EAB Newsletter

Edition July 2015

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Contact: secretariat@eab.org

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 issued (October 2015).
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1. News from the EAB

New Members

Currently the EAB counts 176 members, mainly from the European continent. This number is still growing. We see an increase in interest from eastern European countries, including Poland and the Baltic states.

We would like to give a special welcome to the latest new members:

- Atip GMBH (D) – [www.atip.de](http://www.atip.de)
- Everett (NL) – [www.everett.nl](http://www.everett.nl)
- Anna Badino (ZA)

Redesigning the EAB Financial Administrative System

We are happy to announce the Manus Fleskens, our new treasurer, is in the process of redesigning our administrative system with dedicated software. This new system should allow us to automatically generated invoices for members fees and for attendance to our events. Also it will automatically generate reminders if invoices are not being paid timely. In addition, an online payment facility is being developed which makes that immediate payment will take place once people register for events or membership. The financial system will be directly coupled to the members administration, so up-to-date information is always present.

EAB Members Meeting: Darmstadt, 8 September 2015

Alongside the EAB European Research Projects Conference, the EAB Biometrics Research and Industry Awards 2015 and the BioSIG an EAB Members Meeting will take place. During this short meeting EAB members will be able to discuss and learn about biometrics research in Europe. The meeting is informal and has two main objectives:

- discuss the H2020 program and identify calls that may be relevant for the EAB community
- to network and discuss potential proposals
- forming new partnerships
More specifically we will discuss “A European Agenda for Migration”, released by the European Commission on 15 May 2015. You can read more about this agenda below and in the events section.

Max Snijder appointed as new Chairman of the EAB Industry Special Interest Group

During the last EAB Board meeting Max Snijder has accepted his appointment as the new Chairman of the EAB Industry Special Interest Group. His main goals for the coming years will be to provide a dynamic platform for European providers of biometric products and solutions through the organization of targeted EAB events and through cooperation with third party conferences and exhibitions. Max Snijder says:

"With a population of over 500 mln citizens in Europe the EAB will seek to unlock this market for European companies and for companies from outside Europe. We have many highly sophisticated manufactures of sensors and software, while a strong increase can be seen in the development of downstream solution providers. It is my aim to make the European biometrics industry stronger by providing opportunities for cooperation and information sharing. In addition I will be actively supporting the organization of trade missions of our industry to relevant regions and countries, such as Africa, Middle East and Asia."

Soon Max Snijder will update the charter and agenda of the Industry SIG, in consultation with the members. You can contact Max Snijder at industry-sig-chair@eab.org

EAB signs Agreement with Cartes Secure Connections

In June the EAB and Cartes have signed a marketing agreement. This includes mutual promotion of events and special offers for EAB members. The cooperation also comprises the organization of a Biometrics Pavilion at the next Cartes event in Paris, 17 – 19 November 2015. For this pavilion EAB members receive an exclusive reduction of 15% for a stand of 2x3 m².

If you would like to present your company to 20.000 visitors for a great price then this is an opportunity you shouldn't miss. Exclusively for EAB members Cartes provides a reduction of 15% for a 2x3 m² stand at the Biometrics Pavilion. Costs will be reduced while being present at one of the world’s biggest events on identity, mobility and payments.

You can book your stand at the Biometrics Pavilion here: http://services.cartes.com/plateforme/do/fo/accueil?langue=en. In the “your message” textbox of the online registration form you just need to mention that you are EAB member and that you want to join the pavilion. For more information please contact Max Snijder at secretariat@eab.org
Registration ‘Biometrics in Banking and Payments’ now started

It is now possible to book your ticket to attend one of the three seminars ‘Biometrics in Banking and Payments’, taking place at the following dates/locations:

**Frankfurt**, 24 September 2015 / [http://eab.org/events/program/92](http://eab.org/events/program/92)

**London**, 16 October 2015 / [http://eab.org/events/program/84](http://eab.org/events/program/84)

**Amsterdam**, 26 November 2015 / [http://eab.org/events/program/93](http://eab.org/events/program/93)

Featured speakers include:

- Dimitrijs Abalenkovs, Deutsche Bank
- Serap Baloğu, Ölcsan
- Tamara van den Ban, ING Bank
- Thomas Bengs, Fujitsu
- Christoph Busch, Fraunhofer IGD
- Ingo Deutschmann, Behaviosec
- Waldemar Grudzien, German Ass. for Banks
- John Hinman, CrossMatch
- Mark van der Horst, Everett
- Juergen Kuschewski, Wacom
- Hemant Mardia, Idex ASA
- Beril Oktem, Vodafone
- Matthias Terlau, Osborne Clarke
- Ruth Wandhöfer, CitiBank

There will be some stage demo’s and a Mini Expo, where more in-depth information on the client solutions and technologies will be provided.

The programs for the three seminars are largely the same, but may differ in some details. Check the events section on our website for the latest details.
EU Council reaches Agreement on EU DP Regulation

Today, Justice Ministers in the Council reached a General Approach on the new data protection rules confirming the approach taken in the Commission's proposal back in 2012. Trilogue negotiations between the Council, the European Parliament and the EU Commission will start next week on 24 June.

The Council agreed upon many of the fundamental pillars of the Commission's proposal, the Commission says. The form of the new legislation will be a Regulation, also applicable to non-EU companies if they offer services to EU consumers.

