area where people can meet and discuss. The stand is located directly next to the refreshments area and cafeteria, an excellent opportunity to meet and great with lots of people. The EuroID trade show, together with the IDWorld conference part of the Mesago events portfolio, one of the largest in the world, is expected to attract between 2000 and 3000 visitors. The merging of these two major events will result in one of Europe's largest platforms on identity and biometrics. You are cordially invited to visit us!

Read more: http://www.mesago.de/en/EID/For_visitors/Welcome/index.htm
<http://www.mesago.de/en/IDW/>

Latest EAB members

After our 100st member we now welcome another 12 members:

- University of Ljubljana (Slovenia)
- University of Cagliari (Italy)
- Laboratory for Multimedia Communications (Serbia)
- Halmstadt University (Sweden)
- Institut de Police Scientific (Switzerland)
- Sapienza University Rome (Italy)

- University 'Roma Tre' (Italy)
- Finnian Kelly (Ireland)
- Peter Wild (Austria)
- Huibin Li (France)
- University of Malta (Malta)

These 12 members illustrate the multi nationality of the EAB's members base. The EAB is still growing as various new members are in the pipeline.

EAB activities growing strong

Members of the EAB keep setting up new initiatives and events, whether it be academic, industrial or governmental. It is worthwhile to have look at the events section of the EAB website in order not to miss anything. Here are a few highlights:

University of Twente: latest trends and developments on 3D face recognition

Date/time: 10 October 2013, 10.30 – 17.00 hrs

Location: University of Twente, De Vrijhof, De Veldmaat 5, Enschede, The Netherlands

EAB: EAB Members Meeting

Date/Time: 4 November 2013, 09.00 – 15.30 hrs

Location: Frankfurt (venue tbc)

BI, EAB, NIST, BSI (UK): New Developments in Facial Biometrics

Date/Time: 10 January 2014, 11:00-15:00 hrs

Location: Fraunhofer IGD, Fraunhoferstraße 5, 64283 Darmstadt, Germany

Netherlands Forensics Institute, EAB: Workshop on Biometrics and Forensics

Date/Time: 17 January 2014, 13.30 – 18.00 hrs

Location: Darmstadt

EAB: European Biometrics Symposium

Date/Time: 13 February 2014, 10.00 – 17.30 hrs

Location: Brussels, CENELEC Meeting Centre; 17, Avenue Marnix; B-1000 Brussels

You can visit our website at www.eab.org/events/upcoming_events.html for more information and the EAB events.



Directory of Training and Education Provisions

The EAB has established a directory of training and education provisions on its website.

This will allow prospective students and trainees to find appropriate courses across the whole of Europe. Also course providers, who are members of EAB, can make their offerings known to a wide audience free of charge. The relevant directory and submission form can be found on the EAB web site:

Directory: <http://www.eab.org/expertise/com/tec/courses>

Registration: <http://www.eab.org/expertise/com/tec/submit-course>

2. EU/EC/EP

Schengen Information System and Danish Drivers License Register hacked

The police driving licence register, including the personal identity (CPR) number register were hacked in the summer of 2012 and may have been changed, with hackers also having retrieved information about CPR numbers and people posted as wanted in the Schengen area, according to the Danish national police. The police say that data hackers may also have had access to registers from the Tax Authority and the Modernisation Agency, in a previously undiscovered attack that seems to have gone on from April to August 2012.

Read more:

<http://politiken.dk/newsinenglish/ECE1990054/hackers-have-got-into-the-identity-register/>
http://www.theregister.co.uk/2013/06/07/pirate_bay_founder_named_as_suspect_in_paneuropean_police_database_hack/

Conference of data protection commissioners says that intelligence services constitute a massive threat to data traffic between Germany and countries outside Europe

In response to reports of extensive surveillance by foreign intelligence services, in particular the U.S. National Security Agency (NSA), in the absence of specific suspicion of wrongdoing, the Conference of Federal and State Data Protection Commissioners calls to mind the powers given by the Federal Data Protection Act and the EU's Data Protection Directive to the data protection supervisory authorities with regard to international data traffic between companies in Germany and countries that are not members of the European Union.

