

## PRESS RELEASE

### **Identity Management Offering Ways to Better Protect Your Privacy**

*– Closing Event of the PRIME Project –*

**Privacy and Identity Management in Europe – the PRIME Project** presents the results of its research and development during the PRIME Closing Event on July 21, 2008. More than four years, the scientists of the consortium of industry, academia, research centres, and data protection agencies developed concepts and prototypes for privacy-enhancing identity management. The PRIME Closing Event will be held in conjunction with the **8th Privacy Enhancing Technologies Symposium (PETS 2008)** in Leuven, Belgium – close to Brussels.

Identity management systems offer benefits to individuals and organisations, and promise much more in the near future. Information- and Communication technologies are increasingly intrusive allowing others more and more insight into the private sphere. One's right to privacy is thus increasingly at risk. To preserve this essential right the individual's autonomy and control over personal information must be maintained. Current practice and trends in information technologies, however, show a widening gap. This undermines trust in domains where trust is critical, such as healthcare, banking, and even exercising one's democratic rights. PRIME solutions can close this gap.

Conducted within the EU 6th Framework Programme, the PRIME-consortium developed processes which could direct the current trend towards the use of identity management systems to strengthening of privacy protection as a whole. This requires that the design of data processing must start from maximum privacy and that privacy policies have to be trustworthily enforced. Therefore, the consortium developed solutions for users to gain control over their data. Following an **interdisciplinary approach**, the current social, legal and economic framework was analysed. Policy makers and other stakeholders were shown possibilities how to increase privacy and trust of citizens and customers.

At the PRIME Closing Event the developed concepts and solutions will be presented to the public. Within PRIME, basic models have been developed for the architecture of identity management and for supporting cryptographic methods. With **easy to understand**



## Privacy and Identity Management for Europe

**scenarios** PRIME's White Papers and online tutorials describe the concepts for laymen and experts. Furthermore the PRIME-partners published **over 200 scientific articles**.

Beside the conceptual design PRIME focused also on developing demonstrators. Core of the project is the **integrated prototype**. The PRIME client software works as a pseudonym manager including convenient form filler functions. If the service provider is PRIME-enabled too, the software will permit anonymous transactions, i.e., age verifications, using credentials issued by trusted third parties.

Another PRIME prototype, the open source offspring OnionCoffee, permits **anonymous internet surfing** on any operating system. A pharmacy finder and a warning system for allergic persons were featured as a privacy-compliant application of **Location Based Services** (LBS) for mobile phones. Thereby it was essential to prevent service providers from profiling the users' movement. Furthermore solutions were tested to enable a pseudonymous communication for **Collaborative eLearning** (CeL).

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### General Information on PRIME:

Website: <http://www.prime-project.eu/>

Project duration: March 2004 - May 2008

Budget: over 15,5 Million Euro

Funding: The PRIME project receives research funding from the European Union's Sixth Framework Programme and the Swiss Federal Office for Education and Science.

Project partners: Multidisciplinary consortium consisting of IBM (Legal, administrative & financial coordination: IBM Belgium; technical lead: IBM Zürich Research Laboratory, Switzerland); Katholieke Universiteit Leuven from Belgium; Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique/LAAS from France; Unabhängiges Landeszentrum für Datenschutz Schleswig-Holstein, Technische Universität Dresden, Johann Wolfgang Goethe-Universität Frankfurt am Main, RWTH Aachen, Deutsche Lufthansa, and T-Mobile from Germany; Università di Milano, Joint Research Centre/IPSC, and Fondazione Centro San Raffaele del Monte Tabor from Italy; Universiteit van Tilburg and Erasmus University Rotterdam from the Netherlands; Karlstads Universitet from Sweden; Swisscom from Switzerland; Hewlett-Packard in the UK; and Chaum LLC from the USA.

