

West Virginia Biometrics and Identity Management Newsletter

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Lockheed Martin Team Begins Development on Second Phase of FBI's Next Generation Identification Program

ROCKVILLE, Md.-- The Lockheed Martin-led Next Generation Identification (NGI) team is beginning to fully develop and deploy a new NGI system capability that transforms how law enforcement officials search an FBI wanted persons database. Development efforts began after a successful Critical Design Review (CDR) for the system's second phase, also known as Increment 2: Repository for Individuals of Special Concern (RISC). The RISC fingerprint database, which is managed by the FBI's Criminal Justice Information Services (CJIS) Division, includes Wanted Persons, Known or Appropriately Suspected Terrorists, Sex Offenders Registry subjects, and other persons of special interest.



<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/lockheed-martin-team-begins-development-on-second-phase-of-fbis-next-generation-identification-program-2010-05-13?siteid=nbkh>

Biometric Podcast by the Economist Intelligence Unit

This is an Economist Intelligence Unit podcast on biometrics, sponsored by Unisys. The interviewee, Arun Ross, Ph.D., is an associate professor in the Lane Department of Computer Science and Electrical Engineering at West Virginia University. He joined the faculty in 2004, and has quickly risen to a position of national leadership in the field of biometrics. Topics of discussion include how identity verification technology such as fingerprint and iris scans protect a person's identity and physical security, versus what's typically being used today, what are the drawbacks of this technology, and other related topics.

<http://www.unisys.com/unisys/ri/podcasts/detail.jsp?id=1120000970001610085>

Cogent Revives Registered Traveler Program For Airports

Pasadena-based Cogent, a maker of biometrics devices and fingerprint readers, is behind a launch of a new, Registered Traveler (RT) program at the Indianapolis International Airport (IND), being launched by new company iQueue. iQueue, which is a joint venture of Cogent, ARINC, FLO Corporation, and International RAM, said it has been selected to provide expedited access to airport screening checkpoints. The Registered Traveler program is the first since Verified Identity Pass (CLEAR) shut down its operations last June. According to Cogent, iQueue members will use its equipment and services to verify biometric data of travelers, allowing them to speed through airport checkpoints. The Registered Traveler program, which was best known to local travelers through CLEAR lines at LAX, San Diego, and other airports, has been defunct since Verified Identity Pass shut down last year. COgent said it will cost \$149 for an annual membership to iQueue, which will also include preferred parking, airport club access, and discounts to their services. The firm did not say when it plans to roll out service beyond Indiana.

http://www.socaltech.com/cogent_revives_registered_traveler_program_for_airports/s-0028479.html

Waste Toner Recycled into Fingerprint Powder

Angus Carnie of 300 Recycling recently noted that he has had a fantastic response from all over the world for his solution to reuse toner powder as forensic fingerprint powder. Printer and photocopier cartridges have been reused or broken down to recover the plastic and metal components; however, the waste toner powder presented a problem due to its complicated composition. Carnie eventually discovered that it made an excellent core material for print powders.

"Ironically, one of the other big issues was what to do with the different colors of toner, but I found that they were ideal for identifying finger prints on dark surfaces such as car dashboards."

http://www.forensicmag.com/News_Articles.asp?pid=892

ID card contract cancellation could be costly

The new government's plans to scrap the National Identity Scheme, biometric passports and ContactPoint could be expensive if they involve prematurely cancelling contracts.

Vendors including IBM, CSC, Thales and Capgemini hold existing contracts relating to programmes like the National Identity Register (NIR), the next generation of biometric passports and the ContactPoint children's database. All are set to be cancelled by the new coalition government. Capgemini hosts ContactPoint for the Department for Education (formerly the Department for Children, Families and Schools) under a £40m contract. A spokesperson for the provider told GC that it "remains unclear" what will happen with the deal, which runs until 2014, as talks with the new government have not yet taken place. "We are open to whatever they want to discuss, whether that means managing a switch-off or not," the spokesperson added.

<http://www.zdnet.co.uk/news/regulation/2010/05/14/id-card-contract-cancellation-could-be-costly-40088937/>

NEC Establishes Biometrics Excellence Center in India

NEC recently announced that it has established a "NEC Biometrics Excellence Center" in Bangalore, India. The center has been established by NEC with an aim to accelerate the expansion of its global multimodal identification solutions and integrated security solutions business. The company offers expertise in biometrics matching technologies. Since the 1970s, NEC has been conducting research in the field, and its superiority in the field has been proven by several accuracy tests conducted by the National Institute of Standards and Technology in the U.S. NEC has its clients spread over more than 30 countries throughout the world. It has developed over 200 biometrics solutions, which are used by broad range of agencies worldwide. The NEC solutions are used by both government and private agencies in law enforcement, border control, civil identification and national election systems that require large scale, accurate and rapid biometrics matching.