In a number of decisions, the European Commission has defined "Safe Harbour" principles for data transfer to the U.S. (2000) and standard contractual clauses for data transfer to countries outside the European Union (2004 and 2010). These principles are intended to ensure that appropriate standards of data protection apply to personal data sent to the U.S. or other non-EU countries. However, the Commission has always stressed that the national supervisory authorities may suspend the transfer of data to such countries when there is a "substantial likelihood" that the Safe Harbour principles or standard contractual clauses are being violated.

This is now the case. There is a substantial likelihood that the principles in the Commission's decisions are being violated

Read more:

http://www.bfdi.bund.de/EN/Home/homepage_Kurzmeldungen/PMDSK_SafeHarbor.html?nn=408870

France and Spain take action on Google

France's DPA, the CNIL, has ordered Google to comply with France's Data Protection Act within three months or otherwise it will impose sanctions on the company of up to up to 150,000 euros. Spain's DPA has similarly warned Google that it could face fines between 40,000 euros to 300,000 euros for each of five violations of Spain's DP law. Germany, Italy, the Netherlands and the United Kingdom are all backing France and Spain and conducting their own investigations on Google. The CNIL, which is leading the joint initiative, is asking Google to revise its privacy policy to:

- Define specified and explicit purposes to allow users to understand in practical terms the processing of their personal data;
- Inform users by application of the provisions of Article 32 of France's Data Protection Act, in particular with regard to the purposes pursued by the controller in its processing activities;
- Define retention periods for the personal data processed that do not exceed the period necessary for the purposes for which they are collected;
- Not proceed, without a legal basis, with the potentially unlimited combination of users' data;
- Fairly collect and process passive users' data, in particular with regard to data collected using the "Doubleclick" and "Analytics" cookies, "+1" buttons or any other Google service available on the visited page;
- Inform users and then obtain their consent, in particular, before storing cookies in their terminal.

The UK Information Commissioner's Office is considering whether Google's updated privacy policy is compliant with the UK's Data Protection Act 1998. Also the Data Protection Commissioner of Hamburg has opened a formal procedure against Google. The Netherlands' DPA will start the proceedings by issuing a confidential report of preliminary findings, and asking Google for comment. Italy's DPA is waiting for more information from Google for its investigation.

Source: Privacy, Laws & Business

European DPAs query privacy aspects of Google Glass

DPAs have sent a letter to Google inviting the company to provide further information about Google Glass. The letter, sent by Canada's Privacy Commissioner Jennifer Stoddart, and signed on behalf of the Article 29 Working Party by Chairman Jacob Kohnstamm, urges Google to engage in a dialogue with the DPAs about how to confront the ethical issues raised

by Google Glass. Although Google claims that the facial recognition capability is switched off by default, many questions remain. The DPAs, including those from Australia, New Zealand, Mexico, Switzerland, and Israel, are concerned about the following aspects:

- How does Google Glass comply with data protection laws?
- What are the privacy safeguards Google and application developers are putting in place?
- What information does Google collect via Glass and what information is shared with third parties, including application developers?
- How does Google intend to use this information?
- While DPAs understand that Google has decided not to include facial recognition in Glass, how does Google intend to address the specific issues around facial recognition in the future?
- Is Google doing anything about the broader social and ethical issues raised by such a product, for example, the surreptitious collection of information about other individuals?
- Has Google undertaken any privacy risk assessment the outcomes of which it would be willing to share?
- Would Google be willing to demonstrate the device to DPAs and allow any interested data protection authorities to test it?

The letter was sent on 18 June to Larry Page, Chief Executive Officer at Google Inc.

EU DP compromise proposal would make life easier for companies

The Council of the European Union, anxious to see progress with the draft EU DP Regulation before the Parliament's summer recess, is suggesting a compromise deal which takes more of a risk-based approach. With regard to extra-territorial application, the Council wants to limit the scope of the Regulation and says that the Regulation should only apply to non-EU controllers if 'it is apparent that the controller is envisaging doing business with data subjects residing in one or more Member States in the Union.'

The Irish presidency is proposing that direct marketing would be included in the grounds for processing based on legitimate interests. It suggests changing the consent requirement from "explicit" to "unambiguous". The Council also suggest an amended household exemption: 'Personal and household activities include social networking and on-line activity undertaken within the context of such personal and household activities.'

