

EAB Newsletter

Edition April 2015

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Production:

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 expected to be issued (July 2015).

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1. News from the EAB

EAB welcomes new members

We are happy to see that the number of members is still growing, now to a record high of 170! That is good news as it confirms that the EAB clearly has filled a gap in our business society. We welcome the following latest 10 members coming from 8 different countries:

- Ikendi Software (D)
- Manus Fleskens (NL)
- Finnish Standards Association (SU)
- Dmitrijs Abalenkovs (D)
- Plymouth University (UK)
- Kube Data (DK)
- Jebel Consultant Group (AU)
- Unico Software (PL)
- Blindata (UK)
- Phonexia (CZ)

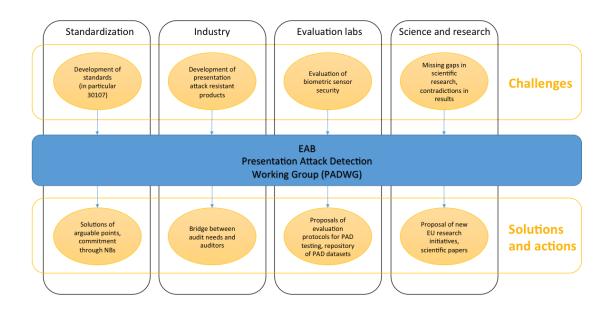
Report from the General Assembly

On 25 February 2015 the 5th General Assembly of the EAB took place in London, hosted by NPL. The meeting was chaired by our board member Farzin Deravi, as Alexander Nouak was not able to come. The minutes were taken by Max Snijder and were approved by the attendees and the chairman. They can be downloaded from the EAB website (members only). During the meeting the 2014 achievements were presented as well as the state of accounts. Supported by the report of the internal accountant the 2014 accounts were approved and the treasurer and board were discharged from their 2014 duties. As announced a new treasurer was elected. We are happy that we have found Manus Fleskens from The Netherlands to support the EAB as the new treasurer. Manus Fleskens (NL), born in 1957, has finished two studies at the Groningen University, Commercial Economics and Fiscal Economics. He has worked for 28 years in the investment community, as equity analyst and fund manager. Next to that, he has been treasurer for a strongly growing sports club with presently 1750 members and a budget of over €1m per year. Since recently, he also started as treasurer of a local political party. Manus was unanimously elected by the attendees. John Forrester was thanked for his efforts to the EAB. Finally, the 2015 plans and budget were presented and approved.

Report of the European Biometrics Symposium, 25 February 2015

Preceding the General Assembly the European Biometrics Symposium took place at the same day and location in London, kindly hosted by NPL. This year's theme was 'Biometrics and the Mobile Revolution'. Speakers talked about various aspects, including technical developments in

the mobile domain, privacy and data protection issues and research. The opening keynote was provided by Sébastien Marcel from the IDIAP Research Institute. He introduced the audience to the EAB CITeR initiative. Josepf Kittler then gave a presentation on his research on the improvement of 2D face recognition by adding 3D morphing. Adam Czajka from the Warsaw University of Technology presented about presentation attack detection in general and for iris recognition in particular. He also introduced his initiative for a new working group on this matter, the EAB Presentation Attack Working Group.



Working area of the proposed EAB Presenation Attack Detection Working Group

If you are interested in this new working group please contact Adam Czajka here: aczajka@elka.pw.edu.pl

The next sessions were about privacy, data protection and user acceptance. Peter Waggett from IBM gave his views on the future of privacy in this new era of big data and user centric data processing. According to his view we should better get used to being monitored 24/7. Jeroen Terstegge, who works as a privacy/legal consultant at Privacy Management Partners, gave the audience some important insights in the status and impact of the revised European Data Protection regulation. The final presentation of this session was given by Marek Rejman-Greene (UK Home Office), who talked about user acceptance, how this can be achieved and how it can be improved, tested and investigated. After a short break the meeting proceeded with Steve Furnell from the Plymouth University about multiple biometrics for mobile authentication, and Tony Mansfield (NPL), who elaborated on the complexity and importance of biometric testing for mobile devices.

The symposium was concluded by a panel discussion moderated by John Forrester. Main conclusion of the discussion was that rather than directly interfering, governments should encourage and facilitate the further development of biometric research.

Biometrics in Banking and Payments: call for papers and sponsors

This year a series of three seminars 'Biometrics in Banking and Payments' will take place in three different financial capitals in Europe: **Frankfurt** (24 September), **London** (16 October) and **Amsterdam** (26 November). For these seminars a Call for Papers is opened as the program is currently under development. Proposals for presentations are welcome until the deadline of 24th April 2015. Papers need to be short and concise, preferably not exceeding 4 pages. They need to be related to (one of) the following topics:

- Case studies on biometrics in banking and payments (e.g. business case, integration in business processes and procedures, customer experiences)
- State of the Art of biometrics for mobile transactions
- Research and development regarding biometrics for mobile devices
- Security and safety aspects of biometrics for banking and payments
- Privacy and legal aspects of biometrics for banking and payments
- European and international regulatory landscape for payments and financial transactions

The seminars are also open for sponsorship. The series will get large exposure with the target group (i.e. financial institutions) through our cooperation with strong local partners. There will be a Mini Expo alongside the conference, while Speed Pitches and Case Studies are scheduled as part of the program.

Background: The March of the Mobile

There are many dynamics in the financial sector. But biometrics and mobile seem to be some of the most powerful game changers.

Mobile payments are becoming more popular, but this still requires several steps to complete a purchase in a store: take your mobile device, open the payment app and enter a code. Checking out quickly is a priority for consumers and retailers alike, as fast checkout means more efficiency. "Biometry is moving rapidly into the security ecosystem and its adoption by CE devices will jumpstart this phenomenon," said Dimitrios Pavlakis, Digital Security Research analyst. "Specifically, smartphone biometrics provide not only a secure alternative for authentication, mobile payments, and BYOD initiatives but also enhance user experience, navigation, mobility, and versatility."

