

West Virginia Biometrics and Identity Management Newsletter

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Clarkson University Awarded NSF Planning Grant for Center Site

CITeR, the Center for Identification Technology Research may have a new site at Clarkson University thanks to a grant the university has received from the National Science Foundation. The Industry University Cooperative Research Center dedicated to the research human biometric recognition and credibility assessment was founded at West Virginia University and has a second site at the University of Arizona. Clarkson University will diversify CITeR's portfolio with research focusing on non-ideal identification, anomaly detection, complex systems and networks, computational intelligence, cyber security, sensor fusion, and cyber-physical systems.



<http://www.citer.wvu.edu/r/download/55387>

Experts to Discuss Acceptance of Biometrics in Immigration Services and Identity Management in New Zealand - New Technology Demonstrations

Sydney – In October 2009, the new Immigration Act passed into law in New Zealand. According to the Immigration Minister, Jonathan Coleman, it will enhance border security and improve the efficiency of immigration services. “Key aspects of the new Act include the ability to use biometrics, a new refugee and protection system, a single independent appeals tribunal and a universal visa system.” Over 50 experts from government and industry will gather at Holiday Inn Hotel in Wellington for the 6th Biometrics Institute New Zealand Conference & Exhibition on the 26 March 2010 to discuss biometrics in identity management and immigration services and to see the latest developments in biometrics technology. The event is organized by the independent Biometrics Institute.

<http://www.findbiometrics.com/industry-news/i/7781/>

Cogent Systems Announces Contract with the United Kingdom National Policing Improvement Agency

Initial Contract Valued at Approximately \$25 Million

PASADENA, Calif. -- Cogent Systems today announced that it has been selected as the sole winner for all six components of the U.K. National MobileID service (formerly known as Mobile Identification at Scene or MIDAS). This award followed a rigorous year long competitive process conducted by NPIA, involving multiple vendors to ensure that the best solution, the best devices, and the most qualified vendor would bring the best value to the UK police forces. The initial award is valued at approximately \$25 million over a three year term through April 2013, with the option of two, one year extensions.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/cogent-systems-announces-contract-with-the-united-kingdom-national-policing-improvement-agency-2010-02-25?siteid=nbkh>

Digital Dining to Unveil New Biometric POS Solution

The latest version of Digital Dining's restaurant point-of-sale software now features "U.are.U" fingerprint biometrics technology from DigitalPersona, a provider of fingerprint identity and authentication solutions. The POS solution will be unveiled at the Digital Dining National Dealer Conference in Austin, Texas.

DigitalPersona U.are.U fingerprint biometrics have become a standard part of Digital Dining's POS solutions. In fact, 80 percent of Digital Dining's restaurant and franchise customers use U.are.U fingerprint readers with Digital Dining POS software.

<http://www.fastcasual.com/article.php?id=17365&na=1&s=2>

Maselli Bill Would Stop Welfare Fraud in its Tracks

Thanks to technology meant to curb welfare fraud, Connecticut has saved \$9.4 million. If Rhode Island can realize even a fraction of that, Senator Christopher Maselli says his efforts will be worthwhile.

"I think with the savings we've seen in other states, we'd be foolish to say it only exists in those other states and it doesn't exist in Rhode Island," said Maselli (D-Dist. 25, Johnston).

"It's tough budgetary times, we need to look at everything that's going to save us money." On Tuesday, Maselli introduced legislation that would require the use of fingerprint imaging technology by the Department of Human Services in order to fight fraud and abuse of the welfare system.

http://www.johnstonsunrise.net/view/full_story/6409807/

Imprivata Launches Healthcare Division

With Over 500 Hospitals and 1 Million Healthcare Users, Imprivata Is the Proven Leader in Helping Hospitals Bridge the Gap Between Security and Clinician Productivity

LEXINGTON, MA. -- Imprivata(R), Inc., the company that simplifies and secures user access, today announced the launch of its Global Healthcare Division. The new division is built upon the company's successful track record of working with more than 500 hospitals in 12 countries, one million healthcare users and strategic relationships with leading HIS vendors. The new division reinforces Imprivata's commitment to help hospitals make patient data easily accessible throughout clinical workflows, enforce patient privacy and deploy transparent security. Imprivata helps chief medical officers make patient data easily accessible throughout clinical workflows. Physicians, nurses and other clinicians are empowered through fast EMR access. Chief information officers and privacy officers can enforce stringent patient privacy policies and information security professionals can deploy transparent security across their healthcare information systems.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/imprivata-launches-healthcare-division-2010-02-22?siteid=nbkh>

Biometric Visa Checks to Cost \$69 Million

Targeted at terrorist hotspots.