Several national delegations are still in favour of a Directive instead of a Regulation. The Council says that while there is general support for its compromise paper, no part of the proposal has been finally agreed. Viviane Reding, Vice-President and Commissioner responsible for Justice, Fundamental Rights and Citizenship, said in a Council meeting on 6



June that although she is pleased about the progress that has been made, she will not accept a level of protection lower than in the current EU DP Directive on any particular issue. She is especially keen to retain 'explicit' consent and data minimisation in the draft.

The compromise text of 31 May deals with chapters I to IV of the draft DP Regulation, see <http://www.statewatch.org/news/2013/jun/eu-council-dp-reg-10227-add1-13.pdf>

Progress with the EU DP draft Regulation will be analysed at the PL&B 26th Annual International Conference in Cambridge, UK, 1-3 July 2013. To register, go to http://www.privacylaws.com/annual_conference/

Source: Privacy, Laws & Business

European Working Party on Data Protection adopts Resolution on Smart Borders

Subsequent to its 91st plenary session the European Article 29 Data Protection Working Party adopted a resolution on the Smart Border program proposed by the EU Commission. In this resolution, the Working Party expresses its serious concerns about the foreseen entry-exit system. Even the feasibility of this project is doubtful, and the benefit – which is also highly doubtful - of such a register will not justify another large database at EU level.

Peter Schaar, who, in his function as a German representative, is a member of the Working Party, says: The European Commission and the governments of the Member States should take the European data protection authorities' warnings seriously. The European Union should no longer pursue the project where they would have to collect a multitude of personal data while the costs/ benefit analysis is in absolute disproportion.

You can find the resolution at:

http://ec.europa.eu/justice/data-protection/article-29/documentation/index_en.htm

Read more:

http://www.bfdi.bund.de/EN/PublicRelations/PressReleases/2013/11_EUWorkingParty_ResolutionOnSmartBorders.html?nn=408870

3. Outside Europe

Plans for citizen ePassports announced in India

The Indian Government is set to introduce an electronic and biometric passport to its citizens. Piloted in 2008 as a test, electronic passports were issued to diplomats and other high-level officials and now the Ministry of External Affairs is ready to begin distributing the passports to Indians across the country.

Reported in iGovernment.in, the new passports contain an RFID chip in the front cover which holds a digital photograph of the passport holder as well as biometric fingerprint information. According to the iGovernment.in report, the Ministry of External Affairs has floated a tender for the electronic chips to be used in the passports.

No stranger to biometrics, India is a hotbed for programs leveraging biometrics today. Reported previously, the fourth phase of the UIDAI's Aadhaar program has recently been approved and aims to enroll 400 million people.

Read more:

<http://www.igovernment.in/node/44891>

<http://www.biometricupdate.com/201305/fourth-phase-of-aadhaar-uid-program-approved-by-cabinet/>

http://www.biometricupdate.com/201305/plans-for-citizen-epassports-announced-in-india/?goback=%2Egde_104314_member_244930220

Facial Scanning is making gains in surveillance

WASHINGTON — The US federal government is making progress on developing a surveillance system that would pair computers with video cameras to scan crowds and automatically identify people by their faces, according to newly disclosed documents and interviews with researchers working on the project.

Read more:

<http://www.documentcloud.org/documents/739169-boss-1.html>

http://www.nytimes.com/2013/08/21/us/facial-scanning-is-making-gains-in-surveillance.html?pagewanted=1&_r=1&hp&_hpid=hp

How America's Top Tech Companies Created the Surveillance State

This article provides an excellent overview on how we have landed in the current situation. The article starts as follows:



“With Edward Snowden on the run in Russia and reportedly threatening to unveil the entire “blueprint” for National Security Agency surveillance, there’s probably as much terror in Silicon Valley as in Washington about what he might expose. The reaction so far from private industry about the part it has played in helping the government spy on Americans has ranged from outraged denial to total silence. Facebook’s Mark Zuckerberg, he of the teen-nerd hoodie, said he’d never even heard of the kind of data-mining that the NSA leaker described —then fell quiet. Google cofounder Larry Page declared almost exactly the same thing; then he shut up, too. Especially for the libertarian geniuses of Silicon Valley, who take pride in their distance (both physically and philosophically) from Washington, the image-curdling idea that they might be secretly in bed with government spooks induced an even greater reluctance to talk, perhaps, than the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which conveniently forbids executives from revealing government requests for information.”