According to <u>Bank Systems & Technology</u>, mobile payments will be 'stuck in low gear until making a mobile payment becomes faster than using a credit card'. Biometrics promise to bring speed to the checkout process; whether by face, fingerprints, hand geometry, iris or voice. The technology of biometric identification is maturing rapidly. <u>Gartner even predicted</u> that 30 percent of organizations will use biometric authentication for mobile devices by 2016. According to a <u>WorldPay</u> survey almost half of all European consumers would like to see biometric payments emerge as a payment technology alternative.

Press release about the 'Biometrics in Banking and Payments': http://eab.org/files/press/EAB-Press-release-Banking%202015-2015-03-26.pdf?ts=1428417796349

For more information please contact Max Snijder at secretariat@eab.org

EAB launches pan-European research consortium

A pan-European research consortium that aims to foster links between the region's academia, industry players and governments to improve regional biometrics innovation was officially inaugurated in London yesterday. First revealed in January, the European Association for Biometrics has created the EAB-CITeR consortium on a model developed by the Centre for Identification Technology Research (CITeR) in the United States.

The plan is to link "partners" or universities and research centres with "affiliates". Research is funded by affiliates through a yearly fee, and in return they receive a vote at the selection committee meetings and rights for further development and exploitation of research results. The fees for becoming an affiliate at the consortium range from 5,000 euros (US\$5,675) to 20,000 euros per year. Research activities are targeted by the participation of end users, while exploitation and commercialization opportunities are ensured by the participation of industry.

While companies get better, faster and cheaper access to cutting-edge biometrics research – and the resulting products - universities in turn enjoy improved access to firms and their funding. Speaking at the European Biometrics Symposium on Wednesday, EAB-CITeR chair Dr Sebastien Marcel said the initiative would lead to "driven research".

Max Snijder, secretary general of the EAB, added that the body will "lower barriers" towards European-led biometrics innovation, and that it will "fill a gap" in the EU. Unlike traditional, long-winded research proposals, those created by EAB-CITeR partners need to just be two pages long – and be accompanied by simple, 15-minute pitches to the affiliates.

More information on EAB-CITeR is available at: http://eab.org/expertise/com/eab-citer.html

Read also: http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2747/

Special rates for EAB members for SDW2015

The EAB has agreed for a special rate for EAB members is £850 (Pounds Sterling). This provides a saving of $\underline{\textbf{£300}}$ on the full rate. This includes full access to the 3-day conference, all conference materials, meals and refreshments, and post-conference proceedings).

SDW 2015 (Security Document World) – the world's leading document security show – focuses on ePassports, visas, driving licenses, national IDs, worker credentials, advanced border control, anti-counterfeiting, fraud detection, and much more. The event will provide a global showcase for next-generation human identity solutions, focusing on intrinsic document security and on the new cutting-edge secure infrastructure now required to produce and use these advanced documents in live situations. Plus, a special focus on Biometrics, Document Fraud Detection and Intelligent Border Control.

More information: <u>www.sdw2015.com</u>

2. EU/EC/EP

Biometric official raises privacy concerns over UK police

The UK's independent Biometrics Commissioner has raised privacy concerns over the inclusion of people who have never been charged with or convicted of a crime in an extensive facial recognition database maintained by the British police. Image of British citizens have been uploaded without Home Office approval and without the knowledge of independent watchdogs, Alastair MacGregor QC told BBC Newsnight, with every police force in England and Wales supplying photographs.

He said that of the 18 million mugshots stored in the database, that "hundreds of thousands" are innocent people who haven't been implicated in any offense, adding that he had concerns about the reliability of facial recognition technology. "If the facial recognition software throws up a false match, one of the consequences of that could easily send an investigation off into the completely wrong direction," he said.

Last July, Leicestershire Police launched trials with face recognition software. Supplied by NEC, the NeoFace system is capable of comparing any digital image - such as CCTV or police body camera footage - with any photo held on the Leicestershire Police database. Andy Ramsay, identification manager at Leicestershire Police, told Newsnight the force now had a database with 100,000 custody photos. He added that searches of the database using facial recognition were 100% reliable in cases where there were clear images, and could be completed in seconds.

Read more: www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/2664/

Council of Europe unanimously adopts critical report on NSA data collection and calls for the wide use of encryption

After more than a year of work, the depute democrat Pieter Omtzigt from The Netherlands and member of the Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe, has presented a very



critical report on the electronic mass surveillance by the American National Security Agency (NSA) as has been revealed by Edward Snowden, and its consequences for Europe. On 26 January, 2015 all the 84 members of the Committee on Legal Affairs and Human Rights of the Parliamentary Assembly, which represents 47 countries, have unanimously adopted the report without any

amendment. Even the conservative British and Polish representatives, who expressed some reserves regarding certain passages, did approve.

The Parliamentary Assembly of the Council of Europe is deeply concerned about the mass surveillance practices disclosed since June 2013 by journalists to whom a former US national security insider, Mr. Edward Snowden, had entrusted a large amount of top secret data establishing the existence of mass surveillance and large-scale intrusion practices.

Amongst other recommendations and opinions, the Parliamentary Assembly supports the European Parliament's call to promote the wide use of encryption and resist any attempts to weaken encryption and other internet safety standards, not only in the interest of privacy, but also in the interest of threats against national security posed by rogue states, terrorists, cyberterrorists and ordinary criminals.

