

Action for Critical Infrastructure Protection

European Reference Network 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.

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Thematic Group Meetings in Summary



Radiological and Nuclear Threats TG

Sub-group meeting (15-16th Jan 2015, JRC Geel)

In the sub-group meeting a first draft of the list-mode survey was delivered and a discussion on how to best align all list-mode activities was undertaken. This led to the consensus that such activities were to be considered and included in the TG's work programme for 2015.



Chemical & Biological Risks in the Water Sector

10th meeting (15-16th January 2015, JRC Ispra)

The results of the survey of water operators' views concerning the early warning of contamination of water systems were reported. The TG presented the status of deliverables about "identification of hazards (screening methods)" and "rapid tests for pathogens". The definition of criteria for sensors/event detection systems and the validation procedures were also discussed within the preparation of the work programme for 2015.



Detection of Explosives and Weapons Threats at Secure Locations TG

Kick-off meeting (16th January 2015, Brussels)

This was the kick-off meeting of a new ERNCIP Thematic Group formed from the membership of a previous ERNCIP Group that investigated the detection of explosives in non-aviation scenarios. The new group agreed to focus on one particular non-aviation scenario identified in one of the reports from the previous TG, namely the detection of explosives and weapons being brought into a location that has a secured perimeter, e.g. a government building with a low traffic volume of people.



Applied Biometrics TG

8th meeting (29th January 2015, JRC Ispra)

Most of the meeting was taken up with a review of the latest drafts of the 2 group deliverables concerning 'Experiences from Large Scale Testing of Systems using Biometric Technologies' and 'Guidance for Security'. Further, it was agreed to write a short note describing the key activities and involvement for each member of the group and the relevant influence the group has had to date with their work. Several proposals concerning the continuation of the TG's activities in 2015 were discussed and from this dialogue it was decided to submit a work programme for future activities to the European Commission for approval.



Radiological and Nuclear Threats TG

10th meeting, (3-5th February 2015, Madrid)

The TG's work programme was tackled during the meeting including a plan for its relevant dissemination. The status of the development of an international standard for a data format for digital nuclear instrumentation was reported with the aim to raise awareness within the target communities. From this, three sub-groups were formed with the intent to draft specific questionnaires on list-mode, reachback and robotics themes. All the sub-groups first identified their target audience and then decided what sort of information they needed from the survey that is planned for this TG.



Resistance of Structures to Explosion Effects TG

13th meeting (3-4th February 2015, JRC Ispra)

In this first key meeting of 2015 the group worked on the final versions of the two reports:

- Numerical simulations for the classification of blast loaded laminated glass: possibilities, limitations and recommendations,
- A comparison of existing standards for testing blast resistant glazing and windows.

These two deliverables were the fruit of each of the two sub-groups' activities to date. The Work Programme for 2015 was also discussed. This included the main goals and tasks for ongoing activities of the TG for the current year and beyond. New potential objectives were identified for the TG and it was decided that these will be discussed extensively under a specific agenda plan at the next TG meeting scheduled for May 2015 in VTT (Finland).



ERNCIP is currently shaping a new Thematic Group concerning the "Detection of Indoor Airborne Chemical/Biological agents". We would welcome contact from experts in this area.

Experts need to represent an organisation with a recognised competence in the this thematic area. If your organisation is interested in learning more about this activity, and you are able to devote some of your time to actively contribute to the achievement of the objectives of the TG on a voluntary basis, please directly contact the ERNCIP Office. The preparatory meeting will take place on June the 25th in Brussels.

2nd ERNCIP Conference “Dissemination, Exploitation and New Initiatives”

16-17 April 2015 in Brussels

More than 100 CIP experts from laboratories, academia, industry, critical infrastructure operators, standardisation organisations and officials from Member States attended the 2nd ERNCIP Conference titled “Dissemination, Exploitation and New Initiatives”. The conference was split into 3 different moderated sessions (a). “ERNCIP 2011-2014 results”, (b). “How do we disseminate and exploit the results?” and (c). “Moving forward, building on the existing framework”. The primary objective of the conference was to report about the first round (2011-2014) of the project. The scope was to improve the dissemination and exploitation of results and outcomes of the project and prepare the next round 2015-2020 which is to be built on the existing framework.