Read more:

<http://www.nationaljournal.com/magazine/how-america-s-top-tech-companies-created-the-surveillance-state-20130725>

4. Industry

The Tokeneer project

In order to demonstrate that developing highly secure systems to the level of rigor required by the higher assurance levels of the Common Criteria is possible, the NSA (National Security Agency) asked [Altran](#) (Paris, France) to undertake a research project to develop part of an existing secure system (the Tokeneer System) in accordance with Altran's Correctness by Construction development process. This development and research work has now been made available by the NSA to the software development and security communities in an effort to prove that it is possible to develop secure systems rigorously in a cost effective manner.

Read more: www.adacore.com/sparkpro/tokeneer/?gclid=ClyjpMXQ1LgCFaKWtAodYwYASA

Apple iPhone fingerprint scanner gets plaudits in early reviews

(Reuters) - The fingerprint reader on Apple Inc's top-end iPhone 5S received an early thumbs up for ease of use from two influential reviewers, helping dispel concerns about the scanning technology which has been notoriously unreliable in other cellphones.

Apple's scanner is seen as a first step toward realizing the full potential for biometrics in personal electronics, heightening security for applications like banking and shopping while doing away with multiple passwords.

"The best part is that it actually works - every single time, in my tests," wrote reviewer David Pogue of the New York Times.

"It's nothing like the balky, infuriating fingerprint-reader efforts of earlier cellphones. It's genuinely awesome; the haters can go jump off a pier."

Read more:

<http://www.reuters.com/article/2013/09/18/net-us-apple-iphone-review-idUSBRE98H02K20130918>

Discussions on iPhone 5S security started

How safe is your iPhone 5S fingerprint?

(CNN) -- Given the privacy concerns swirling around much of our digital activity these days, the idea of handing over one's fingerprints to Apple via its new iPhone 5S has some people nervous. Can we trust Apple or its partners with our fingerprints? And couldn't hackers, those resourceful and relentless probers of digital firewalls, find new ways to trick the phone's sensor?



Read more: <http://edition.cnn.com/2013/09/12/tech/mobile/iphone-fingerprint-privacy/>

Should you fear Apple's fingerprint scanner?

(CBS) -- Even as Apple announced Touch ID, a fingerprint-scanning feature, on the iPhone 5S, concerns over privacy and identity tracking began to take shape. In the wake of news that the U.S. government is collecting data from Internet companies and telecommunications lines, it's no surprise that privacy is on the forefronts of peoples' minds.

Read more:

http://www.cbsnews.com/2718-201_162-2205/nsa-surveillance-exposed/

http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-205_162-57602236/apple-announces-new-iphone-5s-iphone-5c-ios-7-release-date/

http://www.cbsnews.com/8301-205_162-57602914/should-you-fear-apples-fingerprint-scanner/

The new iPhone nSa

(JoyCamp) -- a humoristic way of questioning the privacy merits of the iPhone 5S

Watch the movie at: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=oSJqBJ1TF-E>

Security of smart phones: how the NSA has cracked security off all major smart phones, including BlackBerry

It seems an obvious thing: the smart phone, including its new and upcoming biometric functionalities, will develop as the number one credentialing device. The smart phone will compete with governments in managing citizens ID and providing reliable identity credentials, while traditional payment providers need to worry about serious competition. We are starting to rely a lot on the security of these devices. This article describes the NSA's efforts on cracking the security of all major smart phones, including Blackberry, and how they succeeded.

Read more:

<http://www.spiegel.de/international/world/how-the-nsa-spies-on-smartphones-including-the-blackberry-a-921161.html>

Biometrics enters the gambling business

Novomatics, Europe's leading technology provider in the gambling business, has integrated biometrics and various of its solutions, such as for payment and registration. Once a guest has been registered biometric recognition enables access to the playing site, while being able to pay local or online. The application connects a so called 'single wallet' environment, the gambling machines, the restaurant and bar, as well as access to the online or mobile casino.