The One Stop Shop remains and EU companies will in the future deal with a single national Data Protection Authority. The Council endorses the principle of the right to be forgotten, but says it is not an absolute right. The right to data portability has also been confirmed. The Council's view is that fines should be a maximum 2% of company's annual worldwide turnover.

Learn more about this topic in Privacy Laws & Business International Report, to be published this Friday 19 July, and at PL&B's 28th Annual International Conference 6-8 July. Speakers on the EU DP Regulation include Giovanni Buttarelli, EDPS; Bruno Gencarelli, EU Commission; Isabelle Falque-Pierrotin, CNIL and Chair, EU Art. 29 Data Protection Working Party; Christopher Graham, UK Information Commissioner; and Eduardo Ustaran, Hogan Lovells.

Read more: http://www.privacylaws.com/int_enews_15_6_15

New EU Agenda on Migration Implies New Challenges on Biometrics

In their recent Communication on “A European Agenda on Migration”, the European Commission has defined a number of priorities to tackle the ever-escalating humanitarian crisis in the Mediterranean. Among those priorities, there are measures that call for improved practices with regard to the use of biometrics as a tool to register asylum seekers and to control irregular migration. Still, the current practices turned out to be insufficient (e.g. with respect to harsh environmental conditions or the exclusion of children), with relevant experiences not systematically shared. Regarding fingerprints, the Communication highlights the need for concepts "in full respect of fundamental rights, backed up by practical cooperation and exchange of best practices”. Moreover, EURODAC, Europe's dactyloscopic registry for asylum seekers, shall be enhanced by additional biometric identifiers.

As the Communication also suggests considering migration as "an important way to enhance the sustainability of our welfare system and to ensure sustainable growth of the EU economy", the usage of biometric registration tools should not only be seen under its technical dimension.
Ultimately, biometrics should similarly serve legitimate migration and European security interests, in due compliance with ethical standards and European values.

The new agenda and its implications for biometrics research in Europe will be discussed at the next EAB Members Meeting, which takes place at Fraunhofer IGD in Darmstadt on 8 September 2015, 18.00 – 20.00 hrs. (see also under the events section).

Read more:
http://ec.europa.eu/dgs/home-affairs/what-we-do/policies/european-agenda-migration/background-information/docs/communication_on_the_european_agenda_on_migration_en.pdf

Banks will buy into Biometrics by 2020

Goode Intelligence, a London-based research and consultancy organization for the biometric and banking industry, issued a report earlier this month forecasting that by 2017 more than one billion consumers will access banking services through biometric systems, and that biometrics will become the predominant banking ID method by 2020.

In a press release, Goode Intelligence said that biometrics is being adopted across all of the major bank channels and that by the end of 2015 some 450 million bank customers will use biometrics in a variety of bank scenarios including:

• withdrawing cash from ATMs;
• proving identity when contacting the bank via telephone;
• authenticating with their mobile bank app via fingerprint; and
• accessing Web-based services via face and voice ID.

According to the report, the adoption of biometrics for ATM access will increase in regions where it has already been deployed (e.g., Japan, Eastern Europe and South America), and take root in other regions where the PIN is still the predominant authentication mechanism.

Read more:

IET Biometrics has received its first Impact Factor

The IET Biometrics journal is now indexed in all the major bibliographic databases (IET Inspec, Scopus and EI Compendex) and has received its first Impact Factor of 0.857*.
Since the Journal launched in 2012, IET Biometrics has published over 80 papers in the exciting interdisciplinary area of biometric recognition, positioning itself as an essential resource for the biometrics community.

Receiving its first Impact Factor is an important milestone for IET Biometrics and is a reflection of the hard work of the IET Editorial team and, especially, the dedication of the founding Editorial Board members.

Read more: http://digital-library.theiet.org/content/journals/iet-bmt
3. Outside Europe

**Brain's reaction to certain Words could replace Passwords**

You might not need to remember those complicated e-mail and bank account passwords for much longer. According to a new study, the way your brain responds to certain words could be used to replace passwords.

In "Brainprint," a newly published study in academic journal Neurocomputing, researchers from Binghamton University observed the brain signals of 45 volunteers as they read a list of 75 acronyms, such as FBI and DVD. They recorded the brain's reaction to each group of letters, focusing on the part of the brain associated with reading and recognizing words, and found that participants' brains reacted differently to each acronym, enough that a computer system was able to identify each volunteer with 94 percent accuracy. The results suggest that brainwaves could be used by security systems to verify a person's identity.

According to Sarah Laszlo, assistant professor of psychology and linguistics at Binghamton University and co-author of "Brainprint," brain biometrics are appealing because they are cancellable and cannot be stolen by malicious means the way a finger or retina can.

"If someone's fingerprint is stolen, that person can't just grow a new finger to replace the compromised fingerprint—the fingerprint for that person is compromised forever. Fingerprints are 'non-cancellable.' Brainprints, on the other hand, are potentially cancellable. So, in the unlikely event that attackers were actually able to steal a brainprint from an authorized user, the authorized user could then 'reset' their brainprint," Laszlo said.

