Building an area of freedom, security and justice

...exchanging biometric data in the EU...

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Understanding the European Union

an area of freedom, security and justice
Understanding the European Union

- European Union (EU)
  - European Economic Area (EEA)

- Schengen
  - Police co-operation
  - Border Control

- Member States
  - Old Member States
  - New Member States
  - Candidate States
  - Applicant States
  - Potential Candidate States

an area of freedom, security and justice

Enlargement
Data Sharing Models in the EU

EURODAC (EU Asylum System)
- Tenprint rolled
- No alphanumeric data
- Live since Jan 2003

EU VIS (EU Visa System)
- Biometric Matching System
- Alphanumeric data + facial image
- 10 prints flat
- Operationally ready 24th June 2011
  - Visa applications with biometrics
    - staged worldwide rollout
  - Biometric Border Verification
    - 3 years after go live
Data Sharing Models in the EU

Prüm

- **Deadline Aug 2011**
- **Fingerprints**
  - Tenprints
  - Palmprints
  - Latents
  - 7 MS live
- **DNA**
  - 10 MS live
- **Vehicle Registration**
  - 10 MS Live
Schengen Information System (SIS)

- Alerts on people and goods
- Biometrics exchanged via decentralised model
- Live since 1995
- SIS II
  - Biometrics
  - Go live 2013?
Under discussion

Exchange of Criminal Records

- European Citizens
  - Biometrics as an option
  - Decentralised model chosen
  - Due to go live April 2012

- Third Country Nationals
  - Technical Study completed
  - Feasibility Study to be launched Spring 2011
    - Legislation changes
    - Data to be exchanged
      » Many MS want it to be fingerprints
    - Model for the exchange
      » Many MS pushing for centralised model
The Operational Challenges

Decentralised Model vs Centralised Model

**Incoming Transactions**
- Sizing
- Storage
- Memory
- New workflows

**Outgoing Transactions**
- New Workflows
  - Automatic or Manual Workflows
  - Additional Processes might mean additional Workstations
- Manual Verification

**Manage the transaction limits**

Centralised Model

**Outgoing Transactions**
- New Workflows
  - Automatic or Manual Workflows
  - Additional Processes might mean additional Workstations
- Manual Verification

**Throughput**

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The Operational Challenges

Searching strategies
The Operational Challenges

Meeting the Response times
- Higher resiliency
- More IT domains to manage

Testing
- If 29 MS then
  - with each MS = 28 tests
  - total no of communication tests = 812
- Can you test on an operational system?
- Testing is not a one-off operation
  - Will need this forever

Logging
- Archiving of outbound and inbound responses might be required
  - Prüm = ‘all data’
Building blocks for successful data exchanges

Success
Core data (biometrics)

Required Infrastructure

Documents Support Testing

Identification

John X Partner 1

Data Exchange

Jean X Partner 2

Hit

No Hit

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Building Blocks

Interface Control Document
- Data to be exchanged
- Types of Transactions
  - Required for both core data and secondary data

Exchange Interface Document
- Network definitions
- Email addresses
  - Need both formal and administrative
- Certificate management

Testing Document(s)
- Communication tests between the network nodes
  - Centralised: Once per partner
  - Decentralised: \(x^2-1\)
- Transaction Tests
  - Test Data: need to be sure of the results of the tests

Final Acceptance / Go Live criteria
- What does it entail
Building Blocks

- Development of and understanding of FAQ
  - Pass on lessons learned

- Distribution of document updates
  - There are always errors in technical documents
  - Need a formal, fast way to disseminate information to all parties and their suppliers

- Management of Tests between partners
  - Central repository of test data

- Management and Distribution of certificates
  - If there are many partners, certificates will expire at different times

- Monitoring of Network
  - Most problems are network issues due to the number of stakeholders involved

- Training

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How is the testing organised

- Communications and transactions tests can be performed separately
- Time and resources
  - Need dedicated personnel available to monitor results and resolve problems

How is testing performed on an operational system if no test system exists

- Incoming transactions
- Insertion of Test data
- Logging
  - If logs are used to create legal reports
Challenges

After going live

- What data should be submitted
- Who decides what data should be submitted
- Which Partner(s) should the data be submitted to
  - The searching strategy
- Who verifies a hit from a request
- Who supplies the alphanumeric data to a requesting partner who has verified a hit
  - Might need dedicated ‘office’ to manage this
- Who deals with the issue when you exchange wrong data
Funding

Who pays?
Lessons learned

- Standards are just the starting point
  - not the end of the road

- It is not just about adding software to handle automated exchanges
  - Biometrics work but success is actually based on the manual exchange secondary alphanumeric data not the first level core data exchange

- Organisational challenges are greater than the technical challenges
  - Data Sharing changes the back office processes for ever

- No matter what exchange model is chosen you need key building blocks for the model to work
  - Without them, everybody struggles and the real issues are misunderstood

- Funding
  - If procurements are controlled by each individual partner, timeframes for going live are long
Thank you

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