Read more: www.lemonde.fr/pixels/article/2015/01/26/le-conseil-de-l-europe-livre-un-rapport-tres-critique-sur-les-pratiques-de-la-nsa 4563851 4408996.html

Full report: www.website-pace.net/documents/19838/1085720/20150126-MassSurveillance-EN.pdf/df5aae25-6cfe-450a-92a6-e903af1ob7a2

Germany approves bill to establish collective action for enforcement of consumer/data protection

After approval by Germany's federal cabinet, the legislature will now consider how to make the enforcement of consumer and data protection rights more effective. The draft law would improve the civil enforcement of consumer protection provisions of the Data Protection Act.

Commenting on the plans to establish the right of collective action in the context of data protection rights, Federal Minister of Justice and Consumer Protection, Heiko Maas, said that for consumers, it is difficult to identify a company's failure to comply with data protection legislation. Many consumers are also afraid of the cost and effort of pursuing data protection law violations. Many do not dare to start litigation alone against large companies..... In such situations, consumers need a strong advocate for their interests, the consumer organizations.

The consumer organisations would have the right to issue cease-and-desist letters. The proposal will next be discussed in Germany's legislature.

 $\label{lem:read_more:http://www.bmjv.de/SharedDocs/Kurzmeldungen/DE/2015/20150204-Verbandsklagerecht.html?nn=3433226} \\$

IT Security Association Germany warns of decrease in IT security level due to TTIP

Berlin, 2015, March 9th: The Transatlantic Trade and Investment Partnership negotiation (TTIP) is being justifiably criticized in public discussion. The IT Security Association Germany (TeleTrusT) warns of a possible decrease of the German and European standards in data protection and IT security due to TTIP.

TeleTrusT is seriously concerned about the loss of high European quality standards in conjunction with TTIP. This involves the fields of data protection and IT security as well as the IT standardization deriving from TTIP. TTIP includes the approach that the negotiators will agree to standards by which a market access for products and services, also in IT fields, will be granted. This would result in important impulses for the national standards of IT security products.

The issue IT security, especially the central element cryptographic algorithms, should be closely monitored with regard to TTIP. Considering the fact that national institutions – for example the German Federal Office of Security in Information Technology (BSI) - as trustees of high standards are not directly involved in the negotiations, but have at first to convince the negotiators of the European Commission of their concept in order to prevent TTIP in this context to be influenced by American NIST standards. If this would no more be possible to negotiate, the entire German IT security industry would be affected.

Read more: https://www.teletrust.de/uploads/media/Press_release-150309-TeleTrusT-TTIP.pdf

A new book about biometrics in Hungarian language

While biometrics related applications and research is increasing worldwide there are still languages in which it is hard to find basic literature for students and engineers. Now a new book about biometrics in Hungarian language appeared titled "Biometria a számítógépes személyazonosításban – vizuális módszerek" ("Biometrics in computer-based personal identification – visual approaches"). As far as the author (László Czúni, University of Pannonia) knows this is the only work in Hungarian overviewing most areas of biometrics, especially visual methods. The book explains the general model of biometrics systems, the history of different approaches, the know-how of the most influential algorithms, and refers to more than 100 other papers for those who are interested in more details. It also deals with some biometrics standards and the ethical aspects of the technology. The 125 pages length book is available for free download in PDF format from.

Read more: www.biometria.hu

3. Outside Europe

International Standardisation met again in Europe in January 2015

The international standardisation committee on Biometrics has met again in Europe. The

recent standardisation meeting was hosted by the Spanish national body and took place in Toledo. ISO/IEC JTC1 SC37 has since generated numerous standards on application programming interfaces, data formats, profiles and best practices for applications, testing methodologies and jurisdictional issues. The full catalogue with completed standards as well as standards under development is available at:



http://www.iso.org/iso/home/store/catalogue_tc/catalogue_tc browse.htm?commid=313770&published=on&development=on

In the recent meeting the very helpful standard on the standardized biometric vocabulary, which has been published as ISO/IEC 2382-37:2012 was augmented. An online version of standardized terms and definitions contained in this standard is available at:

http://www.christoph-busch.de/standards.html

European members in the standardisation are now working on translations into national languages with the intention to publish a set of translations as European CEN standard.





The work on further standards (e.g. biometric sample quality, presentation attack detection) is ongoing. A major effort in the standardisation field is a new generation of the interchange format standard ISO/IEC 19794 that is currently under preparation. The next working group meetings are scheduled for July this year to be held in Gjøvik, Norway.

Read more: http://www.standard.no/sc37

4. Industry

Apple is considering storing fingerprints in iCloud



Apple is considering storing customers' biometric data in the cloud to enable next-generation payment methods, according to new patent application found by Apple Insider.

The application relates to "finger biometric sensor data synchronisation via a cloud computing device and related methods," with one potential implementation being to authorise a "financial transaction." Simply put,

this means Apple is considering using its cloud hosting service iCloud to store customers' fingerprints, so they can be synced to other devices when required — such as to pay for a purchase.

Touch ID is the name of Apple's biometric verification tool. It was introduced with the iPhone 5S as a security device. Users can press their fingerprint on the home button on their iPhone to unlock it, verify their identity, or make purchases via Apple Pay. Apple has previously emphasised the security measures used for securing Touch ID biometric data, including encrypting and storing it in a "Secure Enclave" on the A7 chip. "Other apps never access your fingerprint data," their website says. "It's never stored on Apple servers, and it's never backed up to iCloud or anywhere else." If the proposed technology is introduced, this could be about to change.

Read more: http://uk.businessinsider.com/apple-touch-id-icloud-patent-2015-1?r=US
http://www.naturalnews.com/o48464 Apple privacy fingerprint storage NSA surveillance.html

MasterCard, Visa to implement new cybersecurity measures and biometrics

Credit card companies Mastercard and Visa are both implementing new cybersecurity measures to ensure that hacked credit card data will be less valuable to hackers. MasterCard said it will invest an additional \$20 million in cyber-security measures in 2015, including biometric authorization for mobile apps, and early warning alerts on potential threat vectors, according to a report by Finextra. This spring, the company will launch a new initiative designed to lower the risk of fraud or cyberattacks before issuers and processors might notice the threat.