**Iris System provides Lifeline for Syrian Refugees**

The United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) has revealed details of a biometrics initiative using technology developed by IrisGuard Inc that it is using to authenticate fund distribution for Syrian refugees who have escaped the conflict to Jordan. In a newly published video, the UNHCR shows how the system uses an iris recognition tool to verify the identities of Syrian refugees, who often arrive in the country without ID documents.

The project uses the EyeBank product developed by iris specialist firm IrisGuard. Refugees can simply to walk up to an IrisGuard-enabled ATM on the street, present one eye only (no card or
pin) and withdraw their financial subsidy immediately. About 23,000 families living in urban areas in Jordan are benefitting from the monthly cash assistance.

Overall, over 1.6 million vulnerable Syrian refugees displaced throughout the neighboring countries have been enrolled in the EyeBank cash payment programme developed by IrisGuard. A unified regional iris repository is centralized at a regional center operated by the aid agency. Instantaneous, cross-country operational transactions are executed dynamically in under a few seconds no matter where the refugee is located in the region and around the clock, hence precisely determining the size and composition of refugee populations.

Read more:

http://www.planetbiometrics.com/article-details/i/3242/desc/iris-system-provides-lifeline-for-syrian-refugees/
Facebook Says It Can Now Recognize You from the Back of Your Head

The head of artificial intelligence at Facebook now says the social network’s experimental facial recognition technology is so advanced that it can read other clues in photos to recognize individuals. In other words, Facebook’s technology no longer needs to see your face to know you’re you.

The Facebook team lead by Yann LeCun recently showed off the technology at the Computer Vision and Pattern Recognition in Boston. The software is designed to look for other cues like hair color, clothing, pose, and posture. “There are a lot of cues we use. People have characteristic aspects, even if you look at them from the back,” LeCun said. “For example, you can recognise Mark Zuckerberg very easily, because he always wears a gray T-shirt.”

As of now, the experimental Facebook algorithm can correctly identify people using these cues the vast majority of the time. In a test using 40,000 Flickr images, the recognition technology correctly identified people 86-percent of the time. This is obviously alarming if you like basic rights like privacy—not like you had much protection from facial recognition technology anyways. Now if someone took a photo with you in the background, Facebook could ostensibly identify and locate you. Facebook’s facial recognition software was already “approaching human-level performance.” Now it sounds super human.

Read more:

Biometrics Easing its Way into Mobile Banking Authentication

Biometrics no longer belongs to science fiction. It is becoming part of everyday reality including financial services. Industry reports predict bank customers will be using biometrics as the predominant method of identifying themselves to access bank services by the end of the decade. There are many reasons why financial institutions are turning to biometrics especially with mobile logins.

The most apparent reason is that passwords are extremely ineffective as authenticators. The growing use of mobile devices, with their confined keyboards, has only weakened the security worth of passwords. Smartphone and tablet users are less likely to reuse passwords across multiple logins than the average consumer. The second reason would be usability – passwords
are awkward to use on a mobile device, whereas most biometric solutions are considerably more user-friendly.

And finally, one of the largest impediments to the adoption of mobile banking has been security concerns on the part of consumers. Australian-based Telstra finds that a majority of U.S. consumers using mobile banking applications want their mobile devices to instantly recognize them via biometrics — such as voice, fingerprint, iris and facial recognition — instead of having to prove who they are with passwords and usernames.

Read more:

Apple Eyes Finger-Print Technology of Privaris

Apple's innovative vision is hitting the road once more. Recently, Apple eyes the innovative technology of finger-print scanning that Privaris seems to have. The company is located in Virginia and according to CNN, "The company recently transferred 26 of its 31 patents to Apple." Finger-print authentication and scanning are among the sought-out technology of today. It is technology that will bring any products to its full potential and as stated by the Privaris Website, "Their technology is using fingerprint authentication for physical and logical access control."

Biometrics with regards to personal privacy are among the qualities that Privaris is proud of. The company continues to find ways to develop cutting edge technologies that will bring their goals to light since Privaris declared that it focuses its technology expertise on the intersection of high security biometric applications and the individual's right to personal privacy." The importance of providing technology and protecting consumer's privacy are among the aims of Privaris, "To show the public that their technology can improve the daily lives of the people and still maintain the privacy that it holds dear."

The technology uses the tiny fingerprint readers that are attach to the key chain. This innovative technology will enhance the abilities of iPhone's TouchID sensor and a whole lot more. The patents that were transferred to Apple contains many abilities. For instance, one patent has the ability to utilize the touchscreen and fingerprint reader, while another innovation grants the person the ability to open the door using the iPhone by scanning the fingerprint and holding the phone up to a reader, it holds the same method and process of how a customer pays through Apple Pay.

Read more:
5. Research and Job Position Offerings

Postdoctoral Position at University of Houston – Face Recognition and Machine Learning

A postdoctoral position is available at University of Houston in the Computational Biomedicine Lab (www.cbl.uh.edu). Applicants should hold a PhD in Computer Science, Electrical Engineering, Applied Mathematics or a related field focusing on Computer Vision with a solid background in biometrics. The successful applicants will have solid research, interpersonal, and communication skills.

We are seeking exceptional and highly motivated individuals who enjoy working in a multidisciplinary research environment. The position will entail research in face recognition and large scale facial matching. The candidate will benefit from mentorship of a diverse research team and will be exposed to cutting-edge technology.

