

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. 4

THEMATIC GROUP MEETINGS IN SUMMARY

2nd meeting of Detection of Explosive Materials for Operational Needs; 3-4 October 2012

The meeting was hosted by DG HOME at their office in Brussels. Presentations were made of using explosive detection equipment in mass events and land transport. The meeting also reviewed EU legislation, known EU needs and technical requirements. Next meeting end February or beginning March.

3rd meeting of Chemical Biological Risks to Water Sector Thematic Group; 4-5th October 2012, JRC Ispra, Italy

The group agreed upon the basic elements of the work programme, the focus being harmonizing test methods of innovative and rapid alarm systems and screening techniques, which make it possible to quickly identify a change of the drinking water quality after an incident. The next meeting will take place in 11 February 2013 in Ispra.

3rd meeting of TA on Resistance of Structures to Explosion Effects - 16th October 2012, JRC Ispra, Italy

The group started its work on preparing guidelines for harmonizing test procedures to test resistance of glass elements against far field blast loading. The next meeting will take place as a video-conference on 6 February 2013.

4th meeting of Industrial Automated Control Systems and Smart Grids Thematic Group

The meeting took place in the Shell HQ, Amsterdam, 17th October 2012. The Group discussed the findings since the previous meeting. Work will continue on improving the human-factors awareness and producing guidelines for a workforce development framework. The working group on the European Network of Trusted Test Centres proposed to further develop the test bed requirements that were developed by the Viking project. The next meeting will take place in Ispra on 1 February 2013.

3rd meeting of Aviation Security Thematic Group

The 3rd meeting of the ERNCIP Aviation Security Thematic Group took place in Brussels on the 13th November. The group received updates from the Commission on its activities Aviation Security and Security Industrial Policy, and from the JRC on the dedicated laboratory it is establishing. The 3 Working Groups on Approval Procedures, Explosive Trace Detection and Common Test Methodologies were discussed, and follow-on meetings of the latter two were held on the 29th. Next meeting of full group is planned for June 2013.

Kick-off meeting of Video Analytics and Surveillance Thematic Group; JRC Ispra, 6th November 2012

The Group discussed the issues that it could address, including standardising the video systems testing methodology, working towards a European-wide benchmark, and sharing test datasets. The nature and scope of existing datasets, and the feasibility of sharing them will be investigated. Each organisation is to submit a Use Case identifying their key requirements for video content analysis, for discussion at the next meeting, which will take place in March 2013.

Kick-off meeting for Applied Biometrics Thematic Group

The meeting took place in JRC Ispra, 11th December 2012. The Group identified the applications of biometrics where standardisation of testing could be of benefit. These include Automated Border Controls; physical and logical access controls; mobile identity checks for 'on-the-spot challenge' in restricted areas of CI sites; and biometric recognition of individuals from CCTV. Preliminary discussion identified two potential work streams: improving awareness of the use of biometrics, and identifying the requirements for standards. The next meeting is planned for early April 2013.

ERNCIP GOVERNANCE MEETINGS

5th ERNCIP Expert Group meeting

The ERNCIP Expert Group met at Ispra on 14 December, 2012. Discussions centred on agreeing updated Terms of Reference for this group, reflecting the maturity of ERNCIP. The draft Thematic Group Work Programmes were distributed to the Expert Group for comment.

ERNCIP Coordinators' meeting

The ERNCIP Thematic Group Coordinators met at Ispra on 13 December, 2012 primarily to share their experiences of establishing and running their Thematic Groups, so that good practices could be identified and adopted by the others, especially the coordinators of the recently formed Thematic Groups.

1st ERNCIP Conference “good practices, better solutions” 12–13 December 2012, Ispra, Italy

Over 100 CIP experts attended the conference, included officials from Member State governments, test laboratories, academic organisations, security product manufacturers and the European Commission.

The conference was organised by the ERNCIP Office with the objective of providing a forum for the widest range of ERNCIP stakeholders to meet and exchange information about the current challenges of testing protocols, standardization, certification and investment issues. All the eight ERNCIP thematic areas were presented and discussed, the subjects being as diverse as explosive detection and cyber security.

The conclusions of the four sessions can be briefed as:

Session 1: Common test protocols for security solutions	Session 3: EU-wide certification and accreditation for security solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Various methods for approval of security solutions are in place in Europe and the US. Most are national, and some are even just private to organisations or companies. There are few security-related common testing methodologies that apply across the EU. • Buyers of security solutions are often in the dark as to how these have been tested, if at all, whilst some invent their own testing due to lack of awareness of existing possibilities. • Some sectors such as Cyber security need more testing capabilities to be developed. • More collaboration with the US may improve testing capabilities for both US and EU. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The manufacturers' views on testing standards depend on the degree of regulation applied in the sector (e.g. aviation security). Highly-regulated sectors require standards to provide open markets to manufacturers. • Performance testing standards of single components may not provide any assurance about the performance of the full security solution. The performance testing of whole systems, including the HUMAN factor, may be required to reduce CIP-related risks. • Concerns were expressed whether standardisation bodies are capable of producing effective security standards.
Session 2: EU and International testing standards for security solutions	Session 4: Investments in R&D on security solutions
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Labs can certify security products only if they have been accredited according to EU Regulations. ISO 17025:2005 is the standard to be followed for lab accreditation. • Certifying the performance of a single component may be of limited value, given that the actual performance depends on how the component is used within the whole system. Whole system certification may be needed, including training of the operators. • Modeling and Simulation may be used to close gaps in testing of systems and to keep costs down. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ERNCIP is an important initiative that should be continued. • There is a need to a continuous exchange of views among security stakeholders to ensure that all needs and interests have been taken into account. • Investment is required to improve the lab capabilities and lab availability in the EU. • Horizon 2020's pre-commercial procurement mechanism may be important for the development of new security solutions and therefore will need to promote testing standards.

More details about the conference (agenda; overview of the speakers; full length presentation slides) can be found in the ERNCIP webpage.



The first ERNCIP Conference in Ispra

ERNCIP externally

ERNCIP was presented at National Institute of Standard and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, USA. The objective of the meeting was to establish contacts and explore ways of collaboration between NIST and ERNCIP. Discussions were conducted with Mr. Gordon Gilleran, chief of Standards Service Group in the NIST Standards Coordination Office, Mr. Richard Cavanagh, Director of the NIST Special Programs Office; and also with the representatives of different CIP related research and development groups such as of X-ray inspection, Biothreat Field Response Mission Capability, structures resistance to earthquakes, cybersecurity, SCADA, Standard Specification for Chemical Vapor detection. As a first step towards more collaboration two NIST representatives were among the participants and speakers of the 1st ERNCIP conference.

ERNCIP Inventory

The new version of the Inventory has been launched in December. The new version provides simpler registration process, improved user experience and search functionalities. By the end of the year 2012 the number of registered laboratories exceeded the 68 in the Inventory. These facilities represent different CIP areas, such as explosives, water protection, cyber security, video analytics and biometrics. The ERNCIP Office will carry on its population activities in 2013 in order to further increase the number of CIP related labs in the database.

Meetings/Events

- 5th meeting of ICS and Smart Grids Thematic Group, 1 February 2013;
- 2nd meeting of Structural Resistance to Seismic Risks Thematic Group, 4 February 2013;
- 4th ERNCIP Chemical Biological Risks to Water TA Ispra, 11 February 2013;
- ERNCIP is progressing its plans to establish a cross-cutting ERNCIP forum, dedicated to the academic elements of CIP-related security solution testing.

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