Dubbed Safety Net, the initiative will provide "an independent layer of security on top of the tools and policies of financial institutions, by monitoring and blocking specific transactions

based on selected criteria". Using algorithms, the application is able to score and monitor different channels, geographies, and business sectors, intervening only in high risk cases to block fraudulent activity.

Meanwhile, Visa announced at the White House Cybersecurity Summit it will introduce the "tokenization" of credit card numbers for online transactions, according to a report by Politico. Visa will update its online payment service, Visa Checkout, with the tokenization technology by this spring. The measure will replace the real 16-digit payment card number with a substitute number dubbed as a "token," in which Visa's transaction analytics will be able to detect subsequent use of a stolen token and prevent a fraudulent payment.

Read more: http://www.pymnts.com/company-spotlight/2015/how-mastercard-is-taking-biometrics-to-the-masses/

http://www.biometricupdate.com/201502/mastercard-visa-to-implement-new-cybersecurity-measures-and-biometrics

Powered by IDEX ASA: the credit card that is activated by a fingerprint

IDEX ASA, the Norwegian based fingerprint company, and their partner CardTech® have now presented a fully operational biometric System-On-Card (i.e. a complete system of fingerprint acquisition, storage and matching), which is ready for mass production. This can be considered as a major game changer, because for the first time a full biometric system on card is produced fully in line with the current ISO 7810 ID-1 compatibility standards. That means it can be read by all smart card readers on the market and is identical to any badge or card in its physical appearance. The fingerprint capturing and matching on the card makes sure the smart card is only activated when fingerprint of the rightful owner is authenticated by swiping his on the sensor itself. In addition, mass production of the sensor will result into a very attractive pricing suitable to this low cost market.

The new card has a "match-on-card" biometric controller for maximum security and privacy, which performs verification of the user's biometric data inside the card, without the need for external databases or other readers. This ensures global interoperability to the existing infrastructure. The sensor, thin and flexible, is integrated with minimal dimensions in the 0.76 mm thickness of the Smart Card, according to ISO 7810ID-1, which is the same international standard for common payment cards.

IDEX's flexible best-in-class swipe sensor, based on IDEX's patented two part SmartFinger technology, is ideally suited for integration into cards. Due to separation of the sensor from the silicon, IDEX has enabled Card Tech® and it's tier one manufacturing partner to industrialize the first mass production ready biometric system-on-card integrating a thin, flexible fingerprint sensor meeting ISO standards for compatibility with existing global card infrastructure. IDEX's polymer fingerprint sensor enables biometric system-on-cards compliant not only regarding the physical dimensions, but also with the required bending resistance specified in ISO 7810.

Recently IDEX ASA has secured a massive USD 37 million investment from Woodford Investments (UK) to further address the fast growing mobile phones and smart card markets.

Read more: http://www.card-tech.it

ING and OCBC banks introduce biometrics in mobile application

Financial institutions ING and OCBC both recently launched Touch ID-integrated mobile banking apps to enable customers to sign into their accounts using fingerprint recognition. Using Apple's Touch ID technology, the fingerprint recognition capabilities are only offered on the iPhone 5S, iPhone 6 or iPhone 6 Plus.

ING became the first bank in the Netherlands to integrate Apple's Touch ID capabilities in its mobile app, according to a report by the NL Times. The initial release of the new ING app allows customers to log into their accounts with their personal fingerprint, while the second release will enable customers to also confirm payments through fingerprint recognition. The company said it will further develop the fingerprint recognition based on customer feedback. "The smartphone is becoming increasingly important for our customers to organize banking," said Max Mouwen, director of Internet and mobile ING Netherlands. "Therefore we continue to innovate and add new features in the app, with which customer feedback plays an important role. With the introduction of the fingerprint recognition, we are responding to a major customer wish and we make it even easier for our customers to do their banking on their mobile."

OCBC Bank has also introduced ID Touch capabilities for its mobile customers, enabling them to access their bank accounts, cards and investment details via their iPhone, according to a report by Channel News Asia. With the new biometric capabilities, OCBC has become the first bank in Singapore to enable clients to log into their accounts via fingerprint verification.

In Belgium, the use of smart phones and tablets for small banking transactions is increasing. Nearly half the population owns a mobile device, of which 58% has pointed out that mobile banking is one of their most important reasons to use the Internet. According to ING, Belgians appreciate mobile banking because it facilitates a better financial oversight and management, which in turn allows them to be more punctual with payments. Lieven Haesaert, General Manager Direct Channels ING Belgium, says clients mostly want to decide when, where and how they do their banking transactions. For their daily banking transactions, they prefer mobile banking applications. Fingerprint technology makes it easier and faster for clients to log in to the application. Moreover, the system is safer than the classic login codes.

The Belgian Privacy Commission has already expressed its opinion on the processing of biometric data in 2008, in which biometric characteristics are described as the unique and special physical characteristics of a person that can be attributed to that person – at least in theory – anytime and anywhere with almost absolute certainty. Considering that a fingerprint is a physical characteristic of an individual that can reveal information about this individual, it can be categorised as personal data. Consequently, ING would qualify as a data controller

under Belgian Data Protection Law and has to comply with the conditions for a legitimate processing of personal data.

Read more:

https://www.ing.be/about/showhtml.jsp?htmlid=654873_FR http://www.nltimes.nl/2015/03/10/ing-adds-fingerprint-recognition-to-mobile-banking/

Reference: Advise Belgian Privacy Commission nr. 17/2008 of 9 April 2008.