The salary compensation is very competitive. For consideration, please submit your application preferably in one single PDF-document including cover letter, a full CV, a statement of research interests and career goals and the names and email addresses of three references to joannisk@uh.edu, with subject line "PDF: (your name)". For more information please email Prof. Kakadiaris (joannisk@uh.edu).

Houston offers an outstanding environment for research and professional opportunities for growth and collaboration. UH is an equal employment opportunity employer and smoke-free environment. Women and minority candidates are strongly encouraged to apply.

PhD Position or Internships at University of Applied Sciences Darmstadt – Biometrics and Big Data

The University of Applied Sciences Darmstadt, Germany seeks qualified candidates for one PhD student position as well as 6-8 month internships in the BIO-INDEX project. The goal of the project is to establish techniques for efficient (privacy preserving) biometric identification on large scale databases for various biometric characteristics as well as multi-biometric systems.

PhD candidates should hold a Master degree in computer science, electrical engineering or related fields. She or he should have a background in statistics or applied mathematics, optimization, linear algebra and signal processing. The applicant should also have strong programming skills and be familiar with C/C++, MATLAB, various scripting languages such as Python and with the Linux environment.
For further details, starting date, salary, etc. please contact Prof. Dr. Christoph Busch: christoph.busch@h-da.de

Senior and/or Postdoctoral Positions at University of Eastern Finland – Speaker Recognition

University of Eastern Finland (UEF) is looking for senior and/or post-doctoral researchers to two different projects, both on speaker recognition.

One project focuses on audio-visual speaker recognition under spoofing attacks while the other project (H2020 funding from EU) is about access control (both logical and physical access) using speaker rec. For the latter, see a brief description at http://www.uef.fi/en/-/octave-kehittaa-puhujan-aaneen-perustuvia-tunnistusjarjestelmia

The project webpage (https://octave-project.eu/) will fill with some content later this summer.

For further details, please contact Tomi Kinnunen: tkinnu@cs.uef.fi

Phd Position at Idiap Research Institute – Speaker Recognition

The Idiap Research Institute (http://www.idiap.ch) seeks qualified candidates for one PhD student position in the field of automatic speaker recognition. The research will be conducted in the framework of the SNSF funded project UniTS (Unified Speech Processing Framework for Trustworthy Speaker Recognition).

Broadly, the goal of an automatic speaker recognition system is to authenticate or to identify a person through speech signal. The overall goal of the PhD position is to develop novel features and models for trustworthy speaker recognition. Specifically, the doctoral student will investigate: (1) learning of speaker-related features directly from the raw speech signal using up and coming deep learning techniques and their application to speaker recognition and speaker diarization. (2) development of anti-spoofing techniques, i.e. countermeasures, to protect speaker recognition systems against spoofing attacks.

The proposed research is a collaboration between the Speech and Audio Processing group (Dr. Mathew Magimai Doss, main advisor) and the Biometrics group (Dr. Sebastien Marcel, co-advisor -- http://www.idiap.ch/~marcel) at Idiap. Thus, will be part of both the groups but will be accommodated in the Biometrics Group once she or he joins. The research will also rely on previous knowledge and softwares developed at Idiap, more specifically Bob toolkit (http://idiap.github.io/bob/) and Spear (https://pypi.python.org/pypi/bob.spear).
The ideal PhD candidate should hold a Master degree in computer science, electrical engineering or related fields. She or he should have a background in statistics or applied mathematics, optimization, linear algebra and signal processing. The applicant should also have strong programming skills and be familiar with C/C++, MATLAB (although this is not a plus), various scripting languages such as Python and with the Linux environment. Knowledge in speech processing and machine learning is an asset. Shortlisted candidate will undergo a series of tests including technical reading and writing in English and programming (in Python and/or C/C++).

The successful PhD candidate will become a doctoral student at EPFL (http://www.epfl.ch) provided that the candidate is accepted by the Doctoral School at EPFL (http://phd.epfl.ch/applicants). Appointment for the PhD position is for a maximum of 4 years, provided successful progress, and should lead to a dissertation. Annual gross salary ranges from 47,000 Swiss Francs (first year) to 50,000 Swiss Francs (last year). Starting date is immediate or to be negotiated in 2015.

Apply online here:
http://www.idiap.ch/webapps/jobs/ors/applicant/position/index.php?PHP_APE_DR_9e581720b5ef40dc7af21c41bac4f4eb=%7B__TO%3D%27detail%27%3B__PK%3D%2710170%27%7D

Vacancy at GenKey, Eindhoven, the Netherlands

GenKey is looking for talented graduates (0-5 years experience) with an interest in software engineering and biometrics, to join the team in Eindhoven, the Netherlands. We offer a challenging job in an international and innovative high-tech environment, with meaningful projects. Together with a team of experts, the software engineers will be involved in the further development of GenKey’s high-end biometric solutions deployed throughout the world. Candidates should have the following experience:

- University Degree (M.Sc. or Ph.D.) in exact science like Electrical Engineering, Mathematics, Physics or alike
- Programming / Platform Skills: C / C++ / Java / databases

GenKey is an international biometrics technology company with its headquarters in the Netherlands (Eindhoven) and offices in Ghana (Accra) and the USA (Chicago). With a mission to address identity fraud, we deliver innovative biometric solutions for large-scale programs in Africa and other parts of the world, such as national elections, digital healthcare and ID management. These solutions cover the full spectrum of systems and services for accurate registration, deduplication, ID management and verification.

