

Notes From  **Workshop,**
Barcelona 12 September 1996

Delegates gave short presentations about ECMS projects with which they were involved. TISSUS, MULTIMEDIATOR and COPYSMART are included in the SIG proceedings so are not reproduced here.

DECOMATE - Núria Gallart

The DECOMATE Project is dealing with delivery of copyright material developing a generic system and material delivered by the publishers in electronic format. Negotiations with publishers have taken place for the trials, but new agreements will have to be reached after the project is finished. Whether or not agreement will be reached will depend on the outcome of the trials. The images are supplied by the publishers in PDF format. The system has been developed and it is hoped that the user trials will start in October. DECOMATE is interested in receiving advice from COPEARMS on security.

COPICAT - Gérard Eizenberg

The Copyright Ownership Protection in Computer Assisted Training (COPICAT) Project is now drawing to a close. It brought together elements from the CITED Project with educational systems tools developed by the Mari Group. One of the problems that has been encountered was the reluctance of publishers to give their material to electronic systems. Therefore the COPICAT Consortium includes a publisher and the Copyright Licensing Agency (CLA).

The purpose of the project is to protect materials with not too expensive technology using existing workstations. There have been problems of confinement without hardware specifications, but COPICAT wants to avoid additional hardware. Protection is based largely on encryption and is system specific. The work is delivered to a protected environment called the COPICAT Session. The Session accesses the controls to protect copyright. During the COPICAT Session it is not possible to send out protected work as the normal functions are temporally disabled during the session. However, there are some limitations. The system is dedicated to MS DOS windows 3.1 and will have to be modified for Windows '95. If changes are not too frequent then this should not pose many problems.

The system uses the black box approach. Access is included in the application. For a specific system it offers a reasonable level of protection for windows 3.1, others will have to wait for the new version. It is likely that COPICAT will result in the setting up of a commercial company.

IMPRIMATUR (Intellectual Multimedia Property Rights Model and Terminology for Universal Reference) - Judy Watkins

IMPRIMATUR is, like COPEARMS, a horizontal project funded under the ESPRIT Programme. The project can be split into two parts, consensus building and technology.

In some ways the aims of COPEARMS and IMPRIMATUR sound similar, for example both are interested in consensus building, the development of interoperable ECMS and standards, legal, business and technology issues. However, there are also some very important differences. IMPRIMATUR is a larger project in size and scope. Whereas COPEARMS is concentrating on mainly EC sponsored vertical projects IMPRIMATUR is looking at world wide consensus. In order to achieve this the consortium has about 16 partners representing the interests of the Creative Industries, Information user, IT & Telecommunications industries in Europe, the USA and Japan.

IMPRIMATUR and COPEARMS are working closely together, particularly in the area of SIGS. IMPRIMATUR has responsibility for business and legal SIGs world wide and technical and standard SIGs outside Europe, COPEARMS is holding technical and standards SIGs in Europe. The IMPRIMATUR SIG methodology was developed with co-operation from COPEARMS. As well as being used at the COPEARMS SIG over the past two days, IMPRIMATUR have held a 'virtual SIG' where delegates were posted the scenarios, there are copies on the IMPRIMATUR web site if anyone is interested in seeing them or completing them. An IMPRIMATUR workshop was also held as part of the EVA Conference. The first of a series of consensus fora is being held in London in November.

Michele Ledger from CRID explained that CRID and the IMPRIMATUR legal partner, ILC Telepathic have been working together. CRID will be helping with the legal SIG organised by IMPRIMATUR, and ILC Telepathic will be giving advice to COPEARMS on UK common law issues when required. In answer to a question Michele explained that there were no plans to produce a common model contract for the vertical consortia, but she would speak to ILC Telepathic.

The other part of the IMPRIMATUR Project is to develop a prototype Internet server for the protection of IPRs which takes into account the views opinions and requirements collected during the consensus building process.

For further information on the IMPRIMATUR Project you can visit their web site at <http://www.imprimatur.alcs.co.uk> or contact the IMPRIMATUR Project Office at 8 Bedford Square, London WC1B 3AR, Tel: 44 171 436 5578, Fax: 44 171 436 5579 e-mail: imprimatur@alcs.co.uk

EWOS (European Workshop for Open Systems)-Richard Carr

EWOS is composed of a number of expert groups one of which is EWOS EG EDI. This group has 25-30 people and meets four times a year, their aim is to provide specifications and guidance on open systems. The workshop is also intended to provide a fora for industry users, vendors as well as European projects.

There was a joint meeting in July of EWOS, IMPRIMATUR and COPEARMS. There were representatives from each consortium present together with other people from different industry sectors. A presentation was made by each group but, as it was only an exploratory meeting, there were no actions or outcome to report.

EWOS used to base all its work on profiling international standards developed by ISO/IEC JTC1 - the international organisation for IT standardisation. These European specific profiles would be submitted for ratification as European Norms to CEN/CENELEC the organisation for European IT standards. Recent changes to the way standards are considered by industry together with the initiatives of the Internet and the GII (the Global Information Infrastructure initiative from the G7 countries with major projects in the USA, Europe and Japan) are changing the way in which EWOS is working.

As a result EWOS is restructuring and from October EWOS expert groups will be reorganised into project teams which will only exist for the duration of a specific project. Unfortunately, standardisation is a slow process and it can take more than 10 years before implementations start to appear. For example, the work on the X.400 electronic mail standard started in the early eighties and only in the mid nineties are we seeing a significant number of implementations.

Conclusion

Judy Watkins said that if other projects wanted to send her updates on their projects she would be only too happy to disseminate the information to the COPEARMS mailing list.

Judy thanked everyone for participating in the workshop and the SIG, with special thank to Pauline Connolly who had made all the arrangements with the hotel. Delegates were given a questionnaire to complete to help with the planning of future SIGs. [From the ones that have been received back so far delegates enjoyed the SIG and Workshop and found the scenario approach interesting. Everyone is interested in joining a permanent SIG-*JW*].

Judy Watkins & Pauline Connolly