A number of thematic groups activities, addressing different thematic areas as identified by its stakeholders, have been presented and discussed. The discussion included also the platform that supports the community of experts.

The Proceedings will be available on-line in the following weeks.

ERNCIP Pre Conference Special Session

This special session focused on “Decision Support Tools for Critical Infrastructure Protection (CIP)”. During the first day, a selection of such decision support tools were presented by scientists from ENEA, JRC, Gdansk University of Technology and Politecnico di Milano. The session indicated to the audience the diversity of approaches and technologies used for the design of such tools. It also highlighted the problems that CIP stakeholders face, with respect the design and use of such tools. The second day focused on how such tools can be shared and exploited better within the EU CIP community. The attendants were encouraged to reflect on several driving questions and to actively participate in the discussion of the second day. The day opened with a presentation of the “CIPRNet’s Virtual centre of competence and expertise in CIP”, which offers decision support services for CIP. The discussion that followed was moderated by Torben Fell (DG-HOME). The participants highlighted challenges in training end-users, the lack of a comprehensive and organised repository with tools and project results, challenges in dissemination, concerns of data confidentiality, limitations in resources - especially at a national level- and the need for trusted authority to coordinate such efforts.

Publications & Reports



Applied Biometrics for Critical Infrastructure Protection Thematic Group

- Summary of the activities of the ERNCIP Applied Biometrics for security of CI Thematic Group
- The Application of Biometrics in Critical Infrastructures Operations: Guidance for Security Managers
- Experiences from Large Scale Testing of Systems using Biometric Technologies



Resistance of Structures to Explosion Effects Thematic Group

- A comparison of existing standards for testing blast resistant glazing and windows
- Numerical simulations for classification of blast loaded laminated glass possibilities limitations

See full report at <https://erncip-project.jrc.ec.europa.eu/>



ERNCIP Group of EU CIP Experts 9th meeting (15th April 2015, Brussels)

The following topics were discussed at the EU CIP Experts Group meeting:

- The findings of the Member States consultation concerning the 1st round of the Project i.e. 2011-2014.
- Updates on new initiatives undertaken by the ERNCIP Academic Committee and the planned training activities.
- Information about new thematic groups’ work programmes for ERNCIP 2015. Further requirements for nominations of TG experts, in particular end users, were discussed

Notes: Some participants left the meeting to attend the optional ERNCIP Pre-Conference Special Session on Critical Infrastructure Modelling, Simulation and Analysis: Decision Support Tools for CIP. The remaining EU CIP experts continued with a discussion on the status of the proposals for the new ERNCIP 2015 thematic group titled “Detection of CB agents in indoor locations”.

ERNCIP externally

9th Annual IFIP WG 11.10 International Conference on CIP (16-18th March 2015, USA)

The **IFIP Working Group 11.10** on Critical Infrastructure Protection is an active international community of scientists, engineers and practitioners dedicated to advancing the state of the art of research and practice in the field of critical infrastructure protection. The ERNCIP Office participated in the activities of the 9th IFIP WG 11.10 International Conference on Critical Infrastructure Protection which took place on the 16th-18th March 2015, in Arlington, Virginia, USA. The ERNCIP Office representative chaired two sessions on “Cyber-Physical Systems” and on “Critical Infrastructure Protection”, respectively. During the “Risk Assessment and Mitigation” session, scientific work performed by JRC and other collaborators was also presented. The presentation focused on the application of centrality measures to identify the optimum risk mitigation strategy for critical infrastructure dependency graphs. A highlight of the conference was the panel discussion on “Critical Infrastructure Protection Education and Training”. During the panel, the contributions of the ERNCIP Office and Academic Committee towards CIP training of European professionals were mentioned. This contributes to the on-going collaboration on CIP education and training between the ERNCIP Office and the Center for Infrastructure Protection and Homeland Security (CIP/HS) at the George Mason University (USA).

Future ERNCIP TG Meetings: May - August 2015

- Detection of Explosives and Weapons in Secure Locations TG on the 16 June 2015 in Brussels;
- Chemical & Biological Risks in the Water Sector TG on the 22 June 2015 in Vienna;
- Detection of Indoor Airborne Chemical/Biological Agents TG on the 25 June 2015 in Brussels (preparatory meeting);
- Resistance of Structures to Explosion Effects 2015 TG on the 7-8 July 2015 in Ispra.

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