www.genkey.com

For further information, please contact Suzanne van Osch: suzanne.van.osch@genkey.com
### 6. Events

#### Calendar

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<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td><strong>European Signal Processing Conference (Information Forensics and Security Track)</strong></td>
<td>Nice, Cote d' Azur, France</td>
<td>31.08.15 – 04.09.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th International Conference on Biometrics: Theory, Applications and Systems</td>
<td>Washington, DC, USA</td>
<td>07.09.15 – 10.09.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>EAB Research Projects Conference</td>
<td>Darmstadt, Germany</td>
<td>07.09.15 – 08.09.15</td>
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<td>EAB Members Meeting</td>
<td>Darmstadt, Germany</td>
<td>08.09.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>European Biometrics Research and Industry Awards</td>
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<td>09.09.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Conference of the Biometrics Special Interest Group</td>
<td>Darmstadt, Germany</td>
<td>09.09.15 – 10.09.15</td>
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<td>Biometrics for Banking and Payments</td>
<td>Frankfurt, Germany</td>
<td>24.09.15</td>
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<td>London, UK</td>
<td>16.10.15</td>
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<td>Amsterdam, Netherlands</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biometrics and Privacy Workshop</td>
<td>London, UK</td>
<td>19.10.15</td>
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<tr>
<td>7th IEEE International Workshop on Information Forensics and Security</td>
<td>Rome, Italy</td>
<td>16.11.15 – 19.11.15</td>
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<td>Cartes Secure Connections</td>
<td>Paris, France</td>
<td>17.11.15 – 19.11.15</td>
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<td>4th International Workshop on Biometrics and Forensics</td>
<td>Cyprus</td>
<td>03.03.16 – 04.03.16</td>
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<tr>
<td>International Conference on Biometrics</td>
<td>Halmstad, Sweden</td>
<td>14.06.16 – 17.06.16</td>
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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

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/

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

EAB Members Meeting: A European Agenda for Migration, Darmstadt, Germany 8 September 2015

Alongside the EAB European Research Projects Conference, the EAB Biometrics Research and Industry Awards 2015 and the BioSIG an EAB Members Meeting will take place. During this short meeting EAB members will be able to discuss and learn about biometrics research in Europe. The meeting is informal and has two main objectives:

- discuss the H2020 program and identify calls that may be relevant for the EAB community
- to network and discuss potential proposals
- forming new partnerships

More specifically we will discuss “A European Agenda for Migration”, released by the European Commission on 15 May 2015. You can read more about this agenda below and in the events section.

EAB members can register here for free: http://eab.org/events/program/95
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.

Received 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](http://www.eab.org/award/cfp.html)  Contact: patrizio.campisi@uniroma3.it

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

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).

Read more: [http://www.biosig.de/biosig2015](http://www.biosig.de/biosig2015)

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.


Cartes Secure Connections, Paris, France 17-19 November 2015

CARTES SECURE CONNEXIONS 2015 will be held at the Paris-Nord Villepinte Exhibition Centre, from November 17 to 19, 2015. This 30th edition of the secure-connections sector's leading global event will showcase the world's most comprehensive range of Secure Payment, Connection and Identification solutions. Beyond the 460 international exhibitors, CARTES SECURE CONNEXIONS 2015 will offer over 140 conferences and 7 panel discussions, welcome more than 40 CEO speakers and host the internationally recognized SESAMES awards. Around 20,000 visitors representing the Finance, Retail, Telecommunications, Government, Healthcare, Transport and many other sectors, from 160 countries are expected. In cooperation with the EAB a biometrics pavilion is being created. EAB members get a 15% reduction for a 2x3 m2 stand on the Pavilion (see also news item 'EAB signs agreement with Cartes Secure Connections' earlier in this newsletter). A stand with a 15% price reduction can be booked here:

This year, CARTES SECURE CONNEXIONS will change its name to TRUSTECH, to reflect the rapid evolution of new technologies. TRUSTECH's mission is to be the hub of the international secure-connections community, as it addresses complex and diverse security issues, shapes future strategies and develops ways in which the new technologies will be used. Trust in the security of sensitive data is critical for the development of new applications in our increasingly connected world.

Read more: [http://www.cartes.com/](http://www.cartes.com/)
4th International Workshop on Biometrics and Forensics – IWBF’16, Limassol, Cyprus 3-4 March 2016

The 4th International Workshop on Biometrics and Forensics (IWBF) will be organized by COST Action IC1106 – “Integrating Biometrics and Forensics for the Digital Age”) and the Cyprus University of Technology between 3-4 March 2016 in Limassol, Cyprus. IWBF 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. Topics of interest of the workshop include, but are not limited to:

- Biometric evidence for forensic evaluation and investigation
- Audiovisual biometrics for multimedia forensics
- Forensic examination and soft biometrics
- Forensic behavioural biometrics
- Biometric analysis of crime scene traces and their forensic interpretation
- Combination of multimodal biometrics with other forensic evidence
- Biometric-based cybercrime investigation
- Biometric and non-biometric data de-identification
- Ethical and societal implications of emerging forensics biometrics

The deadline for paper submission is the 2nd of October 2016.

