

West Virginia Biometrics and Identity Management Newsletter

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FBI, WVU Biometrics Partnership Attracts Nationwide Attention

As West Virginia University's biometrics and forensic science program's relationship grows with the FBI, it's drawing more attention nationwide. Biometrics is the development of statistical and mathematical methods applicable to data analysis programs in the biological sciences. The partnership with the FBI has drawn nearly \$1 million in grants for further development of evidence collection technologies and interactive training tools for personnel, according to a press release. "The program benefits the federal agencies in recruiting students who have a biometrical base and knowledge," said Arun Ross, associate professor in the Lane Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering.



<http://www.thedaonline.com/news/fbi-wvu-biometrics-partnership-attracts-nationwide-attention-1.892508#4>

Voice Commerce Launches New Web Based Interface to Provide Easy Access to Voice-Based Authentication

The New API Interface to The VoiceTransact (TM) Trust Centre Network is an Industry First

London - Voice Commerce, the innovative financial services group, today announced the launch of its VoiceTransact(TM) Application Programming Interface (API) that allows organizations to quickly and easily access the company's VoiceTransact(TM) Trust Centres. This allows organizations, such as banks, telecommunications operators and businesses that require identity and verification, with optional payment processing, to evaluate and verify the benefits to their own customers of using voice-signature authentication. The API enables the Voice Transact Services to be integrated into any business process and during a free two week trial, customers can evaluate the time and cost savings that the use of voice-signature based identity authentication through VoiceTransact(TM) can bring.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/voice-commerce-launches-new-web-based-interface-to-provide-easy-access-to-voice-based-authentication-2009-11-06?siteid=nbkh>

Homeland Security Readies Tracking Plan

Program would screen foreigners departing by plane

WASHINGTON - The Department of Homeland Security is finalizing a proposal to collect fingerprints or eye scans from all foreign travelers at US airports as they leave the country, officials said, a costly screening program that airlines have opposed. The plan, which would take effect within two years, would collect fingerprints at airport security checkpoints, departure gates, or terminal kiosks, allowing the government to track when roughly 35 million foreign visitors a year leave the country and who might be overstaying their visas, Homeland Security officials said. The department plans to send the proposal to the White House as soon as next month for review and inclusion in President Obama's next budget.

http://www.boston.com/news/nation/washington/articles/2009/11/09/homeland_security_readies_tracking_plan/

Fingerprint Service Nailed at Post Office

Australia Post has revealed plans to introduce new technology to allow Post Office staff to take fingerprints, biometric scans and digital signatures from customers applying for services such as bank accounts and passports. The new Identification Services Program Project is expected to be adopted at all 4,443 retail Post outlets, but is currently being tested at 25 Australia Post-owned outlets across NSW and Western Australia.

http://www.psnews.com.au/Page_psn1946.html

The Global Innovation Migration

As more U.S. companies send their sophisticated R&D offshore, America must provide worker retraining to maintain its tech leadership

Research and development is increasingly going global, according to a new report by Duke's Offshoring Research Network (ORN). More than half of U.S. companies now have corporate-wide initiatives to outsource innovation activities, up from 22% in 2005, according to the ORN, which has been tracking the growth of outsourcing since 2004. And of those companies already offshoring development, 60% intend to do so more aggressively.

http://www.businessweek.com/technology/content/nov2009/tc2009119_331698.htm

Unisys Research Shows Growing Global Acceptance of Biometrics Among Consumers for Protecting Identities and Personal Information

Bank Card Fraud and ID Theft Remain Top Fears Worldwide Despite Overall Decline in Security Concerns

BLUE BELL, Pa., -- With concerns growing over the incidence of bank card fraud and identity theft, a majority of people globally would accept biometric authentication to verify their identities, according to recent research from Unisys Corporation. Analyzing recent findings from the nine countries covered in the bi-annual Unisys Security Index, Unisys found that consumers remain most concerned about bank card fraud and identity theft -- despite a general decrease in overall concerns about security threats. These two issues have ranked as the top overall consumer concerns globally since Unisys began compiling the Unisys Security Index worldwide in 2007.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/unisys-research-shows-growing-global-acceptance-of-biometrics-among-consumers-for-protecting-identities-and-personal-information-2009-11-10?siteid=nbkh>

ICE: System Flags 111,000 'Criminal Aliens'

Screening jail inmates hailed as a cost-effective tool

Immigration officials announced Thursday that a fingerprint-based system that screens for suspected illegal immigrants in local jails led to the identification of more than 111,000 people classified as "criminal aliens" in its first year. The Secure Communities program, launched in October 2008 at the Harris County Jail, uses biometric technology to check the immigration history of all suspects booked into local lockups. The system is in place in 95 jurisdictions, including Brazoria, Fort Bend, Galveston, Jefferson and Montgomery counties. The Houston Police Department plans to have the system in city jails by the end of the year, city officials said.