<http://outbound-call-center.tmcnet.com/topics/outbound-call-center/articles/85333-nec-establishes-biometrics-excellence-center-india.htm>

Nana Akomea: Let's be bold towards biometric voting by 2012

Member of Parliament for Okaikoi South, Nana Akomea has urged the Electoral Commission to team up with the government to implement biometric voting by 2012. According to him, going biometric would improve the conduct of elections in the country. Nana Akomea was speaking on *Metro TV's Good Morning Ghana* programme Friday when he stated that the biometric system of voting has been proven to reduce electoral fraud and agitation from suspicion that usually characterized elections. The biometric voting system employs biometrics in order to avoid multiple voting and enhances the accuracy and speed of the voting process. It uses thumb impressions for voter identification.

<http://news.myjoyonline.com/politics/201005/46179.asp>

Biometric cash machine lands in Europe

A Polish bank has become the first in Europe to offer the use of biometrics instead of PINs at cash machines. Customers of BPS visiting one of its ATM in Warsaw have the option of using placing their fingerprints on readers, instead inputting a four digit code, to authorize withdrawals or other transactions following the introduction of new technology this week. The system is based on the recognition of the pattern of veins in an enrolled customer's finger, a form of biometric technology developed by Hitachi. The technology is already widely used in Japan but new to Europe. Customers are still issued with the same debit or credit card and it's only the authorization method that changes - a pre-registered fingerprint is offered as alternative to a memorized four-digit PIN.

http://www.theregister.co.uk/2010/05/12/biometric_atm/

Scarborough school defends its new system

SCALBY school has defended its decision to introduce controversial biometric equipment despite fears it could damage pupils' freedom. The school has brought in a cashless catering system and library-based programme that function by reading students' fingerprints. However, the introduction of such facilities - which have been adapted by hundreds of schools across the country - has brought strong criticism from the Association of Teachers, who have described it as abusing pupils' liberties and creating a stealth database. But Scalby School headteacher Paul Tarn allayed fears over the new technology and said it was pivotal in providing student's greater freedom, whilst allowing parent's more control.

<http://www.scarborougheveningnews.co.uk/news/Scarborough-school-defends-its-new.6245805.jp>

Pentagon shooting a 'wake up call'

ARLINGTON, Va. -- On Saturday April 9, 2010, a little more than a month after a lone gunman was killed in a hail of bullets outside the entrance to the Pentagon, a tense situation unfolded in the exact same location. "We had an individual drive up from Richmond, Va., and he attempted to enter the Pentagon. He was intercepted," said Pentagon Force Protection Director Steven Calvery. "The man came to the pre-screening area, (and) said he had an appointment with a fictitious admiral. So we interviewed him, got a consent search of his car. He had a loaded 9-millimeter pistol." "It wasn't a violent attempt to enter," says Calvery. But, that, along with the March 4 shooting that left John Patrick Bedell, 36, dead, confirmed what Calvery, a former Special Agent in the Secret Service, had suspected would happen.

<http://www.wtop.com/?nid=25&sid=1956201>

Market Opportunities on Biometric Payments

As I stated in my last blog I was going to elaborate a bit more on the market opportunities of Biometric Payments these days. Through a couple of recent examples I hope to give you a better idea on how and where Biometric Payments can be a success and what the pitfalls currently are in a business case on Biometric Payments. Last time I gave the example of South Africa and Colombia where biometrics are used to help illiterate people to make transactions and to make it possible for them to better participate in the daily life. In Colombia biometrics in payments was used to reduce cash in the coffee beans business many farmer don't know how to write their PIN-code so instead to a code they just use fingerprints. In South Africa however, biometrics seems to be just as common as fish and chips in England. And in that sense it is for them also a facilitator for a better customer service without scaring them to interrupt their privacy. Another developing country where they are testing on biometric payments is Nepal, the argument that pushed the project was the illiterate population as well. Once again it is customer service as the main trigger. In these examples the biometric data are used as an authentication mechanism rather than an identifier.