Citizens of "around ten countries" will have to submit fingerprint and facial images to apply for electronic visas to enter Australia under a \$69 million plan revealed today. The measure was announced by Prime Minister Kevin Rudd as he unveiled the overdue counter-terrorism white paper. Foreign minister Stephen Smith declined to reveal which countries would be subject to the tough new visa processing arrangements. "We expect the rollout to be in about 10 countries," he said.

<http://www.securecomputing.net.au/News/167883,biometric-visa-checks-to-cost-69-million.aspx>

Biometric Passports – How Will Spies Cope?

Is the age of forged passports and bogus aliases drawing to a close?

The unprecedented video images streaming out of Dubai in recent days showing what police in the Gulf emirate say is a professional hit squad at work raise new and profound questions about the future of covert operations. In a world dominated by biometric identification, increasingly interconnected border control centers, and closed circuit television surveillance, will intelligence agents be able to travel under bogus aliases and carry missions deemed vital for the national security of their countries?

“As technology improves, those who fight terrorism [on a covert level] will see a drop in their abilities,” Rami Igra, a former senior Mossad official, said this week.

<http://www.jpost.com/Features/FrontLines/Article.aspx?id=169123>

FedExField Enhances Security and Event Operations with Biometrics-based Access Control for Employees, Contractors and Vendors

Telos ID Delivers Secure Verification and Access Control System

ASHBURN, Va.-- Telos Identity Management Solutions, LLC (Telos(TM) ID) has delivered the MobileAssure Access Control (MAAC) system to credential and verify the identities of employees and contractors at FedExField, home of the Washington Redskins. Built using technologies developed to meet the rigorous security requirements of the Federal government and DoD, MAAC is a versatile system that leverages a broad range of biometrics devices, and integrates with multiple HR management, scheduling and payroll systems.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/fedexfield-enhances-security>

Is there a Flaw in Biometrics if Authentication Data is Hacked?

Questions have been raised about the feasibility of biometrics as an authentication method if the data was hacked. LogLogic CEO Guy Churchward claimed that while technologically a great idea and as a two-factor authentication it is good, the problem with biometrics is in the fact that you cannot change your fingerprint like you can with a password. He said: “The issue I have is biometrics are unique to you but once you have your fingerprint scanned it will give a unique data sequence which if compromised is not exactly something you can change.

<http://www.scmagazineuk.com/is-there-a-flaw-in-biometrics-if-authentication-data-is-hacked/article/164338/>

Elvis Bypasses Biometric Border Control

The world of biometric security managed to get all shook up when a couple of “ethical hackers” managed to get through Amsterdam airport’s border patrol with a passport under the name of Elvis Presley, complete with the hip-shaker’s picture. Slipping the doctored document through an automated passport scanner the Double Trouble duo managed to pull the wool over Schiphol airport’s security using a fake biometric chip. Adam Laurie and Jeroen Van Beek say they do what they do in order to expose security flaws in order to push governments to fix them, before International passport faking scams can occur. Oh, oops, cough, Dubai. Van Beek told CNN that making the faked chip was not just easy, but cheap too, costing less than \$100 in “off the shelf equipment.” “What we did for that chip is create passport content for Elvis Presley and put it on a chip and sign it with our own key for a non-existent country. And a device that was used to read chips didn't check the country's signatures.”

<http://www.tgdaily.com/security-brief/48573-elvis-bypasses-biometric-border-control#close>

ID Card Scheme Ditches Key Database

The Identity and Passport Service (IPS) has decided to drop a key existing part of the National Identity Scheme (NIS) and has decided to build something new instead, according to Computer Weekly.

A government source has told Computer Weekly that the original plan to use an existing Department for Work and Pensions (DWP) database has been dropped. The Customer Information System (CIS) database was too complex and not considered secure enough. In December 2006, the IPS said it would spread the data required for the NIS across three systems involving national insurance, asylum applications and passports. But now it appears the IPS believes that it is cheaper and easier to drop the CIS and build their own system.

http://www.publicservice.co.uk/news_story.asp?id=12261

Migrants Trick E-Verify

Two years after Arizona began requiring all employers to use a federal online program to ensure a legal workforce, a new study indicates that illegal workers are slipping through the system more than half of the time by using stolen identities. Fifty-four percent of the illegal workers whose names were run through the program nationwide were wrongly found to be authorized to work, according to the report by Westat, a Maryland research company hired by the U.S. Department of Homeland Security to evaluate the system, known as E-Verify. The system's **high inaccuracy rate** for illegal workers using stolen identities has greatly alarmed business groups in Arizona. The state's 2008 employer-sanctions law mandates that employers use E-Verify and gives authorities the power to close down businesses found to be knowingly hiring illegal workers.