Read more: http://www.easyconferences.eu/iwbf2016/


The 9th IAPR International Conference on Biometrics (ICB 2016) is planned to be hosted in Halmstad from June 14th to 17th, 2016. ICB is an official conference of the IAPR Technical Committee on Biometrics (TC4) and is also co-sponsored by IEEE Biometrics Council.

The conference will have oral sessions, posters, tutorials, demonstrations, and competitions. The conference will have a broad scope and invites papers that addresses fundamental advances in pattern recognition techniques relevant to biometrics, sensor design, new algorithms and/or technologies for biometrics, analysis of specific applications, security and privacy, and analysis of the social impacts of biometrics technologies. Areas of coverage include biometric systems based on fingerprint, iris, face, voice, hand, handwriting, gait and other modalities as well as biometric fusion and emerging biometrics based on novel sensing technologies.
The organizers of ICB 2016 are soliciting competition proposals. Possible areas of interest include (but are not limited to):

- Verification performance (1:1 matching) of a single biometric trait
- Identification performance (1:N matching) of a single biometric trait
- Multimodal verification or identification performance
- Efficient biometric recognition algorithms for light architectures (e.g. match-on- card/board)
- Recognition robustness against data covariates (e.g., off-angle, poor resolution, occlusions)
- Liveness detection and/or other anti-spoofing challenges
- Soft-biometric and visual attribute extraction (e.g. age/gender/ethnicity/height estimation, gait recognition)
- Challenging sub-problems in biometric recognition (e.g. detection, segmentation, tracking, indexing, re-identification, dense registration)
- Template security, aging and privacy techniques

Read more: http://icb2016.hh.se http://icb2016.hh.se/Competitions
International Conference on Identity, Security and Behavior Analysis – ISBA’15, Hong Kong 23-25 March

The first edition of IEEE International Conference on Identity, Security and Behavior Analysis (ISBA 2015) was recently held in Hong Kong from March 23 to March 25 2015. This conference is sponsored and initiated by the IEEE Biometrics Council. While there are several conferences on biometrics, the biometrics council advisory committee (AdCom) felt that a conference dedicated to identity, security and behavioral analysis solely sponsored by the IEEE Biometrics Council is needed to address the issues that connect these themes as well as topics that are not traditionally covered by biometrics conferences.

The technical program schedule for ISBA 2015 encompassed a broad range of topics including advances in fundamental biometrics security, new algorithms and/or technologies for human identity and behavior analysis, user-centric security and privacy, balancing user friendliness and high security, and human aspects of biometrics-driven security. Areas of coverage also included biometrics modalities, economics of biometrics security for end user, security policies and user behavior well as social influence in biometrics security and privacy decisions. The paper presentations were complemented with 2 invited tutorials talks offered by two distinguished researchers. The tutorial topics were chosen to emphasize the most mature and widely deployed biometrics technologies and best practices. The tutorial speakers were Xiaogang Wang (Deep Learning) and Rama Chellappa (Sparse Representations, Dictionary Learning and Domain Adaptation for Image and Video-based Authentication). The tutorials were held on March 23rd with breaks and working lunch that provided additional opportunities for the speakers to interact with the conference participants.

ISBA 2015 also featured a most distinguished set of speakers: Angela Sasse from University College London and Vijay S Madan, UIDAI (India). Angela Sasse delivered a keynote talk titled ‘Implicit Authentication via Biometrics: Usability Triumph or Privacy Disaster?’. Her talk also included findings from a recent study, sponsored by the NIST (USA), which underlined that the
regular computer users suffer from authentication fatigue, and re-organize their work to reduce the burden caused by explicit authentication (where they user is challenged to provide credentials). Vijay S Madan, Director General of the Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) delivered invited talk titled 'Aadhaar: Touching a Billion Lives'. This invited talk enlightened the participants on the architecture, advancements and the challenges of the Aadhar program initiated to deliver a unique identity for billion plus citizens of India.

The program for ISBA 2015 also witnessed a panel session on Identity and Behavior Analysis: Two Sides of the Security Coin. This panel session was chaired by Rama Chellappa (University of Maryland, USA) and included Brian C. Lovell (The University of Queensland), M. Angela Sasse (University College of London), Mayank Vatsa (IIIT Delhi) and P C Yuen (Hong Kong Baptist University). Vigorous arguments were presented to underline the complimentary role of behavior analysis in establishing human identity with examples of cases when tools like biometric analysis fails in establishing the identity. The panelist also called for the need to incorporate behavior analysis in bringing or serving convenience in human lives and noted the behavior analysis is traditionally seen as a key component in security analysis.

The Best Paper Award for ISBA 2015 was presented to Daniel F. Smith, Arnold Wiliem and Brian C. Lovell (all from The University of Queensland) for their paper titled "Binary Watermarks: A Practical Method to Address Face Recognition Replay Attacks on Consumer Mobile Devices". The Best Student Paper Award for ISBA 2015 was presented to Ravichandran Subramanian, Sudeep Sarkar, Miguel Labrador, Kristina Contino, Christopher Eggert (from University of South Florida), Omar Javed, JieJie Zhu and Hui Cheng (from SRI International Princeton) for their paper titled "Orientation invariant gait matching algorithm based on the Kabsch alignment". The first edition of this conference also attracted a Special Contribution Award which was presented to Mei Ngan and Patrick Grother (National Institute of Standards and Technology, NIST, USA) for their contributions or paper "Tattoo Recognition Technology - Challenge (Tatt-C): An Open Tattoo Database for Developing Tattoo Recognition Research". ISBA 2015 also recognized reviewers contributions and announced Best Reviewers Awards to Alex Stoianov (Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner/Ontario), Hugo Proenca (University of Beira Interior, Portugal), Fernando Alonso-Fernandez (Halmstad University, Sweden), Vivek Kanhangad (Indian Institute of Technology Indore, India), Patrick Grother (NIST, USA), Kevin Bowyer (University of Notre Dame, USA), Arun Ross (Michigan State University, USA) and Maria Marsico (University of Rome La Sapienza, Italy).

