

West Virginia Biometrics and Identity Management Newsletter

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CITeR Impact Report 2010 - A compendium of research highlights

The 2010 Edition of CITeR IMPACT highlights 9 research threads within the over 80 research projects cooperatively funded by affiliates of the Center for Identification Technology Research (CITeR) as part of the National Science Foundation Industry/University Cooperative Research Center (IUCRC) Program.

These 9 research threads are composed of one or more projects and are highlighted here for their exceptional impact achieved over time. In each case, the work has opened up new areas of inquiry, enabled new fundamental understanding, and/or achieved exceptional transition through impact on systems. The outcomes achieved by these projects are emblematic of the impact that CITeR's cooperative operation as an IUCRC seeks to achieve.



<http://citer.wvu.edu/r/download/62087>

3 Biometric Security Devices: Are They Worth It?

Biometric security was the stuff of Hollywood in the 20th century, but it's been a reality for years today. (Actually, here are a few Windows IT Pro articles from the early 2000's, if you're interested: Biometric Identification and Biometric Security: Fingerprints Don't Always Suffice.) And yet despite all this, its use is still very minimal, for a variety of factors: lack of awareness, cost, and some very legitimate security concerns. However, biometric security technologies are starting to make a comeback. And why? I'd surmise that the constant growth of identity theft, phishing schemes, computer hacking, and general security mockery has something to do with it. Oh, and that all of our current authentication methods seem to fall completely flat. Strong passwords are a huge nuisance, and only protect against dictionary attacks, not against phishing attacks that track keystrokes. (Orin Thomas gives a great opine on passwords.) Smart cards ramp up security a notch, but can be easily lost and are not necessarily practical for use with a variety of functions. (Who wants to carry five smart cards around?)

<http://www.windowsitpro.com/article/security/Biometric-Security-Devices.aspx>

Coast Guard biometrics put brakes on illegal immigration

Biometric screening backed by interagency cooperation helps deter migrants from risking a perilous two-day sea crossing from the Dominican coast to Puerto Rico

Lt. Brian Betz, commanding officer of the Coast Guard Cutter Key Largo, focuses his binoculars on a small craft a mile off the port side of his 110-foot island-class patrol boat as it navigates the choppy waters of the Mona Passage, the dangerous strait between Puerto Rico and the Dominican Republic. Betz, the Coast Guard's most experienced captain in these waters, is satisfied: The boat anchored just off Desecheo Island about 10 miles from Puerto Rico's west coast belongs to a recreational scuba-diving outfit based in Mayagüez. He orders a change in course to nose the Key Largo into the swells and prepares his crew for one of their frequent interdiction drills.

http://fcw.com/articles/2010/05/24/feat-coast-guard-biometrics.aspx?admgarea=TC_GOV20

North American Biometrics Market Witnesses Growth Spurt Finds Frost & Sullivan

Mountain View, CA. -- The North American biometrics market is likely to experience a steady growth rate, with national ID projects, e-Passports, and other security projects spearheading market growth. Trends indicate that the industry has evolved a great deal over the past 5 years due to the increased accuracy rates and performance levels of the technology. Biometric standards, cost versus performance benchmarks, and interoperability issues have enabled high uptake in civil and commercial applications even as fraudulent activities and identity thefts continue to cost institutions significant revenue losses. New analysis from Frost & Sullivan (autoid.frost.com), North American Biometrics Market, finds that the market earned revenues of \$364.4 million in 2009 and estimates this to reach \$1,588.6 million in 2016.

<http://www.newswiretoday.com/news/70979/>

Estimated \$25M in Contract Awards Sought by June 7th for Cyber, Energy, C4ISR and Other Disruptive Technologies for National and Homeland Security Applications

The non-profit National Security Initiative, owner/operator of the American Security Challenge is revising the registration deadline to June 7. After generating over \$10M last year in teaming, sub-contract and investor term sheets, the 2010 Challenge is targeting greater than \$25M for registrations with cyber security, C4ISR, physical security and energy applications. ASC has arranged for over 40 pilot contract awards that include but are not limited to various customer groups within the Department of Defense, Raytheon, ArcSight, Intuit, members of the Intelligence Community and others (additional customers pending). Registration is open to all businesses at www.AmericanSecurityChallenge.com.

