

West Virginia Biometrics and Identity Management Newsletter

Issue Date: December 15, 2009

CSC's Identity Management and Biometric Test Lab in Fairmont, WV, Achieves ISO/IEC 17025 Accreditation

FALLS CHURCH, Va., -- CSC announced today that the American Association for Laboratory Accreditation awarded the International Organization for Standardization/International Electrotechnical Commission (ISO/IEC) 17025:2005 accreditation to the company's Test Lab, which is part of the CSC Identity Labs located in Fairmont, W.Va. The Test Lab is the second biometrics test laboratory in the world to achieve this accomplishment and the only one located in a top secret cleared facility.



<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/cscs-identity-management-and-biometric-test-lab-achieves-isoiec-17025-accreditation-2009-12-09?siteid=nbkh>

WVBI Takes Holiday Hiatus

Newsletter to resume in January 2010 — Follow WVBI on Twitter

This WVBI Newsletter will be the last in 2009. It will resume in early January 2010. The staff of the I-79 Development Council and the West Virginia Biometrics Initiative wish you, your families, and co-workers a happy Holiday season and a healthy and prosperous 2010! You can catch up with any breaking WVBI news by following us on Twitter at wvbio.

Unisys Predicts 2010 Yields a Biometrics Boom While Organizations Go on the Offensive to Protect Data

Advances in surveillance systems and continued Trojan attacks also on the horizon
BLUE BELL, Pa., -- Slashed budgets and reduced staffing numbers delayed many security initiatives in 2009, but the vulnerabilities didn't retreat and will only intensify in 2010, Unisys security experts predict.

Looking ahead to 2010, Unisys predicts that government and commercial organizations will take a more proactive approach to security, implementing new measures to verify identity and protect confidential information. Financial institutions and defense agencies will lead the charge, with ports and other organizations quickly following.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/unisys-predicts-2010-yields-a-biometrics-boom-while-organizations-go-on-the-offensive-to-protect-data-2009-12-08?siteid=nbkh>

WVBI Web Site Now Links to NCWV Employment Opportunities

The West Virginia Biometrics Initiative Web site is now listing employment opportunities with biometrics/identity management, technology, and consulting companies doing business in West Virginia. To learn how your company can be linked to our site, contact Bob McLaughlin at (304) 677-9961 or rmclaughlin@i79developmentcouncil.com. This is a great time to "come home to West Virginia" due to the vibrant and expanding technology sector in north central West Virginia (NCWV). Contrary to most parts of the country, many companies in NCWV have the "Help Wanted" sign out. To view job opportunities, go to <http://www.wvbiometrics.org/links/west-virginia-companies-employment-pages/>.

Cross Match Receives Grant to Add Jobs

A Palm Beach Gardens-based technology company plans to use a \$49,700 state grant to add 20 jobs.

Cross Match Technologies, a maker of fingerprint scanners, face scanners and other biometric security systems, will use the money from a state matching grant to train workers in computer and manufacturing technologies, said Thomas Miller, VP of human resources. About half of the new jobs will be in engineering, and half will be in manufacturing, Miller said. The company plans to complete the training during the first half of 2010, and plans to add the jobs over the next two years, he noted.

<http://www.bizjournals.com/southflorida/stories/2009/12/07/daily37.html>

ID Card Scheme Laid Out in Manchester

LONDON—The biometric ID card scheme reaches another stage this month with residents of Manchester being invited to register, despite public fears of security, cost and coercion. Only around 1,500 of a possible 1.7 million people in Manchester have asked for application forms, according to the UK Press Association.

The intended nationwide tagging index began in November last year with the compulsory photographing and finger-printing of foreign nationals who are students or who are here to marry residents.

<http://www.theepochtimes.com/n2/content/view/26218/>

Grant Brings Biometric Solution to a Massachusetts Sheriff

The sheriff of Barnstable County, Mass., James Cummings, has announced that he has received a four-in-one biometric system to help track criminals and missing persons as well as connect the department's data with a number of national databases. The new system was able to be purchased due to a \$10,000 grant from the National Sheriff's Association and will also benefit neighboring Plymouth County Sheriff's Department as well as the Brockton Police Department.

<http://www.thirdfactor.com/2009/12/07/grant-brings-biometric-solution-to-a-massachusetts-sheriff>

Government to Collect Biometrics from Asylum Seekers

Scheme labelled "dangerous".

A scheme to collect biometrics data from people seeking asylum in Australia will be introduced to crack down on identity fraud in both Sydney and Melbourne.

The scheme will see protection visa applicants asked to voluntarily provide a digital facial image and a scan of their fingerprints.

<http://www.securecomputing.net.au/News/162270.government-to-collect-biometrics-from-asylum-seekers.aspx>

Woman Uses Altered Finger Tips to Beat Security

A Chinese woman arrested in Japan for illegal entry had altered her fingerprints through surgery to fool a biometric security system at the airport, media reports said today. Tokyo police confirmed they had arrested Lin Rong, 27, for entering Japan with a fake passport a year ago and then staying on illegally. Local media said Lin was previously deported to China in 2007 for overstaying, but managed to sneak back into Japan last year after surgery to change the skin on her thumbs and index fingers.

<http://www.heraldsun.com.au/news/breaking-news/woman-uses-altered-finger-tips-to-beat-security/story-e6frf7jx-1225807874471>

Clemson Facial Recognition Research Advances

CLEMSON – It often takes a pristine look at the iris to pass through some security systems. Today with the help of the Clemson University Image and Video Analysis Lab, systems may just need a wrinkle to verify identity.

