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ENISA EVALUATION – PUBLIC CONSULTATION – EUROSMART CONTRIBUTION

A public consultation has started on the future of ENISA. The Communication, published on 1st June, presents the findings of the external panel of experts and the recommendations of the ENISA Management Board. The consultation should clarify how the Agency should work with National regulatory bodies, centres of expertise and the private sector to define requirements and guide their implementations to meet security and integrity challenges related to current and future electronic networks.

Eurosmart, the Brussels based smart security industry Association, wishes to be associated to the exercise as its activities are closely associated to the action plan of the Agency.

Eurosmart objectives are linked to the Agency: ensure a high and effective level of network and information security. The Association's members are taking all security issues very seriously and are working continuously to design and manufacture products and systems to the "state of the art" security level. Appropriate actions and methodologies are developed to anticipate future attacks.

Eurosmart represents companies with up to 25 years of experience in Smart Card technology. For all this time, information leakage has been one area of concern for the industry as the security of its Smart Card applications is paramount.

Eurosmart has created a Security Working Group in 1997 with the mission to support and co-ordinate standardisation initiatives in this matter. This forum works actively on improving and implementing all security evaluation methods such as FIPS, ITSEC and Common Criteria, with clear evaluation scales to demonstrate the products security.

Members of the Security group as well as the e-Identity experts of the Association are in contact with ENISA since September 2006 to discuss privacy protection and electronic transaction security requirements for incorporation in European legal frameworks.
In November 2006, Eurosmart presented its experience "Practical Implementation of Generic Common Criteria Methodology for a Dedicated Product Range: Example Smart card Product Range" at ENISA Workshop in Athens on Information Security Certification.

Eurosmart calls for a fully empowered Agency that would not only have the task of collecting information but that would play a strong advising role on decision making at the EU level. In an international context, the agency would give the necessary support for a stronger European positioning ensuring both security and data protection.

Most of the difficulties of information networks today are well identified:
- An insufficient convergence of technologies
- A lack of clarity in standards and legal framework
- A need for cooperation on interoperability
- A dilemma between security and data protection
- A difficult cooperation on cyber crime
- A need for a strong expertise on the European and international scene

Precisely what ENISA has put on its 2007 agenda (to be continued in the years to come):
- Authentication Interoperability

- Electronic identity
- Major technological developments and trends
- Emerging applications and recent technologies
- Trends in security incidents and consumer confidence
- Certifications
- Security policies

Having a strong experience of European level technical cooperation, security specifications and certification procedures, Eurosmart believes that a European Agency is the adequate entity to elaborate concrete solutions to these challenges. The ENISA mandate has to be broad to encompass advisory and co-ordinating functions.

EUROSMART is an international association located in Brussels representing the Voice of the Smart Security industry for multi-sector applications. It aims at developing standards and improving quality and security application.
Eurosmart work is publicly available including survey on security evaluation methods, Protection Profile surveys, list of certified products, etc.

EUROSMART gathers 26 members: Atmel, Austria Card, Datacard, FNMT, Gemalto, GIE Cartes Bancaires, Giesecke & Devrient, Infineon Technologies, Ingenico, Inside Contactless, MasterCard, NedCard, NXP Semiconductors, Oberthur Card Systems, Renesas, Sagem Orga, Samsung Semiconductors, Saqqarah International, Sitronics, Solicore, SST, STMicroelectronics, Watchdata, Wave, XPonCard Group, Zetes.
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