<http://www.marketwatch.com/story/estimated-25m-in-contract-awards-sought-by-june-7th-for-cyber-energy-c4isr-and-other-disruptive-technologies-for-national-and-homeland-security-applications-2010-05-25?siteid=nbkh>

NEC Launches NEC Biometrics Excellence Center in India

NEC Corporation, a technology development company, has announced the creation of the NEC Biometrics Excellence Center, a core engineering competency center, in Bangalore, India.

The new center is intended to help drive the expansion of NEC's multi-modal biometric solutions and security solutions business. The creation of the center is being touted as a first step towards NEC's recently set goal of growing their public safety business. Additionally, similar centers are being planned for development in five other regions. 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.

<http://www.efytimes.com/e1/46011/fullnews.htm>

Bill scrapping identity cards to be published today (UK)

Theresa May will today outline plans to scrap the eight-year-old identity card scheme when a Bill abolishing the cards is published. The Bill, which the Government expects to become law before the summer recess, is intended to symbolize a less-intrusive state and the savings that can be made by cancelling high-profile IT projects. Ms. May, the Home Secretary, will announce that identity cards and the national identity register, the database that was to hold biographical and biometric details of people applying for the card, are both to be scrapped. All identity cards will be cancelled within a month of the Identity Documents Bill receiving Royal Assent this summer.

<http://www.timesonline.co.uk/tol/news/politics/article7137440.ece>

TCS, Wipro, TechM, IBM, NEC shortlisted for UID project

Domestic information technology (IT) services majors Tata Consultancy Services (TCS), Wipro Technologies and Tech Mahindra and global players like IBM and Japan-based NEC are among the 10 shortlisted companies for the Nandan Nilekani-headed Unique Identification Authority of India (UIDAI) biometrics job. "This is the second stage of shortlisting. These firms are now qualified for a request for proposal (RFP). In the next five-six weeks, the final bidder will be announced," said a source close to the development. The size of the contract could not be confirmed. Meanwhile, the UIDAI has also started issuing RFPs for the data center management work of the project. Bidders will be shortlisted over the next four-six weeks.

<http://www.business-standard.com/india/news/tcs-wipro-techm-ibm-nec-shortlisted-for-uid-project/396315/>

Are Biometrics The Key To Health IT Security?

We've all seen the movies and television programs where high-security government facilities or corporate offices are protected by biometric terminals that only grant access to individuals that provide an accepted scan of their finger, palm, or iris. Well, if recent trends are any indication, this advanced technology could soon have a major impact in the healthcare industry as well. Recent EHR, patient privacy, and fraud reduction initiatives in healthcare have made data security a top priority in this sector, and many believe biometrics is the best way to ensure vital patient information doesn't fall into the wrong hands.

<http://www.healthcaretechnologyonline.com/article.mvc/Are-Biometrics-The-Key-To-Health-IT-Security-0001?VNETCOOKIE=NO>

Top biometrics students invited to contend for industry awards

Budding biometrics enthusiasts have been invited to contend for the annual European Biometrics Award. Run by the European Biometrics Forum, (EBF), the award aims to encourage on-going essential research in biometrics. Would-be applicants have been given a deadline of 20 August for paper submission. A shortlist will be drawn up by a panel of industry experts and candidates will be asked to present their papers at the finals, which are to take place during the EBF Research Seminar in Brussels in autumn 2010. The winner of the EBF European Biometric Research Award 2010 will receive a commemorative medal and €2,000.

<http://www.info4security.com/story.asp?sectioncode=13&storycode=4124960&c=1>

FedExField badges 10,000 employees with high-tech IDs

FedExField in Andover, Md. plays host to the Washington Redskins, college football games, soccer and a variety of other events through the course of a typical year. Because of the huge influx of seasonal, contract and temporary employees, stadium operators wanted a better way to identify staff and control their access to the facility. During the off season when no event is planned there are around 50 employees in the stadium during the day, but during an event this number skyrockets to as many as 10,000 employees, says Chris Bloyer, vice president of operations for FedExField. In the past employees would walk through a checkpoint but with thousands of other employees entering the stadium it was possible that individuals could sneak in without a badge or use the badge of another employee, Bloyer says. Executives needed to ensure that only authorized employees were granted access to the facility.

