

Report from Second Special Interest Group Meeting, Barcelona 11-12 September 1996

Graham Cornish (IFLA) introduced the meeting by explaining that the technological problems were on the whole fairly easy to solve. What was more difficult is the perception of problems. It was hoped that the SIG would provide the opportunity for plenty of debate which will give insight and understanding. The results would be taken back to the IMPRIMATUR Project which is building world-wide consensus. He then went on to give his view of what constitutes an ECMS (Electronic Copyright Management System). There are four important areas:

- Control
- Payment
- Monitoring use
- Integrity of documents

Judy Watkins (IFLA) then gave the general background to the COPEARMS Project, giving particular attention to the work of the CITED (Copyright in Transmitted Electronic Documents) Project and the scenario methodology developed with the IMPRIMATUR Project. Throughout the SIG the scenario provoked a great deal of discussion which is dealt with in a separate chapter. Graham Cornish reminded delegates that quite often people came to these events with fixed ideas but they should be prepared to be open to new ideas.

Edmond Kouka (EURITIS) gave a talk on 'Requirement Sets for Implementing an ECMS'. He explained that the CITED project, which was completed in 1994 defined the generic IPR model. He then went on to summarise the needs of the different actors such as authors, publishers, distributors and users. These needs were not exhaustive. He also explained that two types of protection would be needed as the black box method cannot monitor use.

Christopher Wilkinson (European Commission) mentioned that there was a difference between protecting published and unpublished material. The unpublished material was normally a valuable asset, but the risk factor is not so easily assessed. Sale or use could be an indicator for published material. He added that online services would only overtake the paper market if easier and cheaper to use. If protection was not already part of the computer then he could not see protection mechanisms fulfilling investment. Instead he considered the main protection market would be concerned with confidential and unpublished material. In the case of commercially available material the protection mechanism will need to be able to accommodate exceptions such as fair dealing and library privilege provisions. This will mean that the exceptions will need to be harmonised or that a breach is not an offence which would make the practice widespread. ECMS developers have quite a dilemma. The way forward appears to be to harmonise exceptions **then** develop ECMS.

Jaime Delgado (Universitat Politecnica Catalunya) spoke of the MULTIMEDIATOR Project which is developing a multimedia publishing brokerage service. The project is

co-financed by the ACTS Programme. The partners include users as well as technological partners. Information which is sold through the brokerage machine may be copyrighted which is why the project has sought help from the COPEARMS consortium. A feasibility study of assistance has been completed and the areas for co-operation include identification of contracts and a MULTIMEDIATOR business case. MULTIMEDIATOR will also be taking part in COPEARMS SIGs and conferences. Gerard Eizenberg asked how they were planning to make the TTP (Trusted Third Party) trusted by the involved parties. Jaime Delgado explained that this aspect has not yet been considered as the original proposal had not included security. As they had no specific workpackage for this aspect they were studying what others were doing to see if they could implement something developed by another project. Christopher Wilkinson explained that how to convince people would depend on what was considered state-of-the-art at the time of commercialisation. It was not critical to solve all these issues now as things might change. He also mentioned that it might be worth exploring the use of ISDN. The ISDN market had had its ups and downs but was now reviving although still relatively small. The most cost effective way to communicate work is to communicate it faster than it would be possible to read or watch. But in order to use the work there would need to be some sort of buffer, or copy of the work - but would this be legal?

Edmond Kouka then spoke of the COPYSMART Project. The COPYSMART Project will develop Smart Card technology, and the CITED model to control access, through a PC, to electronic documents including, eventually broadcast material. The project will exploit and develop existing technology such as CITED, security technology from SMARTCARD and standard interfaces for portable hardware from PCMCIA (Personal Computer Memory Card International Association). The aim is to develop IPR management for 3 types of actor in the multimedia chain in the PC environment: publishers, distributors and end users. The SMARTCARD modules will be finely integrated in PC and DOS/Windows environment and provide basic development tools to support integrators implementing IPR management in various applications based on COPYSMART building blocks.

Benoît Tassin (CISAC) presented a paper about agent and work identifiers. An identification numbers system is currently being developed within CISAC. Christopher Wilkinson stressed the fact that copyright exists without any formality. It is not necessary to register the work and no necessity to have a registration number. He suggested that in the possible protocol to the Berne Convention there could be a provision to make it unlawful to circumvent or to alter an identification system. He advised the CISAC to do some lobbying in order to include a reference to the identification numbering system of the CISAC in the possible protocol in order to avoid the development and protection of many systems.