Read more: <http://www.isa-guide.de/isa-gaming/articles/92379.html>

5. Events

Biometrics 2013 in London: reduced fees for EAB members

The full programme is now available for the annual Biometrics conference and exhibition in London. The comprehensive three-day programme brings together around 50 international speakers to share insight, expert opinion and hands-on case study experience on the latest technological developments and new trials in the use of biometrics. Topics for this year include Mobile biometrics, Voice verification, Securing identity and facilitating travel, Military applications, Biometrics and payments, Biometric technologies in focus, Government application of biometrics, Innovation in biometrics, Facial recognition, Biometrics and big data, Biometrics and healthcare.

The co-located BiometricsLive exhibition is host to around 45 of the leading providers of biometrics technology and services and is free to attend. A series of free seminars look at a range of topics and provide a useful introduction to those new to biometrics.

Read more: www.biometrics2013.com

EAB members can get their special discount by going to <https://conferences.elsevier.com/index.cfm>, provide your details and then use the marketing code BIOM-EAB while selecting the member rate.

Special VIP exhibitor passes are also available for EAB members and their guests. This includes fast-track access to the exhibition, use of the VIP lounge and entry to the reception on Wednesday 16 October. You can sign up for these special passes here:

<http://mail.elsevier-alerts.com/go.asp?/.2013.leadcapture.biometrics.vip.form/bECOo01/>.

BTAS - Biometrics: Theory, Applications and Systems Washington DC 29 September – 2 October 2013

A continuation of the highly successful BTAS conference series started in 2007, will be held in the September 29 – October 2, 2013 time period in Washington, DC. BTAS 2013 is the premier research conference focused on all aspects of biometrics. It is intended to have a broad scope, including advances in fundamental signal processing, image processing, pattern recognition and statistical and mathematical techniques relevant to biometrics, new algorithms and/or technologies for biometrics, analysis of specific applications, and analysis of the social impact of biometrics technology. Areas of coverage include biometrics based on



voice, fingerprint, iris, ocular, face, handwriting, gait and other modalities, as well as multi-modal biometrics and new biometrics based on novel sensing technologies.

Read more: <http://www.btas2013.org/>

Frontex 2nd Global Conference and Exhibition on Future Developments of ABC – 10-11 October 2013

Frontex and the European Commission (DG HOME and DG ENTR) will hold the 2nd Global Conference and Exhibition on future developments of Automated Border Control (ABC) on 10-11 October 2013, in Warsaw, Poland.

Read more: <http://www.frontex.europa.eu/news/2nd-global-abc-conference-and-exhibition-jtGhmL>

CALL FOR PAPERS CPDP₂₀₁₄ - Computers, Privacy and Data Protection 2014

CPDP is an annual three-day conference devoted to privacy and data protection. The 7th edition of CPDP will be held on 22-24 January 2014 in Brussels. Whilst a number of speakers are specifically invited by the conference, several slots remain open to application through an annual call for papers. The CPDP 2014 Call for Papers is addressed to all researchers who wish to present their papers at the next Computers, Privacy and Data Protection conference. This year's theme is **Reforming Data Protection: The Global Perspective**.

Read more: <http://www.cpdpconferences.org/callforpapers.html>

COST Action 1106 - IWBF Call for Papers

The IWBF, the second International Workshop on Biometrics and Forensics will take place on March 27-28 in Valletta, Malta. It is an international forum devoted specifically to the development of synergies between the biometrics and forensic science research areas. IWBF provides the meeting place for those concerned with the usage of biometric recognition systems in forensic science applications, attracting participants from industry, research, academia and users. Paper submission deadline is November 22, 2014.

Read more: <http://www.um.edu.mt/events/biometricsforensics2014>

SPIE Call for Papers

The SPIE, the international society for optics and photonics, is organizing the conference called 'Biometric and Surveillance Technology for Human and Activity Identification XI'. The conference is part of the program track on Defense, Homeland Security, and Law



Enforcement. The conference takes place on 5 - 9 May 2014 in the Baltimore Convention Center (Baltimore, Maryland United States).

Read more: http://spie.org/app/program/index.cfm?fuseaction=conferencedetail&export_id=x94879&ID=x6770&redir=x6770.xml&conference_id=2033207&event_id=2032818%20%20%20%20%20&programtrack_id=2041487

European Biometrics Research and Industry Awards 2014: call for candidates

The European Association for Biometrics (EAB) is launching the eighth **European Biometrics Research and Industry Awards**. These prestigious awards are 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 and innovation in Europe.