<http://www.azcentral.com/arizonarepublic/news/articles/2010/02/26/20100226everify0226.html>

Government of Canada Enhances Air Traveller Security

OTTAWA, ONTARIO -- Canada's Transport Minister John Baird today announced new dedicated funds that will help to strengthen Canada's air transportation system against terrorist attacks, enhance the protection of air travellers and better align the aviation system with international security requirements. The Government of Canada will provide \$1.5 billion over five years to the Canadian Air Transport Security Authority (CATSA) to enhance Canadian aviation security, through Canada's Air Travellers Security Charge (ATSC). "The terrorist attack that took place just two months ago today was a stark reminder for governments to remain vigilant about aviation security," said Baird. "Our government is unwavering in our determination to keep all Canadians safe and secure from terrorism, and we are taking the necessary measures to meet this goal."

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/government-of-canada-enhances-air-traveller-security-2010-02-25?siteid=nbkh>

Smart Cards to Help NSSF Tame Graft and Curb Losses

A leading global information technology services provider has relaunched an ambitious national social security fund solution in Africa that will enable the institutions to uniquely identify their members.

Individual countries that will acquire the new technology, known as members' identification management system and launched by Techno Brain Ltd, will use automated fingerprint identification system to trace its members. The fingerprints are then used to generate a unique identification number, called NSSF number.

<http://www.theeastafrican.co.ke/business/-/2560/866108/-/4dol9iz/-/>

Sheriff's Offices Using Eye Scanners to Stop Release Mistakes

DES MOINES, Iowa — A Baltimore inmate who bluffed his way out of prison probably wouldn't have tricked guards if they had eye-scanners such as those being installed at dozens of jails nationwide. The federal government is paying for the scanners as part of an effort to build a nearly foolproof identification system to put a stop to such escapes. Taylor was serving three life sentences for shooting his ex-girlfriend and her two teenage daughters. He impersonated his cellmate Thursday and was released. He was arrested the following day in West Virginia.

<http://www.google.com/hostednews/ap/article/ALeqM5jK9gdx6fpLmqLb-7Gle0JAR-5LUAD9E4DHUG0>

Questions of 'Creepiness' Arise with Facial Recognition Apps

Comverse will be releasing an app in which it married social marketing with facial recognition software to create what it is billing as the first ever socially augmented reality tool. It has also prompted questions about privacy and appropriateness - questions that are becoming more relevant as this technology is more widely deployed in apps. The app takes advantage of Face.com's facial recognition algorithms and its database of images to deliver its friend recognition technology - technology that links a particular face with an appropriate profile.

<http://www.marketingvox.com/questions-of-creepiness-arise-with-facial-recognition-apps-046273/>

Biometrics Play Important Role in Afghanistan

The Biometric Automated Toolset (BAT) is basically a laptop computer with separate plug-in units that record mug shots, fingerprints and retinal characteristics. Personal data -- such as name, date of birth, home village, father's and grandfather's names -- are entered into the laptop with the biometric data and transmitted to the United States, where the information is permanently entered into a database and cross-checked against previously entered files. Within that database are fingerprints taken from previously detained individuals or from seized arms and munitions caches and improvised explosive devices. Troops not carrying a BAT system use a HIIDE (Handheld Interagency Identity Detection Equipment) unit which resembles a camera. A lens captures retinal details while fingerprints are obtained through the use of a top-mounted panel on the device. Troops have to take personal details with pen and paper, but these are later entered into the BAT computer along with the captured images.

<http://www.humanevents.com/article.php?id=35735>

Banks in India Roll Out Biometric ATMs for Rural, Unbanked Areas

India-based mydigitalfc.com reports that the Reserve Bank of India has announced plans to roll out new guidelines on the business correspondent model that would facilitate greater spread of banking services to remote areas. Among the new guidelines, which aim to help financial institutions in the country reach unbanked and under banked populations are stipulations governing the use of biometrics at ATMs. Punjab National Bank, in coordination with RBI's announcement, has launched a biometric ATM at Ranikhera village. The biometric feature is expected to offer physical identification, such as impression of finger or the palm, at the ATM.