Richard Carr (Level-7) spoke about open systems interoperability for ECMS Systems. He explained that open systems were essential in order not to repeat the mistakes of the past 10 years, Openness is achieved through standards for interfaces (not systems). He stressed the importance of buying conformant interoperable products and the need for conformant interoperable testing. Interoperability is needed between different ECMS systems, between ECMS and non-ECMS systems and between ECMS components. At the moment there is little common agreement for standards.

The first session ended with a discussion of the scenario.

G rard Eizenberg (CERT) began the following session with a talk about security requirements in ECMS.

This was followed by a presentation by Michele Ledger and Rosa Julia of CRID discussing legal aspects. The role of CRID in the project is to make sure technological development is in accordance with the law. There are several legal aspects that need to be taken into account when designing an ECMS such as evidence requirements, making sure ECMS protects IPR work, ensuring balance of rights is not disturbed by technology. CRID has also been looking at questions such as whether or not limitation or exceptions apply to a digital environment. The need for harmonisation of these exceptions was also discussed. It was felt that there is not enough public debate about these issues in Europe. The question of privacy was also discussed. Richard Carr asked if it was possible to draw up a contract whereby the individual gives up his right to privacy. It was thought that as privacy is a fundamental right it cannot be signed away.

Emanuella Giavarra from the ECUP (European Copyright Users Platform) Programme spoke about the needs of users. ECUP is being run under the Libraries Programme. ECUP is involved in areas such as awareness raising, providing a copyright focal point and discussion list and trying to compile a net site of all documents on European copyright developments. ECUP has also produced a matrix of what should be allowed in an electronic environment. Emanuella thought that an ECMS would be of more use in an uncontrolled environment such as the Internet than in a controlled environment such as a library network. She also stressed that as ECMS concerns all user groups they should be kept in mind when developing an ECMS.

Graham Cornish spoke about the needs of copyright holders. He mentioned that there are many types of copyright holders. The need of the holder may vary according to what type of document is produced. He has written different types of work including journal articles, for which he gets no money so is flattered if quoted; official reports which he would not want published by anyone else because his Office would miss out on royalties; a book under contract for which he receives no royalties so is only interested in moral rights, and a commercial book for which he gets royalties and is therefore far more interested in what happens to it. Different types of publishers also have different needs, the 'entertainment' publisher will have wholly commercial interests, academic publishers have commercial interests but they still need to be able to provide a service, learned societies are mainly concerned with the advancement of knowledge. Therefore commercial publishers are moving towards total protection whereas learned societies are more concerned with freedom as their writers are also their readers. He then went on to express fears that monitoring use could lead to censorship. As an editor of a journal he is able to include articles by new or controversial authors. In an electronic environment where the publisher is being paid every time an article is viewed they may no longer publish the lesser read articles which will stop intellectual growth.

Charlotte Bayart (SEliSA) then spoke about the TISSUS Project which is being run under the ESPRIT Programme. They are creating an image bank to help creators of textiles by giving images from all over the world. The images are stored in folders of

which there are three kinds: museum; young designers (this is a way for students to promote their work); and up to date designs from established designers. The last folder will be added after the system has proved secure. The first two categories need less security as the museums and students donate their work free of charge. Only the third folder is confidential. The project has received what it considers worthwhile help from COPEARMS with a business plan and advice on legal issues. It the project succeeds it is because of the help given by the COPEARMS consortium.

Emanuella Giavarra asked if a brochure was available about the type of help that COPEARMS can provide. There is a dissemination pack which gives general information about the expertise of the partners. An IMPRIMATUR/ COPEARMS Roadmap is also being produced. This will give people an idea of who to contact about specific problems. The Project can only work directly with a limited number of vertical projects so it was suggested that the best way to seek help would be through the SIGs and workshops.

Unfortunately, Catherine Simon who was scheduled to talk about the TALISMAN Project was unable to attend the meeting. Copies of her slides are available in the proceedings.

The SIG closed with discussion about the scenario and general issues which is reproduced in a separate section.

A full copy of the proceedings is available from judy.watkins@bl.uk