<http://www.thirdfactor.com/2010/05/25/fedexfield-badges-10000-employees-with-high-tech-ids>

Govt kiosks to collect data for UID project

Common service centers (CSCs), or information technology kiosks being set up to offer digitized government services in rural areas, will help collect biometric data for India's unique identity (UID) project, known as Aadhaar. The cabinet had approved Rs3,539.24 crore in March for the National Population Register, which will be created along with Census 2011. The biggest chunk of the fund will go towards collecting the biometric data through CSCs. The Registrar General of India (RGI), which has an agreement with Aadhaar for synchronizing biometric data collection for UIDs and the ongoing national Census, made the proposal to use CSCs, around 100,000 of which are being created. Biometric data includes facial recognition features, iris scans and fingerprints.

<http://www.livemint.com/2010/05/25233642/Govt-kiosks-to-collect-data-fo.html>

SA prisons to get biometrics systems

The South Australian Government is mulling the deployment of biometric identification across its Department for Correctional Services (DCS) run prisons. A biometric verification system will initially be implemented at Adelaide Remand Centre, and pending a successful trial, be rolled out to two additional sites including Yatala Labour Prison, Adelaide Women's Prison, Mobilong Prison, Port Augusta Prison, Mt Gambier Prison, Cadell Training Centre, and Port Lincoln Prison.

http://www.computerworld.com.au/article/348102/sa_prisons_get_biometrics_systems/

Latest Edition of NBSP's Biometric Technology Application Manual Presented, "In Their Own Words"

Bowie, MD – The latest volume in NBSP's Biometric Technology Application Manual is now available at no charge on the company's website, <http://www.nationalbiometric.org/BTAM/btamvol3.pdf>. BTAM Vol. III explores individual case studies via personal interviews with the key people involved in the evaluation, implementation, operational and business issues that had to be resolved to achieve operational goals. Interviews discuss Union Pacific Railway's iris-based time and attendance system; Canadian Air Transport Security Administration's multi-modal physical access control system, Hong Kong's automated passenger and vehicle clearance systems, Bay Care Health System's vascular patient identification system, Pearson VUE's vascular identification system to ensure test integrity, Technology Credit Union's multi-factor account access system, Parkview Adventist Medical Center's fingerprint medical records system, and Wood County School District's fingerprint benefits eligibility system.

<http://www.findbiometrics.com/industry-news/i/8055/>

Meeting and Conference Dates

Interoperability: At the Intersection of Policy and Public Perception

Biometrics are widely recognized for their powerful identification capabilities: They help enhance security, protect privacy and catch the bad guys. But like many emerging technologies related to personal identification, biometrics also face an array of policy-related questions such as what kinds of biometric information can organizations exchange, when can organizations share this data, and how should organizations share this data. It's an ongoing discussion, with many of the answers deeply rooted in public perception. Join findBIOMETRICS for a free webinar to hear how these issues are affecting the industry's ability to drive biometrics across borders and business sectors, and across processes, devices and systems.

Date: June 2, 2010
Time: 11:00 AM - 12:00 PM EST

<https://www1.gotomeeting.com/register/667722120>

2010 Biometric Consortium Conference & Technology Expo

Supported by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) and the National Security Agency (NSA), the Biometrics Consortium Conference is focused on Biometric Technologies for Defense, Homeland Security, Identity Management, Border Crossing and Electronic Commerce. The Conference will be two and a half days of presentations, seminars and panel discussions with the participation of internationally recognized experts in biometric technologies, system and application developers, IT business strategists, and government and commercial officers. The conference will be held September 21 - 23, 2010 at the Tampa Convention Center, Tampa, Florida U.S.A.

Dates: September 21 - 23, 2010

Location: Tampa, Florida

<http://www.biometrics.org/>

IEEE Fourth International Conference on Biometrics: Theory, Applications and Systems (BTAS 10)

The IEEE Fourth International Conference on Biometrics: Theory, Applications and Systems (BTAS 10) is the premier research meeting focused on biometrics. Its broad scope includes advances in fundamental pattern recognition techniques relevant to biometrics, new algorithms and / or technologies for biometrics, analysis of specific applications, and analysis of the social impacts of biometrics technology. Areas of coverage include biometrics based on voice, fingerprint, iris, face, handwriting, gait and other modalities, as well as multi-modal biometrics and new biometrics based on novel sensing technologies. Submissions will be rigorously reviewed, and should clearly make the case for a documented improvement over the existing state of the art. Experimental results for contributions in established areas such as voice, face, iris, fingerprint, and gait are encouraged to use the largest and most challenging existing publicly available datasets.

Dates: September 27- 29, 2010

Location: Washington, DC

http://www.cse.nd.edu/BTAS_10/

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