<http://atmmarketplace.com/article.php?id=11732&na=1>

Facial recognition: Coming to a Mobile Phone Near You?

Many users of Facebook, Myspace and other social networking sites are already worried about prospective employers who troll social networking sites for behavior which can disqualify potential employees. Now those users have a new and more intrusive user to worry about, perfect strangers. An invasive new mobile-phone software program might make it possible for someone to snap your picture with their camera phone and use facial recognition to discover your identity in the blink of the lens eye.

<http://www.examiner.com/x-39190-NY-Social-Networking-Examiner-y2010m2d23-Facial-recognition-coming-to-a-mobile-phone-near-your>

Get tweets from WVBI

Become a follower of wvbio on Twitter and stay up to date with the latest tweets from West Virginia Biometrics Initiative executive director Mike Kirkpatrick.

<http://twitter.com./wvbio>

Meeting and Conference Dates

WVBI to Host Forum with FBI Assistant Director on March 2nd

The West Virginia Biometrics Initiative will host a forum with FBI Assistant Director Daniel D. Roberts on March 2, 2010, at 3pm at the I-79 Technology Park Research Center auditorium, 1000 Galliher Drive, Fairmont, WV. Roberts leads the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division in Clarks-burg, WV, and will be providing an update on CJIS activities, as well as his thoughts on the future directions of biometrics and identity management. No reservations are required. Contact WVBI Executive Director Mike Kirkpatrick at (304) 594-9004 or mdkirkpatrick@wvbiometrics.org to have any questions answered.

International Biometrics Conference to Meet at NIST March 2-4

The "International Biometric Performance Conference (IBPC): Performance, Evaluation and Specification of Biometric Technologies" will bring together biometric users, technology providers, integrators and evaluators. The conference aims to identify how the accumulated experience of the past decade (research, evaluation, deployment, outcomes) can be leveraged to direct future biometrics-based research and applications. The conference will address the required properties of core algorithms used to determine if two sets of biometric data, such as fingerprints or voice prints, belong to the same individual. Another goal is to identify novel evaluation methodologies and recent trends in testing and determine what performance criteria are most relevant in the context of the contemporary and emerging marketplaces.

Dates: March 2-4, 2010

Location: Gaithersburg, Md.

http://7thspace.com/headlines/335378/international_biometrics_conference

3rd Annual Biometrics for National Security and Defense

Biometrics for national security and defense has come a long way in the last few years with leaps of new technological innovation, but more advancements in multi-modal and ruggedized equipment are still needed to improve database accuracy. Additionally, there is a great demand for advanced biometric solutions by the White House, DoD, and DHS initiatives such as HSPD 24, HSPD 12, and US-VISIT.

IDGA's 3rd Annual Biometrics for National Security and Defense is your opportunity to meet with key decision-makers and technology experts on what the government's next steps are in securing our warfighters, our government employees, and our homeland for the years to come.

Dates: March 15-17, 2010

Location: Washington, DC

<http://www.biometricsevent.com/Event.aspx>

ISC WEST

Join end-users of security, system integrators, dealers/installers and manufacturers from around the world at the one event that connects the entire security industry. ISC West 2010 is your best resource to discover the newest products from leading manufacturers, training and education tailored specifically to your needs, and unlimited networking opportunities. When it comes to security, ISC West is everything you need in a single event. As the only security event to be recognized in 2009 as one of the Fastest 50 Growing Tradeshows in North America, ISC West is the most valuable and efficient way to reach the entire security market and position your business for growth in 2010.

Dates: March 23-25, 2010

Location: Las Vegas, NV

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

Biometric Technology for Human Identification Conference

Conference chairs include: B. V. K. Vijaya Kumar, Carnegie Mellon Univ., Salil Prabhakar, DigitalPersona Inc., and Arun A. Ross, West Virginia Univ.. Discussions on topics including face analysis, fingerprint analysis, large-scale system security and privacy, statistical modeling and evaluation, iris and emerging biometrics, soft biometrics and forensics, multimodal biometrics, and face and ear analysis. Register by March 19th to receive a discount.

Dates: April 5-6, 2010

Location: Orlando, FL

<http://spie.org/app/program/index.cfm>

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