The lab is working with a \$2 million grant from the Office of the Director of National Intelligence and has joined with other universities to create the Center of Academic Studies in the Identification Sciences (CASIS). The aim of the center is to strengthen biometric identification, the measurement of physical characteristics to confirm a person's identity.

http://www.clemson.edu/media-relations/article.php?article_id=2137

MKs Pass Controversial Bill to Set Up Biometric Database

The Knesset passed a bill Monday to establish a biometric database that might require all Israelis to have a chip installed in their ID cards and passports with their fingerprints and facial scans.

The bill passed by a large majority in second and third readings following a prolonged debate and after its original version had been modified.

The new law postpones the controversial database for two years, during which a partial database will be set up to give the state time to examine ways of safeguarding the information.

<http://www.haaretz.com/hasen/spages/1133498.html>

Biometric System to be Installed on Pak Afghan Border

KARACHI: We have planned to install biometric at Pakistan Afghanistan border, Federal Interior Minister Rehman Malik told media after holding meeting with Ulema Monday.

Pakistan has a very vast border with Afghanistan and it is very difficult to monitor the border of 2200 km. The terrorists are getting weapons from Afghanistan. We have also informed the leadership of Afghanistan regarding our reservations. We want to stop the terrorists movement on Pakistan Afghanistan border, he added.

http://www.samaa.tv/News15194-Biometric_system_to_be_installed_on_Pak_Afghan_border.aspx

Nigeria: Kidnapping - 'Biometric Technology Will Improve Security'

Abuja — The Federal Government and major stakeholders in national security have been advised to embrace biometric security technology, to checkmate kidnapping in some parts of the country, which has further exacerbated the already precarious security situation across the country.

Speaking to reporters in Abuja, weekend, Managing Director and Chief Executive of Tagged Technologies Limited, an indigenous high-tech firm, Mr. Daniel Omofoman, said all relevant agencies, private companies and individuals must come to terms with the challenging security demands of the 21st century by not only being security conscious, but adopting equally dynamic and sophisticated technology required to counter modern day crimes.

<http://allafrica.com/stories/200912071250.html>

Teachers Came to Colleges, Stayed Away from Classes

NEW DELHI: Delhi University teachers stayed away from classes on Monday in response to a strike called by DU Teachers' Association (DUTA) against "stifling of academic freedom". A few days back, DU had proposed to implement a biometric attendance system for its teacher and DUTA was protesting the move.

<http://timesofindia.indiatimes.com/city/delhi/Teachers-came-to-colleges-stayed-away-from-classes/articleshow/5312554.cms>

Innovatrics Enables Biometric Passport System For Ghana

Bratislava, Slovakia – Innovatrics, leveraging their market-proven and industry-leading biometric analysis and fingerprinting system, today announces how their solution has enabled the government of Ghana to effectively control entry and exit through the country via a biometric passport.

This new biometric passport, available in late 2009, will enable the country to meet the International Civil Aviation Organisation's (ICAO) deadline for member states to provide their nationals with such a document to avoid being denied entry into member countries of ICAO. By doing so, Ghana is acknowledging the importance of international identity programs and the role that technology plays in enabling them.

<http://www.prlog.org/10443409-innovatrics-enables-biometric-passport-system-for-ghana.html>

Patent Reveals Biometric Possibilities for PS3 Remote

In a recent patent application from technology developer Sony, the specifications for a new handheld controller for their Playstation 3 video game console shows a number of new potential capabilities, according to a GamePro article.

Among the newly designed capabilities is an embedded thumb print scanner that would utilize a player's biometric data to either authenticate their identity or enhance game input. Other capabilities of the controller include various attachments, embedded speaker and microphone, embedded USB ports, various colored lights to communicate with the player and motion reading capability.

<http://www.thirdfactor.com/2009/12/09/patent-reveals-biometric-possibilities-for-ps3-remote>

Mississippi Rolls out Driver License Kiosks

L-1 Identity Solutions Inc. has introduced new automated kiosks for processing driver's license renewals and replacements. With more than half of all license transactions relating to replacements and renewals, the self-service kiosks are designed to streamline Department of Motor Vehicle (DMV) operations and offer the public a faster and more convenient alternative to waiting in line for agents.

The first two L-1 kiosks will be made available to the public at Mississippi Department of Public Safety (DPS) headquarters in Jackson, Miss. Six additional kiosks will roll out by the end of the month across state public safety offices with additional kiosks expected to be installed in 2010.

<http://www.secureidnews.com/2009/12/11/mississippi-rolls-out-driver-license-kiosks>

Identity Documents Grow Twice More Expensive

The price of the Bulgarians' identity documents (ID cards, passports and driver's licences) will double as of the beginning of March. The reason is that the new IDs will contain biometric data. Free photo service at the police department will be a kind of compensation for the hike. Up to now, the issue of new IDs stood at 10 levs (1euro=1.95 levs) and the term was 30 days. From March on the price will go up and the service will cost 50 levs.

<http://paper.standartnews.com/en/article.php?d=2009-12-12&article=31058>

Meeting and Conference Dates

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

West Virginia Biometrics Initiative
714 Venture Drive # 193
Morgantown, WV 26508-7306
www.wvbiometrics.org

Questions or comments, please email us at:
mdkirkpatrick@wvbiometrics.org



This newsletter brought to you by the I-79 Development Council.