

Report 7th E3 IST Concertation Meeting

Interfaces and Enhanced Services Signal Processing and Mixed Reality

February 5-6, 2002
Brussels

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Present for ICE-CREAM project: Maddy Janse, Danilo Tromp (Day 1), Pierre Plevin (Day 2)

Activities in 2002

IST 8th call: this is the last call in the 5th framework. The deadline is 21/02/02. The budget is lean and the competition is high. Project proposals should be small and be very strategic to have a chance for acceptance.

Concertation Meetings: The concertation meetings will be on the following dates:

8th Concertation Meeting: 23-24 April, 2002, Brussels

9th Concertation Meeting: 9-10 July 2002, Brussels

10th Concertation Meeting: in combination with the Media Futures Conference, 24-25 September 2002.

Audit: The audit of the projects in our cluster will be in the week of December 2-7, 2002.

Conferences:

EUChina2002. Several IST projects participate in the EU-China Forum, April 16-20, 2002 in Beijing. The Sambits project has a demo in the exhibition. I am invited to present the NexTV/ICE-CREAM projects in a panel session together with Sambits (Gerhard Stoll) and Leonardo Chiariglione (TILAB).

IEEE International Symposium on Consumer Electronics 2002, in Ilmenau. All projects are encouraged to participate in this symposium (<http://www.isce02.tu-ilmenau.de>).

FP6 preparation: the first call for proposal is expected end this year. For info see Cordis website.

Working meetings:

Day 1

MPEG4 Play(er) Boys: The objective of this session was to and discuss MPEG-4 implementation, interoperability, and DVB-MHP liaison issues. Four MPEG-4 players were demonstrated: Envivio, Blaxxun, b-Soft, TILAB. A hefty discussion followed these demonstrations. The result is that Olivier Avaro will prepare a document that will be distributed amongst all project for input and feedback. The objective is to come to a document that can serve as input for a commercial requirements document for DVB-MHP and for drafting a roadmap towards exploitation of MPEG-4.

In a very small meeting, parallel to the MPEG-4 play(er) boys meeting, issues on Mixed Reality were discussed. We didn't attend this meeting.

Day 2

In the meeting on Home environments and Standardization a presentation was given on OSGi by Pierre Scokaert (OpenSugar). Major issues raised in the discussion concerned the danger of privacy for consumers and being locked in to only one service provider for

all services and utilities in the home. That is, in the OSGi, the users of the devices in the home (consumers) have no control over the services. The operator is the user of the service and its benefactor (telco, cable co, utility, portals, etc.). They define the SW that is needed in the consumer/home devices to enable the services, i.e., a standard interface for the operator. Examples of services are: Home automation, Video on demand, Online games, Music on demand, Remote control of AV appliances.

The Metadata Reference Document which originated from the work by a sub-group in one of the previous Concertation Meetings was presented by Jean-Pierre Evain from the EBU who had accepted the task of editing all the contributions from the different projects. These documents are on the Cordis website and were distributed to the NexTV and ICE-CREAM reflectors in December. We can still provide input to the documents (deadline March 1). This document will be published as a formal E3 publication.

Parallel to these sessions a meeting was held on VHML (Virtual Human Modeling Language) in the Signal Processing and Mixed Reality group (www.vhml.org)

In the concluding plenary session reports were given from the working groups. All projects are requested to submit ideas for topics that need to be discussed/covered in future concertation meetings.