The award is stimulating innovation in academic research as well as in industry. Thus biometric experts with either of the following profiles should submit their work. Academic researchers enrolled in the last or penultimate year of a Ph.D. program or who have obtained a Ph.D., with major focus on biometrics, from a European academic institution no later than two years before the given deadline, might consider applying for the awards. Further industrial researchers employed by European companies whose core business is biometrics might consider applying for the industry award, which will be granted to the candidate that has created the strongest impact for industry.

Applicants are asked to submit a research paper and supporting information by 15 May, 2014. These papers will be reviewed by a jury composed of internationally recognized experts in the field of biometrics who will judge the academic and scientific quality for the EAB academic research award and the novelty, impact, applicability and other business aspects for the EAB industry award.

For all information about the award including Application Forms, Templates, and the Rules, please visit: <http://www.eab.org/award/cfp.html>.

You can also contact the chair of the award committee, Prof. Patrizio Campisi: patrizio.campisi@uniroma3.it

Max Snijder nominated for the ID People Award 2013

Max Snijder, Managing Director of the European Biometrics Group and Secretary/co-founder of the EAB, has been nominated for the ID People Awards 2013. Online voting begins on October 1st through the website of ID World Magazine. The winners of the ID People Awards 2013 will be announced during the ID World Conference in Frankfurt, 5-7 November 2013.

The ID People Awards are assigned each year to outstanding thought leaders, decision makers and influencers in the public and private sectors who shape today's understanding of the



strategic importance of identities. They are the most internationally renowned tribute presented to those who drive the modernization of ID schemes in all vertical application fields.

Read more: <http://www.id-world-magazine.com>

6. Reports

Report: 6th IAPR International Conference on Biometrics

The 6th IAPR International Conference on Biometrics (ICB'13), technically co-sponsored by both IEEE (Biometrics Council) and IAPR (Technical Committee on Biometrics - TC4), was held on 4th to 7th June in Madrid, Spain. Locally organized by members of the Biometric recognition Group ATVS of the University Autonoma de Madrid the conference was hosted in the historical building of Higher Technical School of Mining Engineering of Madrid. Having received a total number of 216



paper submissions, which were reviewed by more than a hundred reviewers. 72 papers were selected for presentation at the conference (24 oral, 84 posters). Accepted papers covered a broad scope of biometric technologies investigating biometric systems based on diverse characteristics, sensor design, feature extraction and matching algorithms, analysis of security and privacy, and evaluation of social impact of biometrics technology.



The program comprised three keynote speeches: Prof. Anil Jain of the Michigan State University gave an historic overview of biometric technology in his talk "50 Years of Biometric Research: The Solved, The Unsolved, and The Unexplored". Christophe Champod from the University of Lausanne, Switzerland, provided an insight on the inter-relation of biometrics and forensics. Finally, Jean-Christophe Fondeur of Morpho, France pointed out the challenges of large-scale deployments biometric technology. In addition, on the second day, Ashok Pal Singh, Deputy Director General of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) gave status report on their on-going AADHAAR project in a special oral presentation, "ID for a Billion".

Furthermore, despite excellent talks on various topics and three poster sessions, the conference included different tutorials, a competition session, a panel discussion ("Integrating Biometrics and Forensic Science





for the Digital Age: A New Research Agenda”) and a doctoral consortium. The conference was co-located with working group meetings of the EAB Special Interest Group, the IAPR Assembly + TC₄ and the COST Action IC-1106. A special spoofing challenge, to which all participants were invited, was organized by partners of the European project Tabula Rasa. At the banquet dinner, where attendees were entertained by a flamenco show, Prof. Arun Ross of the Michigan State University received the IAPR Young Biometric Investigator Award for his outstanding achievements in the research area of Biometrics. In advance to the awards ceremony Prof. Ross gave an overview presentation of his work and current research topics.

The conference was attended by about 150 participants from all over the world and provided a great forum for researchers. The next International Conference on Biometrics will be held in Clearwater (FL, USA) between Sept 29 and Oct 2, 2014 (in conjunction with BTAS, IJCB 2014).