Major performance boost for Cognitec's face recognition algorithm and products

Cognitec has released the superior face recognition engine B9 and incorporated the algorithm in its market-leading face recognition product, FaceVACS-DBScan.

Research and development for the B9 algorithm focused on significant performance improvement for images with low resolution or taken in less controlled environments, often found in police databases. The matching accuracy also increased for images with non-frontal poses, with faces turned upward, downward or to the side. FaceVACS-DBScan enables users to compare still images from various sources to those stored in multi-million image databases and instantly view match lists. The application has proven an invaluable tool for ID management, allowing passport, visa and national ID agencies to compare new facial images to existing databases, find duplicates and errors, and avert identity fraud.

Read more: http://www.cognitec.com/news-reader/product-release-2-2015.html

5. Software, Databases and Challenges

Face Morphing Challenge

This benchmark area is aimed at analyzing the effects of image morphing on face recognition accuracy. The robustness against morphing alterations is evaluated by comparing morphed images against other images of the subjects used for the morphing. Algorithms submitted to these benchmarks are required to compare face images to determine whether they belong to the same subject or not (one-to-one comparisons).

In scenarios where the user template is created from printed photos rather than from images acquired live during enrollment (e.g., identity documents), digital image alterations could severely affect the recognition results of a face recognition system. In particular, with the widespread adoption of Automated Border Control systems (ABC), image morphing alteration (obtained by digitally mixing face images of two subjects) can cause an increment of the false acceptance rate and consequently of the possibility that a criminal succeeds to bypass border controls.

Read more:

https://biolab.csr.unibo.it/fvcongoing/UI/Form/BenchmarkAreas/BenchmarkAreaFMC.aspx

6. Events

EEMA Nordic Region/Norstella eID Interest Group Workshop on biometrics and mobility Oslo, Norway 14th April

The future is mobile, and mobile devices have a range of possibilities for biometric sensors. The combination of these two technology trends may be the future of authentication solutions and the key to individuals' ubiquitous and seamless access to services and information. Join Norstella, EEMA and our international top level expert speakers to get a picture of both what is to come and what industry can deliver today. We aim at a highly interactive workshop format; join us in round table discussions on privacy issues and other implications.

The eID Interest Group of Norstella (the Norwegian foundation for eBusiness and Trade Procedures) runs regular workshops on eID-related topics. The current workshop marks the start of a co-operation with EEMA (the European Association for e-Identity and Security) with the aim of establishing a Norwegian/Nordic regional interest group under the EEMA umbrella.

Read more: http://www.eema.org http://

International Conference on Automatic Face and Gesture Recognition - FG'15, Ljubljana, Slovenia 4-8 May 2015

The 11th IEEE International Conference on Automatic Face and Gesture recognition, IEEE FG 2015, will be held in Ljubljana, Slovenia on May 4-8, 2015. IEEE FG 2015 is the premier international forum for research in image and video-based face, gesture, and body movement recognition. It presents research that advances the state-of-the-art in these and related areas, leading to new capabilities in various application domains. The conference will feature a comprehensive scientific program as well as industry exhibitions and demonstrations of the most recent technological achievements from academia. The paper submission deadline is September 30, 2014.

If you want to become an exhibitor or conference sponsor or learn more about the opportunities for organizers: workshops, tutorials, special sessions, panels:

Read more: http://www.fg2015.org/

International Conference on Biometrics - ICB'15, Phuket, Thailand 20-24 May 2015

The 8th IAPR International Conference on Biometrics (ICB 2015) is planned to be hosted in Thailand from May 20th to 22nd , 2015. ICB is an official conference of the IAPR Technical Committee on Biometrics (TC4) and is also co-sponsored by IEEE Biometrics Council.

For 2015, ICB will be held at Phuket, Thailand. It will have oral sessions, posters, tutorials, demonstrations, competitions and a government track to coincide with the beginning of ASEAN Economic Community 2015 (AEC2015).

The conference will have a broad scope and invites papers that advance biometric technologies, sensor design, feature extraction and matching algorithms, analysis of security and privacy, and evaluation of social impact of biometrics technology. Topics of interest include all areas of current Biometrics research and applications.

Read more: http://icb2015.org/

Special Session on Biometric Data Analysis at International Conference on Beyond Databases, Architectures and Structures - BDAS'15, Ustron, Poland 26-29 May 2015

Beyond Databases, Architectures and Structures (BDAS) is a series of conferences that intends to give the state-of-the-art of the research that satisfies the needs of modern, widely understood database systems, architectures, models, structures, and algorithms focused on processing various types of data. The aim of the conference is to reflect the most recent developments of databases and allied techniques used for solving problems in a variety of areas related to database systems, or even go one step forward - beyond the horizon of existing databases, architectures and data structures.

The 11th BDAS Conference (technically co-sponsored by IEEE) is a continuation of the highly successful BDAS conference series started in 2005, traditionally held in Ustron, Poland (transfer will be provided from/to Krakow).

Read more: http://bdas.polsl.pl/

IbPRIA 2015: 7th Iberian Conference on Pattern Recognition and Image Analysis, Santiago de Compostela, Spain 10-12 June 2015

IbPRIA is an international conference co-organized by the Spanish AERFAI and Portuguese APRP chapters of the IAPR International Association for Pattern Recognition.

IbPRIA is a single track conference consisting of high quality, previously unpublished papers, presented either orally or as a poster, intended to act as a forum for research groups, engineers

and practitioners to present recent results, algorithmic improvements and promising future directions in pattern recognition and image analysis.

Read more: http://www.ibpria.org/2015/

19th Scandinavian Conference on Image Analysis - SCIA'15, Copenhagen, Denmark 15 -17 June 2015

The 19th conference in the long tradition of Scandinavian Conferences on Image Analysis will take place in Copenhagen, Denmark. The conference invites paper submissions presenting original high quality work within the following topics: 3D vision, Medical and biomedical image analysis, Color and multispectral image analysis, Computational imaging and graphics, Faces and gestures, Feature extraction and segmentation, Human-centered computing, Matching, registration and alignment, Motion analysis, Object and scene recognition, Pattern recognition and machine learning, Robot vision, Vision systems and applications, Video and multimedia analysis.