<http://www.finextra.com/community/fullblog.aspx?id=4070>

Biometrics, chips coming to Qld driver licenses

Biometric imaging, holograms and computer chips feature in driver licenses that will be rolled out in Queensland late this year. The smartcards will be trialed in August by staff at the Department of Transport and Main Roads, before being introduced in the city of Toowoomba. They will then be rolled out to transport customer service centers, police stations and rural Government offices throughout 2011, replacing laminated licenses that have been in use for more than 20 years. Produced by plastic card manufacturer Placard, the cards integrate facial recognition technology from Unisys and Dutch digital security company Gemalto's electronic driving license solution, Sealys. Each card stores a 16 point digital image of the licensee's face on an embedded computer chip that also stores other personal information and a PIN. The image is also stored centrally by the Department of Transport and Main Roads, and used for identity verification when a license is renewed.

http://www.itnews.com.au/News/174501_biometrics-chips-coming-to-qld-driver-licenses.aspx

Test of Biometric Exit Procedures at U.S. Airport

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) tested the collection of biometrics from non U.S. citizens leaving the United States at two airports this summer. Adding biometrics to the current paper based system of recording departures has been a long term objective of DHS because it will give the United States a faster, more accurate way to determine whether non U.S. citizens have departed or remained in the country illegally. DHS's US-VISIT program began collecting biometrics-digital fingerprints and a photograph-from non U.S. citizens applying for visas and arriving at U.S. ports of entry in 2004. US-VISIT has been simultaneously working to create an automated biometric exit capability. These tests are a key step forward on this front.

<http://www.ftnnews.com/content/view/9369/27/>

Biometrics: The road ahead

As India embarks towards undertaking one of the largest citizen mapping and identification initiatives in the world, the issue of using the right blend of technologies will hold the key to its success. But beyond the way multiple technologies will seamlessly interact with databases, it is critical that for the end beneficiaries the technology translates into something which is user friendly yet tamper-proof. Application of biometric solutions makes immense sense in a country like India struggling with the problem of maintaining homeland security. For decades, many highly secure environments have used biometric technology for entry access at airports, borders etc. There have been various challenges in identity management like ID duplication. Such unproven identities are high in numbers, especially in case of the poor populous and they are the ones that are downtrodden in the society.

http://www.cxotoday.com/Tech_Insight/IT/ITeS/Security_&_Compliance/Biometrics_The_road_ahead/551-111111-22078.html

American Bar Association and RightSignature Bring Electronic Signatures to Law Firms

Santa Barbara, CA - RightSignature, the innovative software-as-a-service (SAAS) for getting documents signed online, today announced a marketing alliance with the American Bar Association, the national voice of the legal profession and the largest voluntary professional membership organization in the world. With this alliance, the ABA will introduce the RightSignature electronic signature solution to its 400,000 members through a comprehensive marketing program. RightSignature will be featured in the ABA TechEZ Technology Marketplace, which provides the resources for legal professionals to make intelligent choices about technology.

<http://www.findbiometrics.com/industry-news/i/8002/>

Meeting and Conference Dates

CITeR Spring 2010 Meeting

CITeR is a National Science Foundation (NSF) Industry/University Cooperative Research Center (IUCRC). Its mission to advance identification technology is strongly focused in the areas of biometric systems and credibility assessment. Our portfolio of activities achieve this mission through cross-cutting research of emerging enabling technologies, interdisciplinary training of scientists and engineers, and facilitation of technology transfer to the private and government sectors through its affiliates.

Dates: May 17-19, 2010

Location: Skaneateles, New York

http://www.citer.wvu.edu/spring_2010_meeting

Free May Technology Professional Development Seminar (Lunch Provided)

The WVHTC Foundation Affiliate Leadership Council (ALC) is sponsoring a free Technology Professional Development Series. The series is designed to provide a forum where information technology professionals can learn about new and cutting-edge technologies from IT Industry leaders. It will provide an opportunity for technical personnel to get a first-hand look at some of the latest and greatest technologies. We have designed this as a lunch and learn series where technology professionals can join us for lunch and learn about exciting new technologies. The ALC is working to bring technology seminars into the I-79 Technology Park in areas such as High Performance Computing, Data Storage, Mobile Devices, and many others.

Dates: May 18, 2010

Location: I-79 Technology Park Research Center
Conference Room #232
1000 Galliher Drive
Fairmont, WV 26554

<http://registration.wvhtf.org/Registration/Entry.aspx?EventID=7>

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