ISBA 2015 attracted over 90 participants from over 10 countries. IEEE Biometrics Council also invited bids for ISBA 2016 and announced that ISBA 2016 will be held in Sendai, Japan. Prof. Aoki, the general-co chair for ISBA 2016 sent his invitation to all members of the community.
and a presentation regarding ISBA 2016 organization was made during the conference banquet.

Norwegian Biometrics Forum Meeting – NBF’15, Oslo, Norway April 16th

On April 16th 27th the Norwegian Biometrics Forum organized its spring meeting at the National ID Center in Oslo. At the meeting participants from several government agencies, industry and research organizations from Norway, Sweden, Denmark, Iceland and other non-Scandinavian countries were represented. The meeting was organized in collaboration with the European Association for Biometrics. The Norwegian Biometrics Forum is an informal meeting place for presentation and discussion in the field of the use of biometrics. The following speakers presented their projects.

Marianne Henriksen reported about the progress for the innovation of the folkeregister in Norway. The hearing associated to the legislation process is ongoing until June 24th. The concept to link each individual to one identity in Norway is also supported by NOAS, the agency that is issuing residence permits to asylum seekers.

Dana Jaedicke (Datatilsynet) contributed with a talk on the development of the privacy regulation and the impact on biometric technologies. After the initial proposal from 2012, which intends to overcome the fragmentation of the data privacy rules stemming from the 1995 directive, there are now alternative formulations on the table. The new text is currently discussed amongst the EU members and will then be interactively be negotiated in a dialogue between the Council, the Commission and the EU parliament in the second half of 2015. The current draft text does not consider biometric data as sensitive data. New in the regulation will be the data protection impact assessment and the principle of data protection by design, which becomes an obligation for the data controllers. The new regulation also intends to implement an “one stop shop” as international dispute mechanism, which shall be realized by the designation of a lead data protection authority (LDPA) such that only in the case of disputes the European Data Protection Board (EDPB) will be activated. Under the assumption that the new regulation will be in place in the beginning of 2016 there will be a two years transition period for all member states.

Henrik Nore (KoM-departementet) and Christian Bull (telenor)
discussed the requirements for authentication in elections that should ensure equal access, secrecy of the vote and the correctness of the account. Norway electoral rolls involves 3.6 million voters. In 2013 in the parliament elections 7% of the eligible voters used the system that was provided in 12 municipalities. In 2013 76% of the advance voter voted per eVoting. The known experience was confirmed that electronic voting does not affect the turnout in any way. However the major motivation was to serve ex-pats and disabled citizens (e.g. blind people) and to improve the quick and correct counting. For e-votes zero votes were lost - in contrary to paper vote, for which approx 5% of votes are lost, due to late mailing. The process covers all electoral processes since 2013. The authentication mechanisms were established protocols e.g. minID, bankID, which are used to access to medical records and prescriptions, financial transactions. Conclusions drawn stated that public trust in the Election Management Board (EMB) is a precondition for successful for eVoting. The new Government decided to discontinue electronic voting, not because of security concerns or due to the fact that eVoting didn’t increase the turnout - but based on an unconfirmed statement “internet voting is a human rights violation”. It is interesting to see that the incorrect BBC new message (claiming that security concerns were an issue) was created by using the Google translation, which inverted the statement in the transition from Norwegian to English. A perspective for the future of eVoting would be in correlation with the introduction of the Norwegian eID.

Knut Lindelien (Standard Norge) discussed in the forum issues on ID-management covering international standards on frameworks and architectures for identity managements.

Raghu Ramachandra (GUC) presented his findings about Presentation Attack Detection (PAD) in face recognition systems illustrating the strength of limitations of software and hardware based approaches. Mohammad Derawi (GUC) talked on recent research to recognize users by heart beat. The analysis is based on the beat rate, beat rhythm and the strength, which all contribute to feature extraction methods. Håvard Nordbø (Politidirektoratet) provided an update of the IDeALT programmet. Border Control will evolve to Border and Territory Control, control points will be operated based on Apple iPAD devices with doc and fingerprint readers. Handheld devices including document scanners will be operated in mobile environments. Mobile devices are also expected to provide functionality for biometric photo verification. Teller, social services and postal delivery services shall be entitled to run age verification based on the ICAO 9303 logical data structure.

More information and slides: http://eab.org/events/program/90

The next NBF meeting is scheduled for November 19th, 2015.