Read more: http://www.scia2015.org

12th IAPR/IEEE Int.l Summer School for Advanced Studies on Biometrics for Secure Authentication Alghero, Italy June 22–26 2015

For the last twelve years, the International Summer School on Biometrics has been closely following the developments in science and technology to offer a cutting edge, intensive training course, always in-line with the current state-of-the-art.

What are the most up-to-date core biometric technologies developed in the field? What is the potential impact of biometrics in forensic investigation and crime prevention? How can biometrics cope with mobile applications? What are the most relevant issues in biometric standardization? What can we learn from human perception? What does it involve to integrate a biometric recognition system?

This school follows the successful track of the International Summer Schools on Biometrics held since 2003. In this 12th edition, the courses will mainly focus on new and emerging issues:

- How Biometrics will cope with the demand for mobile applications;
- How to exploit new biometric technologies in forensic and security applications;
- Standardization, evaluation and assessment of biometric applications.
- Biometrics technologies and advanced research: What is next?

The courses will provide a clear and in-depth picture on the state-of-the-art in biometric verification/identification technology, both under the theoretical and scientific point of view as well as in diverse application domains. The lectures will be given by 18 outstanding experts in the field, from both academia and industry. An advanced feature of this summer school will be

some practical sessions to better understand, "hands on", the real potential of today's biometric technologies.

The school will be open to about 50 highly qualified, motivated and pre-selected applicants. Phd students, post-docs, researchers, police officers and professionals are encouraged to apply.

Send a filled application form (download from http://biometrics.uniss.it) together with a short curriculum vitae to: Prof. Massimo Tistarelli – e-mail: biometricsummerschool@gmail.com

Advance pre-registration is strictly required by all applicants by February 15th 2015.

Contact: tista@uniss.it

Special Session on Reliable Biometrics – BIORELIABILITY'15, Gdynia, Poland June 24–26 2015

This workshop intends to collect recent high quality international research results contributing to increase in reliability of biometric methods and systems. In particular, it should serve as a platform for exchanging the scientific ideas related to countermeasures against spoofing, immunity of biometrics to biological factors such as aging or health conditions, as well as methods mitigating imperfect interaction of humans with the machines.

Read more: http://cybconf2015.am.gdynia.pl/BIORELIABILITY

6th International Conference on Imaging for Crime Prevention and Detection - ICDP'15, London, UK 15-17 July 2015

This conference follows the successful IDSS (Intelligent Distributed Surveillance Systems) events held in 2003 and 2004 and ICDP 2005, 2006, 2009, 2011 and 2013, to bring together researchers, industry, end-users, law-enforcing agencies and citizens groups to share experiences and explore areas where additional research, development and better working practices are needed, identify possible collaboration and consider the societal impact of such technologies.

The 6th International Conference on Imaging for Crime Detection and Prevention (ICDP-15) aims to create an important networking forum in which participants can discuss the present and future of image-based technologies for crime detection and prevention.

ICDP (and its predecessor IDSS) has traditionally been a special meeting point of different disciplines (computer science, social science, engineering, management, etc.) and an opportunity for a wide range of stakeholders to discuss the many different aspects of the application of imaging technologies in this socially crucial domain.

Read more: http://www.icdp-conf.org/

European Signal Processing Conference – EUSIPCO'15, Information Forensics and Security Track Nice, Cote d' Azur, France 31st August-4th September 2015

EUSIPCO is the flagship conference of the European Association for Signal Processing (EURASIP). The 23rd edition will be held in Nice, on the French Riviera, from 31st August -4th September 2015. EUSIPCO 2015 will feature world-class speakers, oral and poster sessions, keynotes, exhibitions, demonstrations and tutorials and is expected to attract in the order of 600 leading researchers and industry figures from all over the world.

The Information Forensics and Security Track addresses all works whereby security is achieved through a combination of techniques from cryptography, computer security, machine learning and multimedia signal processing.

Read more: http://www.eusipco2015.org

European Biometrics Research and Industry Awards 2015: Presentation of finalists on September 9th

The European Association for Biometrics (EAB) has launched the ninth 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 invited to submit a research paper and supporting information by 15th of May, 2015. 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. The finalist will present their work to all EAB members on September 9th in Darmstadt.

Read more: http://www.eab.org/award/cfp.html Contact: patrizio.campisi@uniroma3.it

EAB Research Projects Conference - EAB-RPC'15, Darmstadt, Germany 7-8 September 2015

On September 7-8, 2015 Europe's largest conference on research in the area of Biometrics and Identity Management funded by the European Commission will take place at the premises of Fraunhofer IGD in Darmstadt, Germany. The second EAB-Research Project Conference 2015 will be co-located with the IEEE BIOSIG conference that will take place later that same week.

The EAB and numerous EU FP7 projects namely FIDELITY, FastPass, BEAT, FutureID, MobilePass, Eksistenz, PACS, ORIGINS, ABC4EU, SIIP, INGRESS and HECTOS are jointly organizing the 2nd EAB Research Project Conference (EAB-RPC) to present research results and to discuss the benefits of this research for our European society. This second conference will present updates of the projects introduced in the first conference back in 2014 (see www.eab.org/events/program/69 for further information). New projects in the fields of border control, speaker verification, template protection and more will be presented. Experts from the biometric community will report about their results and will discuss in a panel the impact of the new EU regulation on privacy and data protection specifically regarding biometric research and deployment. Furthermore, a second panel will be devoted to discuss the interaction of biometric research and international standardisation that can be progressed by future research topics in the Horizon2020 research program.

