For immediate release

ICT 2015 networking session: “Key challenges in end-to-end privacy/security in untrusted environments”

The H2020 projects WITDOM (www.witdom.eu), TREDISEC (www.tredisec.eu) and PRISMACLOUD (www.prismacloud.eu), addressing to the H2020-ICT-2014-1 call, organize a joint networking session at the ICT 2015 – Innovate, Connect, Transform event, held on October 20th-22nd October 2015 in Centro de Congressos de Lisboa, Lisbon (Portugal).

The European Commission endorsed event ICT 2015 showcases and promotes the main breakthroughs in digital transformation and information technologies that happen in the EU.

The ICT hosts a number of parallel activities such as conferences presenting the new Commission’s policies and initiatives on Research & Innovation within the Horizon 2020 Programme, an interactive exhibition showcasing the best results and impact of these initiatives, manifold networking opportunities to enhance trusted partnerships, help participants to find partners to trigger collaboration, and a specific set of activities profiling EU policy actions for start-ups and SMEs, innovators, private and public investors.

During three days there will be around 130 networking sessions, informal discussion groups focused on themes targeting technology related policy challenges and forward looking technologies. These sessions aim at enabling a broad and multi-disciplinary dialogue between ICT stakeholders, helping them to build collaborative relationships, and better connecting research and innovation for a Digital Europe.

The joint networking session organized by WITDOM, TREDISEC and PRISMACLOUD will discuss challenges to both security and end-users’ privacy when outsourcing data to untrusted environments. The session is also supported by the project WISER (www.cyberwiser.eu) from the call H2020-DS-2014-1, acting as conductor of the session.

Mr. Nick Ferguson from Trust-IT, an expert with a long career in the cloud computing area, will set the stage with a keynote speech focused on the key challenges related to the cloud, such as privacy protection and integrity, or data storage. These challenges will be later presented by recognized researchers in the field to discuss where the trends are moving. Finally, a questions and answers slot is offered to interact with the audience about the proposed topics.

For more information about the networking session and how to participate, please contact the networking session coordinator, Ms. Elena González at elena.gonzalez.external@atos.net

Also, find information at the networking online space: https://ec.europa.eu/digital-agenda/events/cf/ict2015/item-display.cfm?id=15487

Next, it is described the abstract of each presentation, and the name of selected speakers with a summary of their background.
Presentation 1: “Cloud challenges to high-demanding privacy scenarios.”

Abstract: “Distributed environments, in particular cloud ones, are generally perceived as being untrusted for storing sensitive personal data. Unless specific data protection measures are implemented, Cloud Providers and malicious parties could gain access to such data and make an unlawful use of them, beyond the specific context of explicitly authorized purposes. In case of scenarios with high-demanding privacy needs (such as eHealth or financial data), moving operations to the cloud requires the provisioning of strict guarantees to all involved parties, in full compliance with the law and according to state-of-the-art technology and best privacy-by-design and cloud security practices. In this talk some of these privacy challenges will be presented, as well as some approaches to overcome them.”

Speaker: Nicolas Notario McDonnell (Atos). Project WITDOM.

Mr. Nicolás Notario holds a Degree in Computer Science from The Universidad Autónoma of Madrid and currently works as a researcher inside the Atos Research and Innovation group (the R&D arm of Atos). As a Privacy-by-design advocate and member of the Identity and Privacy lab, he is currently focused on the development and application of security and privacy by design methodologies in order to identify avoid and/or manage privacy risks and issues. He has several years of professional experience managing organisations’ technological observatories and has worked researching identity management and access control. He is also familiar with cross-border federated authentication and authorisation architectures and has several years’ experience in projects related to the financial domain and public sector.

Presentation 2: “Verifiability and Authenticity of Data and Beyond”

Abstract: “In this talk we discuss aspects related to reliably checking that third party infrastructure (i.e., the cloud) behaves as expected when storing and processing data. The focus is on cryptographic measures that ensure and sometimes even enforce honest behaviour and at least allow cryptographically holding the cloud accountable when it deviates from the expected behaviour.”

Speaker: Mr. Henrich C. Pöhls (Passau University). Project PRISMACLOUD.

Mr. Henrich C. Pöhls received his graduate diploma in computer science (Dipl. Inf.) from the University of Hamburg and additionally holds an M.Sc. in Information Security from Royal Holloway University of London. Since 2004 he is an IT Security Researcher in the team of Prof. Joachim Posegga, first at University of Hamburg and since 2008 at the University of Passau. His research currently focusses on the practical applications and legal implications of malleable signatures, a cryptographically advanced digital signature scheme. His teaching activities included a lecture course on PKI and network security. He has many years of experience in third-party funded research projects and IT security teaching. Currently, he leads the "Systems & Information Security and Trust" work package of RERUM (ict-rerum.eu) and the work package on "Composition of Next-Generation Secure Cloud Services" of PRISMACLOUD (prismacloud.eu).

Presentation 3: “Data protection versus storage efficiency and multi-tenancy”
Abstract: “Implementing existing end-to-end security solutions unfortunately may reduce the advantages of the cloud technology such as cost effective storage. We will talk about the challenges resulting from the combination of security, functional and non-functional requirements such as storage efficiency and multi-tenancy.”

Speaker: Ghassan Karame (NEC). Project TREDISEC.

Dr. Ghassan Karame is a Senior Researcher in the Security Group of NEC Research Laboratories in Germany. Before joining NEC Labs, he was working as a postdoctoral researcher in the Institute of Information Security of ETH Zurich, Switzerland. Dr. Karame holds a Master of Science degree in Information Networking from Carnegie Mellon University (CMU), and a PhD in Computer Science from ETH Zurich.

Dr. Karame is interested in all aspects of security and privacy with a focus on cloud security, SDN/network security, and Bitcoin security. More information about Dr. Karame’s research and activities can be found at www.ghassankarame.com.