<http://www.chron.com/disp/story.mpl/nation/6717357.html>

Improving Security With Face Recognition Technology

A number of U.S. states now use facial recognition technology when issuing drivers licenses. Similar methods are also used to grant access to buildings and to verify the identities of international travelers. Historically, obtaining accurate results with this type of technology has been a time intensive activity. Now, a researcher from the University of Miami College of Engineering and his collaborators have developed ways to make the technology more efficient while improving accuracy.

<http://www.sciencedaily.com/releases/2009/11/091110090858.htm>

International Biometric Group Announces the Availability of the Biometrics Market and Industry Report 2009-2014

International Biometric Group's Biometrics Market and Industry Report 2009-2014 delivers actionable data and exclusive analysis to investors, systems integrators, technology developers, and government organizations. The Report includes detailed profiles of over 15 leading publicly-traded and privately-held biometric vendors. The Report also analyzes the impact of large-scale programs such as US-VISIT, Real ID, and the proposed British ID Card and National Register.

<http://www.tmcnet.com/usubmit/2009/11/11/4474718.htm>

Face Recognition Technology May be Used at Hong Kong Border Checks

Face-recognition technology might be used to screen residents at Hong Kong border checkpoints, Security Secretary Ambrose Lee said Thursday. The wealthy city of 7 million already uses fingerprint checks to allow permanent residents to pass through unmanned checkpoints using ID cards at its airport and land border crossings. Now the city is considering introducing face-recognition technology similar to that being put into use at Beijing's international airport, Lee said in a written answer to legislators.

http://www.monstersandcritics.com/news/business/news/article_1512823.php/Face-recognition-technology-may-be-used-at-Hong-Kong-border-checks

Cogent Systems Announces FBI Certification of Mobile Identification Devices

PASADENA, Calif. - (Business Wire) Cogent Systems (Nasdaq:COGT) today announced that it is the first biometrics vendor to have its handheld mobile identification devices certified as compliant with the FBI's Next Generation Identification (NGI) Initiatives and Integrated Automated Fingerprint Identification System (IAFIS) Image Quality Specifications (IQS). The certification encompasses Cogent's Fusion, Mobile Ident II, and the recently released Mobile Ident III. Testing for compliance with the FBI's biometric specifications was conducted by the Technology Evaluation Standards Test Unit, part of the Biometric Center of Excellence, Criminal Justice Information Services Division.

<http://www.earthtimes.org/articles/show/cogent-systems-announces-fbi-certification-of-mobile-identification-devices.1041656.shtml>

Meeting and Conference Dates

2009 Mid-Atlantic SBIR/STTR Conference

The 2009 Mid-Atlantic SBIR/STTR Conference will bring together federal agencies, entrepreneurs, small companies, large companies, researchers, colleges and universities, venture capitalists and angel investors, federal laboratory and university representatives, as well as experts who provide assistance to or have an interest in doing business with ventures at various maturity levels.

Dates: November 30 – December 2, 2009

Location: Waterfront Place Hotel, Morgantown, WV

<http://www.midatlanticsbir.com/>

The 3rd International Conference on Ethics and Policy of Biometrics and International Data Sharing

In order to continue and expand to those in Asia interested in the international dialogue on biometrics, data sharing, privacy and security issues already started by the two previous conferences held in Brussels (2005) and Washington (2006), the EU funded initiative RISE (Rising pan-European and International Awareness on Biometrics and Security Ethics), will organize the 3rd International Conference on ethics and policies of biometrics in China, on the 4th and 5th of January 2010. This high level event will be hosted by the Biometric Research Centre of the Polytechnic University of Hong Kong, one of the most geographically and strategically attractive locations in Asia.

Dates: January 4-5, 2010

Location: The Hong Kong Polytechnic University, Hong Kong

<http://www.comp.polyu.edu.hk/conference/iceb/>

Winter 2010 Biometrics Summit

Attend the longest running, world renowned forum for advanced identification solutions including...Finger Print Technology, Iris Recognition, Smart Cards, and Vascular Biometrics. There will be over 20 innovative speakers who will share strategies and experiences in implementing biometrics. Register by December 8th to receive a discount.

Dates: February 22-25, 2010

Location: Miami, FL

http://www.aliconferences.com/conf/biometrics_summit_winter10/index.htm

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