The EAB-Research Project Conference 2015 will be co-located with the EAB research award and the IEEE BIOSIG conference that will take place later that same week.

If you are interested to participate with your consortium in this joint dissemination event then please contact the organizers Christoph Busch (christoph.busch@hig.no) and Alexander Nouak (Alexander.Nouak@eab.org)

Read more: http://www.eab.org/events/program/79

International Conference of the Biometrics Special Interest Group, Darmstadt, Germany 10-12 September 2015

The 14th edition of the BIOSIG conference is now being announced and the call for papers is published at: http://www.biosig.de/biosig2015

The BIOSIG 2015 conference addresses topics regarding biometric systems and algorithms but also considers security and privacy of biometric recognition methods. The relevant techniques in the area of presentation attack detection (liveness detection) and template protection are about to supplement biometric systems, in order to improve fake resistance, prevent potential attacks such as crossmatching, identity theft etc.

The conference is jointly organized by the Competence Center for Applied Security Technology (CAST), the German Federal Office for Information Security (BSI), the European Association for

Biometrics (EAB), the ICT COST Action IC1106, the Joint Research Centre of the European Commission (JRC), the TeleTrusT-Association, the Norwegian Biometrics Laboratory (NBL), the Center for Advanced Security Research Darmstadt (CASED), the Fraunhofer Institute for Computer Graphics Research IGD and the special interest group BIOSIG of the Gesellschaft für Informatik e.V. (GI).

Submission deadline for contributions to BIOSIG 2015 is May 15th, 2015

7th International Conference on Biometrics: Theory, Applications and Systems – BTAS'15, Washington, DC, USA 7-10 September 2015

The IEEE Seventh International Conference on Biometrics: Theory, Applications and Systems (BTAS 2015), a continuation of the highly successful BTAS conference series started in 2007, will be held in the September 8 - 11, 2015 time period in Arlington, Virginia in the Washington, DC area (USA). BTAS 2015 is a 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.

BTAS 2015 topics will include biometrics based on voice, fingerprint, iris, face, handwriting, gait, and other modalities. Multi-modal biometrics, soft biometrics, new biometrics based on novel sensing technologies, and biometrics for mobile-devices will receive particular attention. Papers examining usability and social impacts of biometrics technology are encouraged.

Read more: http://btas2015.org/

IDWorld Congress, Frankfurt, Germany 10-12 November 2015

The ID World International Congress, the identification industry's leading networking and knowledge sharing event with a program built around the true key issues of senior management of both public and private organizations, welcomes you again.

All individuals with significant professional experience in research, development, manufacturing, system integration, consulting, market analysis, or management within companies or organizations are invited to submit an abstract.

Contributions must be original, previously unpublished and submitted in English. Abstracts will be evaluated on the basis of content, originality, topicality, clarity and caliber of the speaker. Abstracts should reflect the scope of the event, which is the diffusion of high level information and know-how regarding state-of-the-art technologies in the different segments of identification and its applications. Please note that in the selection process case histories and end-user presentations will be favored.

The conference aims to be an informative event; as such, commercial presentations will be rejected. The deadline for submissions is 7 May 2015.

Read more: http://www.mesago.de/en/EID/The_conference/ID_World_CfP/index.htm

7th IEEE International Workshop on Information Forensics and Security – WIFS'15, Rome, Italy 16-19 November 2015

The IEEE International Workshop on Information Forensics and Security (WIFS) is the annual flagship workshop organized by the IEEE Information Forensics and Security (IFS) Technical Committee. Its major goal is to bring together researchers in the field to foster ideas exchange and to allow cross-fertilization among researchers working in the different areas of information security. WIFS will serve as a powerful instrument for community building.

The 7th edition of WIFS will be held in Rome, Italy, hosted by Roma Tre University, from November 16 to November 19, 2015. The conference will feature three keynote lectures, up to four tutorials, lectures and poster sessions, and also demo and ongoing work activities sessions.

Read more: http://www.wifs2015.org/

7. Reports

Norwegian Biometrics Laboratory Annual Workshop 2015 (NBLAW'15) – Gjøvik, Norway 2nd March 2015

The Norwegian Biometrics Laboratory organized its 5th annual workshop on March 2nd in Gjøvik University College, Norway. The NBLAW-2015 was focused on the topic of Presentation Attack Detection in Biometrics. The day with international speakers from various European countries illustrated solved and unsolved challenges. Specifically of interest are presentation attacks (aka spoof attacks) on biometric capture devices (e.g. Fingerprint sensors), which are designed to gain unauthorized access to secure biometric systems by presenting a biometric artefact obtained from replica of a legitimate subject.

The objective of NBLAW 2015 was to address all aspects of existing research issues that will eventually establish robust presentation attack detection in biometric systems. This included the discussion on various challenges and solutions achieved on Presentation Attack Detection for various modalities including face, iris, fingerprint, and speech biometrics.

NBL senior researcher R. Raghavendra, who chaired the NBLAW-2015, introduced the theme of workshop and demonstrated the vulnerability of face-based biometrics in the light of challenging face artefacts.



Adam Czajka (NASK, PL) gave an overview of challenges in iris recognition and illustrated the state of the art presentation attacks and the academic competitions in that field. He also presented the recently established EAB-Working Group on PAD that is looking on development of presentation attack resistant products and the interaction with evaluation labs. The intention of this working group is to bridge between audit needs and auditors.

Ralph Breithaupt (BSI, DE) has a long practical experience with testing and certification of biometric systems. He provided an exciting talks by showcasing the ease of artefact preparation for fingerprint based systems and novel ways to handle them.