8th IAPR International Conference on Biometrics – ICB’15, Phuket, Thailand 19–22 May

International Conference on Biometrics (ICB) was established in 2006 as a biennial conference by merging AVBPA (Audio- and Video-based Person Authentication), ICBA (International
Conference on Biometric Authentication) and other biometric workshops, and since then has established itself as a premier international conference in biometrics. Since then ICB has changed into an annual conference providing researchers with an avenue for presenting biometrics research results of highest quality. ICB is an official conference of the IAPR Technical Committee on Biometrics (TC4) and is also co-sponsored by IEEE Biometrics Council.

The 8th edition of IAPR International Conference on Biometrics was held at Merlin beach resort located on Tri-Trang Beach (2.7 km) from Patong beach in Phuket, Thailand. ICB’15 received a total number of 169 valid submissions out of which 77 papers have been accepted, representing a 46% acceptance rate.

On 19th May the conference attendees were able to join tutorials on emerging topics in the area of biometrics: Kong Wai Kin Adams (Nanyang Technological University, Singapore) presented “An Overview of the Recent Development of Computational Forensics for Criminal and Victim Identification”. Brian Lovell (University of Queensland, Australia) gave a tutorial on “Remote, Mobile, and Wearable Video Face Recognition for Surveillance”. The afternoon tutorials “Spoofing and Anti-Spoofing in Biometrics: lessons learned from the TABULA RASA project” and “Deep Learning Methods for Face Recognition” were given by Sébastien Marcel (Idiap research institute, Switzerland) and Lior Wolf (Tel Aviv University, Israel), respectively.

The technical program of ICB’15 included 3 keynote talks, 2 panel discussion, a keynote talk by the receiver of the IAPR Young Biometrics Investigator Award, several oral and poster sessions as well as a doctoral consortium meeting. On the first day of the conference Deepak Chandra (Google's Advanced Technology and Projects (ATAP) Organization, USA) gave a keynote speech on the topic “MultiModal Smartphone Authentication”. In the afternoon Azman azra bin Abdul Rahman (Ministry of Home Affairs, Malaysia), Peerapol Promwong (Chanwanich Security Printing Co.ltd, Thailand), and Vutipong Areekul (Kasetsart University, Thailand) discussed about Biometric Technology Adoption and Challenges for Seamless Border Control in ASEAN in the first panel session. The Welcome Reception took place in the Beach Lawn.

On the second day Sébastien Marcel (Idiap research institute, Switzerland) gave a keynote speech on the topic “Reproducible research in Biometrics: moving to the BEAT”. Anil K. Jain (Michigan State University, USA), Deepak Chandra (Google Inc., USA), Josef Kittler (University of Surrey, UK), Brendan F. Klare (Noblis, USA) and Stan Z. Li (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China) discussed with the audience about the topic “Promote high quality Biometrics research” in the second panel session. In the evening the Conference Banquet and the Awards Ceremony were held in Tri-Trang Restaurant.
Dr. Gang Hua (Stevens Institute of Technology, USA) received the IAPR Young Biometrics Investigator Award for his contribution to "Unconstrained Face Recognition in Images and Videos". Marta Gomez-Barrero (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain), Javier Galbally (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain), Julian Fierrez (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain), Javier Ortega-Garcia (Universidad Autonoma de Madrid, Spain), and Réjean Plamond (École Polytechnique de Montreal, Canada) won the Siew-Sngiem Best Paper Award for their paper "Enhanced On-Line Signature Verification Based on Skilled Forgery Detection Using Sigma-LogNormal Features". The Siew-Sngiem Best Poster Award was given to Christian Rathgeb (Hochschule Darmstadt, Germany), Harald Baier (Hochschule Darmstadt, Germany), Christoph Busch (Hochschule Darmstadt, Germany), and Frank Breitinger (University of New Haven, USA) for their paper "Towards Bloom Filter-based Indexing of Iris Biometric Data". Jianqing Zhu (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China), Shengcai Liao (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China), Dong Yi (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China), Zhen Lei (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China), and Stan Z. Li (Chinese Academy of Sciences, China) received the IAPR Best Biometrics Student Paper Award for their work "Multi-label CNN-Based Pedestrian Attribute Learning for Soft Biometrics".

On the last day Yan Shuicheng (National University of Singapore, Singapore) gave a keynote speech on "Deep Learning and Biometrics". Finally, Dr. Gang Hua (Stevens Institute of Technology, USA), winner of the IAPR Young Biometrics Investigator Award, talked about the topic "Unconstrained Face Recognition in Images and Videos". Next ICB will take place in Halmstadt, Sweden 14-17 June 2016.

ISO/IEC JTC1 SC37 Standardisation Meeting in Gjøvik, Norway 22-26 June 2015

The international standardisation committee on Biometrics has met again in Europe. The recent standardisation meeting was hosted by the Norwegian national body and took place in Gjøvik. ISO/IEC JTC1 SC37 is working continuously to improve relevant standards for open biometric applications. The full catalogue with completed standards as well as standards under development is available at:
SC37 has at this meeting released several standards for publication among other the XML based encoding of biometric interchange formats. Moreover 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

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 in the design phase in close cooperation with ISO/IEC SC37/WG3. Moreover several topics for new work items (e.g. stemming from the forensic community) have been discussed by SC37 and are under preparation.

The next working group meetings are scheduled for January 2016 this year to be held in Martigny, Switzerland.

Read more: http://www.standard.no/sc37
8. **Impressum**

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