BIOSIG:
Biometric and
Electronic Signatures

Proceedings of the 1st Conference on Biometrics and Electronic Signatures of the GI Working Group BIOSIG

24th July 2003 in Darmstadt, Germany

Gesellschaft für Informatik 2003
Program Chairs’ Message

International standardization and innovative authentication methods from research and development gain significance for biometric person recognition methods and electronic signatures

After establishing the legal basis, the broad usage of biometric person recognition methods and electronic signatures from a technical point of view is in need of international standardization for enabling the interoperability of different systems and components for reliable, secure, and privacy enhancing applications.

The adequate evaluation and testing of performance, reliability, and security of biometric person recognition technology and electronic signatures is of major importance. As a result there is a significant demand for innovative methods of multifactor biometric person identification and verification methods based on knowledge, possession, biometric characteristics, location, and time with regard to specific applications.

Aiming to fill this gap the working group BIOSIG of the Gesellschaft für Informatik e.V. is organizing a conference in the research and application field of „Biometrics and Electronic Signatures“.

In two parallel tracks the aspects of testing & standardization and authentication with focus on the technical and algorithmical fundamentals for the broad and specific usage of biometric person recognition methods and electronic signatures from science and industry will be presented and discussed.

Darmstadt, 24. July 2003

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A WORD OF GREETING

Security, trustability and reliability of information systems are key issues of the networked information society, and thus are of everybody’s concern. GI, the Gesellschaft für Informatik, focuses these issues since nearly 30 years from a variety of viewpoints and, due to their nature, mostly by taking an interdisciplinary approach. Many publications, press releases and public speeches document GI’s clear position in favor of a conscious policy which conforms with the privacy needs of the individual and the security requirements of the society. In particular, GI refuses an uncontrolled connection of public databases as well as the integration of biometric data into any kind of identity document or the provisional and timely unrestricted storage of personal data. On the other hand, GI supports the OECD guidelines for the security of information systems and networks, and requires governments to establish a “security culture” by not only to reacting by laws to abuse and criminal acts but also by taking appropriate means in advance. To enhance the use of the internet by everyone, and in particular for all kinds of eBusiness and eGovernment, GI also promotes the use of a qualified electronic signature.

To put even more emphasis on and to point out the importance of all the needs, challenges, threads etc. coming up with the new Information and Communication Technologies, GI recently installed a distinguished Technical Committee „Sicherheit – Schutz und Zuverlässigkeit“ that consists of a series of Special Interest Groups. One of these is BIOSIG, the goal of which is to bundle and advance research and development in the domain of biometric systems. In particular, BIOSIG aims at the integration of new concepts and techniques into existing security infrastructures as well as at making biometric systems more reliable and treating security issues in all phases of system development, i.e., from requirements engineering to production.

I am more than happy that BIOSIG achieved just within its first year to arrange the conference „BIOSIG 2003“, which features high quality contributions to a series of actual questions. Certainly, these contributions will find high awareness not only within but also beyond the informatics community. Therefore, I also appreciate very much that the conference proceedings appear as a volume of Lecture Notes in Informatics.

Many persons deserve appreciation and recognition for their contribution to make BIOSIG’2003 a success: the authors, the members of the program committee, the organizers and sponsors. Without such engaged people, a non profit society like GI would fail. I am glad to express my deep thanks to all of them at this place.

I do not only hope but am sure that you will enjoy the conference and that, from the contributions and discussions, you will gain new insights and ideas for your own future work.

Klagenfurt, June 23, 2003

Heinrich C. Mayr
Präsident der Gesellschaft für Informatik e.V. (GI)
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