More information: <http://atvs.ii.uam.es/icb2013/>

Report: EAB Special Interest Group Academia Assembly at ICB’13

On the 5th of June the EAB Special Interest Group Academia held a meeting in conjunction with the 6th IAPR International Conference on Biometrics (ICB’13). Alexander Nouak, chairman of the EAB, introduced to this meeting, which was open to all attendees of the conference. After a brief review of the recent EAB achievements, Alexander Nouak promoted the benefits of an EAB membership and how to join the EAB and its Special Interest Groups. Subsequently, Prof. Raymond Veldhuis gave a presentation on the EAB Academia Special Interest Group, the mission of which is to stimulate independent academic research and research collaboration in Biometrics in Europe. Major goals and consequential activities include:

- Consolidate the role of academia in the development of biometric technology.
- Stimulate independent academic research (application oriented and fundamental) in biometrics.
- Stimulate collaboration between academia (and industry and governmental organizations).

The EAB Academia Special Interest Group has planned the following Actions:

- Fostering a European biometrics academia community
- Giving input to Horizon2020
- Organizing informal events aiming at mutual inspiration:
 - o Talk about the things we don’t know
 - o Giving visibility to the academic work
 - o Setting up a web site
 - o White papers
- Producing joint research proposals
- Organize Erasmus exchange between SIG members

- Set up list with open lab positions

Memberships for the EAB Academia Special Interest Group can be applied for via E-Mail: academia-sig-chair@eab.org (All EAB academic members may also apply for an EAB membership)

Report: TeleTrust Biometrics Working Group Meeting

On the 4th of September the TeleTrust Biometrics Working Group meeting which was organized in corporation with the European Association on Biometrics took place at Fraunhofer IGD in Darmstadt, Germany. The meeting comprised six keynote talks covering



diverse up-to-date topics regarding biometrics. Prof. Edward Higgs from the University of Essex gave an historical overview of understanding bodies and identifying persons. Then Oystein Thorvaldsen provided an insight into the challenges of automatic biometric recognition at the Gardermoen Airport, Norway. Günter Schumacher of the EC Joint Research Center gave a

presentation on current investigations on the feasibility of performing fingerprint recognition with small children.

Prof. Ajay Kumar of the Hong Kong Polytechnic University emphasized on the current challenges of iris recognition, that is, performing reliable iris segmentation at a distance. Ronald Belser of the Ministry of the Interior and Kingdom Relations, the Netherlands introduced the European FP7 project FIDELITY, which is focused on establishing a secure life-cycle of breeder documents.

Finally, Tom Kevenaer of the Norwegian corporation GenKey proposed an improved version of the Password Authentication Connection Establishment (PACE) protocol, which incorporates biometric information and is referred to as BioPACE.



The event was well-attended and presentations were accompanied by detailed and fruitful discussions between scientific researchers, operators and stakeholders.

Report: 7th European Biometrics Research Award

On 4 September 2013 the European Association for Biometrics (EAB) awarded young researchers for their outstanding works in the area of biometrics. An international jury chose 3 candidates out of a broad range of submitted high quality papers to present their significant contribution in front of the jury, the EAB members and the public audience.



The European Biometrics Research Award 2013 has been given to **Finnian Kelly** from Trinity College Dublin, Ireland for his thesis titled "Eigenaging Compensation for Speaker Verification"

This years European Biometrics Industry Award goes to **Peter Wild** from The University of Salzburg, Austria for the thesis titled "On Enhancing Accuracy and Performance of Iris Biometric Systems in Surveillance".



Special honours were given by the jury to finalist **Huibin Li** from Ecole Centrale de Lyon, France for his contribution titled "Towards 3D Face Recognition in the Real: A Registration Free Approach based on Discrete Differential Geometry and Statistical Learning".

The European Research and Industry Awards are both honoured with a 2.000,- € stipendium for each category. In addition to that the winning papers will be presented at the exhibition of the IDWorld 2013 event in Frankfurt, Germany on 5-7 November 2013. The finalists are also donated a free of charge one year membership of EAB.

The selection for the research award 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 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.