One can never underestimate the role of indirect attacks on biometric systems. Julian Fierrez (UAM, ES) shared his vast experience in handling such indirect attacks. Patrick Bours (NBL, NO) introduced the anticipated challenges in a key-stroke based authentication system. Christoph Busch (Fraunhofer, DE / NBL, NO) concluded the day with a talk about the relevance and the status of international standardization with ISO/IEC 30107 on Presentation Attack Detection.

The NBLAW-2015 was attended by a large audience constituted by researchers and students from across Europe, industry peers and various governmental organizations including Norwegian Police department and immigration department.

The next NBLAW-2016 is scheduled for February 25th, 2016.

For more information on NBLAW-2015 and the slides of the workshop, please visit http://eab.org/events/program/81

3rd International Workshop on Biometrics and Forensics (IWBF'15) – Gjøvik, Norway 3-4 March 2015

More than 70 participants from 30 different countries attended IWBF 2015 held at Gjøvik University College Campus on the 3rd and 4th March. The workshop was organized by the European Co-operation in Science and Technology (COST) Action IC1106 "Integrating Biometrics and Forensics for the Digital Age" in collaboration with the Norwegian Biometrics Laboratory (NBL) at Gjøvik University College. The workshop was co-sponsored by the



Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), Institution of Engineering and Technology (IET), European Association for Signal Processing (EURASIP) and European Association for Biometrics (EAB).

33 papers were submitted to IWBF 2015 of which 25 papers were selected and included in the



technical program. 17 papers were accepted for oral and 8 for poster presentations. There was one Technical Program Chair and five Co-Chairs, well reputed in their scientific areas, both from the Biometrics and the Forensics communities, which are the target of the Workshop. To select the papers for the Workshop Program, they had the assistance of 42 Technical Program Committee members to review submissions. The whole

process was conducted double blind in Microsoft CMT with at least three reviewers per paper.

The papers will be made available in IEEE Xplore. Authors of best papers presented at the workshop will be invited to submit an extended and updated version for publication in the IET Biometrics Journal.

Sessions and presentation included Forensic Fingerprint Identification, Biometric Analysis of Crime Scene traces, Keystroke Dynamics, Eyebrow Verification, Signature



Verification, Gun Type Recognition and Physical Biometrics for Forensic Examination including iris, periocular recognition and gait. Furthermore a focus of various contributions was on biometric template protection and cancelable biometrics.

The program was enriched by three keynote presentations. The invited keynote speakers included Antonio Farelo (INTERPOL), who reported about the high-tech infrastructure of technical and operational support that was established to meet the growing challenges of fighting crime. The operation is in place in the new INTERPOL Global Complex for Innovation, Cyber Innovation & Outreach Directorate in Singapore. The speaker provided an overview about INTERPOL tools and discussed challenges for biometrics in the cyber arena as well as INTERPOLS strategy on partnership with academic institutions.



The second keynote by Els Kindt (KU Leuven) analyzed legal constraints in biometric and forensic investigations. She discussed the importance of the rule of law, the meaning of the concepts of privacy, self-determination and data protection and the access to and the use of biometric data collected by private sector entities by law enforcement. Attention was also given to the ongoing data protection reform proposals on the processing of biometric data.



The last keynote speaker was Katrin Franke (Testimon Forensic group at Gjovik University College). She reported about her 15 years of research on forensic topics involving detection of altered or counterfeit documents like contracts, tax claims, and others. The presentation also encouraged a dialogue on the development of computational methods for the forensic analysis of handwritten signatures and questioned documents. Researchers and practitioners from the field of biometrics

and computer science were introduced to the special demands, procedures and methods applied in forensic sciences.

A panel session "The Future of COST Action 1106" was chaired by Massimo Tistarelli (University di Sassari) and panelists included Christoph Busch (Gjøvik University College), Julian Fierrez (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid), Kristin Norell (National Forensic Centre, Sweden) and Paulo Labato Correia (Instituto Superior Tecnico, Portugal). The panel was successful in extending the discussion to actively involve the audience such that a productive brainstorming could take place.

The workshop provided an international forum to develop synergies between biometrics and forensic science. Many outstanding researchers of both communities (biometrics and forensics), as well as practitioners and students, actively participated in IWBF 2015, contributing to the success of the event.

For more information on IWBF-2015 please visit https://sites.google.com/site/iwbf2015/

German Biometrics Working Group Meeting – Darmstadt, Germany 18th March 2015

The EAB partner organization TeleTrusT (TTT) is a large-scale network of IT-Security related institutions that is operating the German Biometrics Working Group. The group of biometric experts assembled on March 18th for its spring meeting in Darmstadt and featured numerous reports on biometric applications and most recent research results.

The working group meeting started off with a perspective talk of Timo Ruhland (German Federal Criminal Police) about the AFIS in 2015 and discussion on how the increasing case work can be managed with more efficient biometric methods. Markus Nuppeney (German Federal Office for Information Security)



reported about the deployment of the Automatic Border Control Gates EasyPASS PLUSS, which is widely installed on the international airports Frankfurt, Hamburg, Düsseldorf and Munich. The system is designed to cope with an increasing passenger flow since two border control officers can be in charge of supervision of six control gates. Stefan Pahmeier (Speed Biometrics) reported about the Speed Capture enrolment kiosk solution that is deployed in 8 federal states in Germany.

A research contribution was provided by Anika Pflug (Hochschule Darmstadt), who presented



results about her ear recognition research. A further research talk was contributed by Christian Rathgeb (Hochschule Darmstadt), who presented a Bloom filter based indexing approach for large-scale databases. He showed promising results for an iris recognition system.

The agenda was completed by an industry presentation from Rolf Hanneken (CSO), who explained the 2-level windows

access control, which is secured by biometric authentication.

Slides of the spring meeting are available at:

http://eab.org/events/program/75

The next meeting of the German Biometrics Working Group will take place on September 9th:

http://eab.org/events/program/76

8. Impressum

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