

Action for Critical Infrastructure Protection

Our mission is to foster the emergence of innovative, qualified, efficient and competitive security solutions, through the networking of European experimental capabilities.

erncip newsletter no. 3

TA Meetings in Summary

3rd meeting of Industrial Automated Control Systems and Smart Grids Thematic Group

The third meeting of this thematic group took place at the JRC in Ispra on the 6 July. Over 25 people attended, including cyber-security experts from government authorities, security agencies, infrastructure operators, academia, research organisations, and IT vendors. The group further developed its cooperation with ENISA, which presented on the results of its recent workshop on security certification for smart grid components.

Discussion identified the related concerns of thematic group members on smart grid life-cycle vulnerabilities; the role of human factors in security; and the increase in national certification processes. Preliminary findings from the work undertaken by the Thematic Group's three initial working sub-groups were presented. These covered the wide scope of the thematic area; the 'people' dimension; and the mechanisms required to make the accreditation/ certification frameworks work. Discussion of these findings led to agreement to develop the work programme for the thematic group along two sub-groups:

- European network of trusted technology testing/certification centres for IACS & SG
- Human factors in IACS cyber security competence – awareness/ training.

The next meeting will take place in October in Amsterdam.

2nd Meeting of TA on Resistance of Structures to Explosion Effects

The second meeting of the group took place at the JRC in Ispra on the 10 July, gathering together 15 experts representing experimental facilities and laboratories from Finland, France, Germany, the Netherlands, UK and the JRC. The goal of the Thematic Group is to develop guidelines, which should help to harmonize test procedures in testing of structural elements against explosion induced loads.

The main item of the meeting was to discuss the draft work programme of the group. The group has decided to focus on far field blast resistance of glass as the main topic for the work program. It is intended to compare and evaluate three different testing methods: direct high explosive testing, shock tube testing, and numerical simulations.

The work programme reflects the step-by-step method adopted by the group, starting with a review of existing methodologies, going further to derive and evaluate common test procedures, and drafting guidelines for harmonized test procedures. Finally, the guidelines will be subsequently transferred for other building materials than glass.

The next meeting, finalising the work programme and division of labour related to its implementation, will take place in October at the JRC, Ispra.

ERNCIP externally

7th Security Research Conference, "Future Security 2012"

The ERNCIP network was presented at the 7th Security Research Conference, "Future Security 2012" held in Bonn on 4-6 September 2012. This annual conference is organized by the Fraunhofer Group on Defence and Security and showcases their work, but other organizations also present projects. The attendees mostly come from within the EU security research and development community.

International Roundtable on Extreme Space Weather

The Swedish Civil Contingencies Agency organized on 5-6 September 2012 in Stockholm an International Roundtable on Extreme Space Weather, gathering around fifty participants representing a variety of stakeholders. Geomagnetic storms caused by the sun, even if rare in a large scale, may cause serious disruptions on global satellite navigation system and electricity grids on earth and through interdependencies have a devastating impact on vital functions in society. A possibility that this would become a new Thematic Area for ERNCIP was discussed.


CRITIS 2012

The 7th International Workshop on Critical Information Infrastructures Security held in Lillehammer on 17-18 September. CRITIS brings together researchers and professionals from academia, industry and governmental agencies interested in all different aspects of C(I)IP. The 2012 conference especially emphasized interdisciplinarity.

1st ERNCIP Conference “good practices, better solutions” 12-13 December 2012, Ispra, Italy European Commission Joint Research Centre

This is the main conference of the European CIP research community where all the types of ERNCIP stakeholders meet and exchange information about the latest achievements and current challenges. ERNCIP currently has eight thematic areas and two are in the pipeline. Subjects are as diverse as explosive detection and cyber security. During this conference these communities will be brought together to exchange views and learn from each other. Whilst at the same time receive feedback from international players in their fields of interest.

The organisers expect to welcome experts and officials from Member State governments, test laboratories, academic sector, security product manufacturers and the European Commission.

DAY 1	DAY 2
Session 1: Common test protocols for security solutions	Session 3: EU-wide certification and accreditation for security solutions
<p>Driving questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • How to test security solutions – with or without standards? • How could we agree on common test protocols in the EU? • Unit test vs. system tests: what conclusions can (not) be drawn after testing a singular element of a security system? 	<p>Driving questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is the value of the certifications? • What should be certified? The whole system? Critical equipment? Personnel? • How can we make the certification process more cost efficient? • Certification = security? Can certification give us the sense of security?
Session 2: EU and International testing standards for security solutions	Session 4: Investments in R&D on security solutions
<p>Driving questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What does it take to make a testing standard? How the EU could benefit of it? (how the EU research community and industry benefit?) • Standards at national, European and international level – what objectives do we have in harmonization? • What are the main drivers of the standardization? • How could we reduce the time to the market? • Harmonization in Europe: can we stop there if we would like to sell the products world-wide? • Do we need European solutions? Do international standards drive down the costs? • Challenges in the communication of test results (confidentiality of test results issues). 	<p>Driving questions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What are the research investment topics where a common European approach is needed and how to make use of that? • How to reach the decision makers and get (financial) support from them? • How to maximize the future impact of the research investments? • How could we better connect the research to the manufacturers and the industry? • What are the expectations of the manufacturers from research labs? • How ERNCIP could help to put research into practice? <div style="text-align: center;">  </div>

ERNCIP Inventory

The population of the Inventory has started. The first round of population focuses on the Key Users and Thematic Area Members of the ERNCIP. We already have some of the largest representatives of EU laboratories representing different CIP areas, such as explosives, water protection, and cyber security.

The next version of the Inventory is under development. By the end of this year it will provide improved user experience and the search functionalities.

Future Meetings/Events

- 3rd meeting of TA on Resistance of Structures to Explosion Effects, 16th October 2012, JRC Ispra, Italy.
- Kick-off meeting of Video Analytics and Surveillance Thematic Group, November 2012, JRC Ispra, Italy.
- Kick-off meeting for Applied Biometrics Thematic Group, December 2012, JRC Ispra, Italy. The work in both of these new thematic areas will be coordinated by the Centre for Applied Science and Technology (CAST) of the Home Office, UK. CAST plays a key role as a science and technology interface between Home Office Ministers and policy makers, front-line delivery partners, and the suppliers of science and technology. Both thematic groups are projecting a wide range of members, covering commercial and academic research facilities, government agencies, the security industry, relevant manufacturers, and standards organisations.
- 2nd meeting of Detection of Explosive Materials for Operational Needs, 3rd-4th October 2012, hosted at and by DG HOME Brussels.
- 3rd Aviation Security Thematic Group meeting, 13th November.
- 3rd Chemical Biological Risks to Water Sector Thematic Group meeting 4-5th October, JRC Ispra, Italy.
- 4th IACS and SG TG meeting, 17th October, Netherland.
- 1st ERNCIP conference, 12-13th December, JRC Ispra, Italy.

Contact

Naouma KOURTI
European Commission, Joint Research Centre
Institute for the Protection and Security of the Citizen
Security Technology Assessment Unit
Via E. Fermi 2749, I-21027 Ispra (VA), Italy
e-mail: erncip-office@jrc.ec.europa.eu
<http://ipsc.jrc.ec.europa.eu/index.php/ERNICIP/688/0/>
Tel +39 0332 786045
Fax +39 0332 786565