Front (left to right): Tom Kevenaar, Jean-Christophe Fondeur, Peter Wild, Finnian Kelly, Huiibin Li, Patrizio Campisi - Back (left to right): Anil Jain, Christoph Busch, Raymond Veldhuis, Geunther Schumacher, Ajay Kumar, Alexander Nouak

The call for submissions for the EAB Research and Industry Award 2014 is available at <http://eab.org/award/cfp.html>

Report: 12th BIOSIG Conference

During September 4 to 6 the 2013 International Conference of the Biometrics Special Interest Group (BIOSIG 2013) took place at Fraunhofer IGD in Darmstadt, Germany and attracted 106 registered participants from 24 countries.

The program was composed of scientific research contributions on



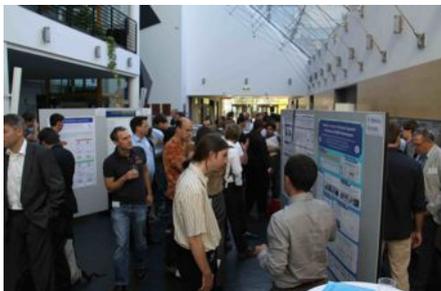
the one hand and application oriented presentations on the other hand. The European application context was provided by Krumboltz, Executive Director of the new European agency for operational management of large-scale IT systems (EU-LISA), who presented a challenging perspective on large-scale



biometric operations in the European Union. He addressed border control, ePassports and national ID cards and indicated the future and evolution of these systems. Beyond the key

drivers such as E-state, private and business requirements and technology evolution, he discussed challenges and demands for the research and development community.

The second keynote was given jointly by Oliver Bausinger (BSI) and Elham Tabassi (US NIST) about the fingerprint image quality metrics that are being developed in the NFIQ2.0 project. Driving motivation for this research is the insight that quality control of captured biometric samples can strongly influence the performance of large scale identification systems such as the European VIS. The keynote talk presented the candidate features for NFIQ2.0 and reported an overview of the current validation of the selected features on the operational data.



Furthermore, the talk reported about the NFIQ2.0 Light development and the impact of the project on the corresponding International Standard ISO/IEC 29794-4.

Accepted conference contributions included 14 presentations including fingerprint, face and iris recognition and covered new modalities

such as EEG biometrics or mouse dynamics for continuous authentication as well as forensic research papers. Furthermore contributions discussed concerns about security and privacy of biometrics. The relevant techniques in the area of presentation attack detection and template protection are about to supplement biometric systems, in order to improve fake biometric resistance and to prevent potential attacks such as cross matching, identity theft, etc. The poster session with 21 papers was a good mix of research results from academic and industrial research labs and visitors did spend a significant amount of time in the poster exhibition before the start of the social event with the traditional barbeque – best suited for the late summer day – providing lots of opportunities for networking.



On the last conference day an impressive keynote by Anil Jain (Michigan State University) presented recent research on Sketch to Photo Matching. He introduced facial sketches that are used in forensic investigations, which are either drawn by forensic artists or created by specialized computer software based on a description of the suspect provided by an eyewitness. While the long practiced method of identifying suspects based on these sketches is slow and tedious, the application of

automatic recognition with state of the art face recognition software does not perform very well: sketch probe images are different in nature from gallery photos and thus new algorithms are required to seek for candidates in an identification database. Based on his research Prof. Jain presented results from his prototype system processing facial sketches with high accuracy.



The participants of the conference voted for the best paper and the best poster that was presented at the conference. The winner of the BIOSIG 2013 best paper award is Sandra Cremer for her presentation "Quality driven iris recognition improvement", which convinced the majority of the participants.

Amongst the poster contributions, Teodors Eglitis is the winner of the BIOSIG 2013 best poster award, which was granted for his work "FPGA based palmprint and palm vein biometric system"



The BIOSIG conference was co-located with two satellite workshops: The meeting of the TeleTrusT Biometric Working Group and the EAB-COST-ACTION joint meeting on a "Strategic Agenda on Ethical, Societal and Privacy Aspects of Biometric Technologies".

The 2013 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 Biometric Council and the papers will be added to IEEE Xplore. Next year the BIOSIG conference will take place between September 10 to 12, 2014 in Darmstadt, Germany.

More information: www.biosig.org

7. Impressum

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