

Report 9th E3 IST Concertation Meeting

Interfaces and Enhanced Services Signal Processing and Mixed Reality

10-11 September, 2002
Brussels

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Present for ICE-CREAM project: Maddy Janse, Javier Barria

Review of past events

- Progress from the MPEG/DVB/MHP standardization front:
 - MPEG-LA stuff discussion. Something on AVC algorithm. New windows media player.
 - Systems: file format for avc, extension of the mpeg-4 file format
 - Time text: streaming of text (e.g., subtitles etc., karaoke)
 - Mpeg7 extension re. xml
 - Mpeg21: content adaptation as a new topic
 - MHP on the air in Finland and Berlin. Receivers are beady needed. Test-suites finished.

Recent Activities:

EU-China2002: NexTV and Sambits projects had presentations in the conference (www.eurochina2002.com/conference_presentations/). The NexTV presentation is also on the NexTV and Ice-cream website. The organization also made posters of the projects in Chinese. Sambits project also had a demo at the exhibition.

DVG-T event in Brasil. Participation of T. Itagaki and J. Cosmas (Brunel – Savant and Cismundis project)

Upcoming Conferences and exhibitions:

- IBC2002 is from September 13-17, 2002 in Amsterdam
- Bucharest Broadband Conference is from October 9-10, 2002. this conference is organized/sponsored by the EU. There will be two IST sessions
- IST2002
 - Session in conference on: The different flavours of interactive media
 - Exhibition: Highlights of MHP and 3G
 - Goal to promote the MHP standard and to show what is already available.
 - Details to be discussed in special meetings.
- Net @ Home conference is from November 13-15 in Nice. A Concertation Meeting will be scheduled around this conference on 12 and/or 13 November. Technical topics for the Concertation meeting are:
 - QoS (Soquet project) – Service convergent networks, results of the EBU MPEG-4/MusHARA test.
 - Home cinema (EBAD /METAVISION project)
 - Transcoding workshop (SoNG, Contessa, Muffins projects)
 - Presentation new projects
 - NAVS project (networked audiovisual systems and applications): the goal is to write a document in which all the activities in this cluster are integrated and illustrated with project summaries. The draft version of this document will be available by the end of next week.

- In a separate meeting some of the technical and financial details for the participating projects in the exhibition were discussed. I was there to state my objections to the fact that people who are there to demo on the stand still have to pay a fee and that there are only 2 free tickets and that it is not do-able for just 2 people to man a stand for 3 days without the possibility to circulate. Everybody, incl the project officers, agreed with me. The conference organisation will look into the matter. We'll see.

Framework 6

Strategic objectives of this cluster are in the first call. Overall focus is on:

- Broadband for all
- Mobile and wireless systems beyond 3G
- Networked AV systems & home platforms

The call is expected in December and the closing in april '03.

The draft text for this part of the call was distributed. This is the text:

'Draft WP2003-2004, version 9 Sept. 2002

1.1.1 Networked Audiovisual systems and home platforms

Objective:

To develop end-to-end networked audio-visual systems and applications, and open trusted and interoperable multimedia user platforms and devices, notably for broadcasting and in-home platforms with full interactivity capacity.

Focus is on:

- Trusted free choice environments for more intuitive access and interaction with hybrid 3D multimedia signals and objects. Rich media objects representation, identification, location and description.
- Seamlessly co-operating IP audiovisual (AV) networks, new middleware protocols and architectures for real time and consistent multimedia routing and distribution, load and balancing control mechanisms, P2P, datacasting and streaming of audio-visual rich media. Adaptive Quality of Services for scalable audio-visual flows on heterogenous networks, AV internetworking, network traffic engineering, interactive AV service management, and simulation.
- Home server portals, interoperability between home networking technologies and their integration with global networks, as a means for access to, and generation of combined applications and services. AV portals with storage, management and repackaging appliances, including extended home distribution. Advanced retrieval methods and business models to support access to streamed and stored audiovisual media from anywhere in the home and car environment from any device.

Research will strongly concentrate on enabling technology for error-resilient representation, slicing and handling of rich audio-visual signals. This concerns basic research, structuring and federating the best groups in Europe from the communication areas. It also concerns research in high potential, industry-driven domains such as next generation 3D-TV, electronic cinema, virtual and tele-presence and future mixed-reality-based mobile personal communication services. A strong requirement will be that these activities should be centred around a communication infrastructure and should aim at exploiting the outstanding European potential developed over several Programmes in this area. Active contribution to world-wide standard setting will be a prerequisite'.

Afternoon session

Interfaces and Enhanced Services

Program:

1. MPEG4 (follow-up) - O Avaro (SoNG/ISIS projects)

Demo's were given by

- Envivio (Eric Deniau)

- ENST (Jean-Claude Dufourd)

Authoring tools for converting: FLASH to MPEG-4; FLASH to BIFS, to XMT-A, etc.; IM1 compliant; no aggregation tools.

- Net&TV (Young-Kwon Lim): spin-off from ETRI (Korea)
authoring tools, aggregation tools

- Bitmanagement (Peter Schickel): markets the spin-offs of the SonG player

- SoNG (Olivier Avaro, Peter Schickel, Kaveh Kamyab). Info: www.song-opi.org

2. DRM and Openness (project MOSES)

After this meeting there was a small session (Leon van Noorden, Augusto daCunha, David Wood, John Cosmas, Jan Geiger and Maddy Janse) to discuss the IST2002 exhibition and conference. A first draft was made. Main goal was how to merge two other admitted session with my session without disturbing the initial intent too much.