

FASTPASS NEWSLETTER #11

Report on Spring 2016



FastPass present at the Frontex workshop on Border Security research projects

[Frontex](#) organized a specific workshop dedicated to an in depth presentation of the EU funded border security related research projects to the border guard experts. The main purpose was not only to inform the border guard community on what the future will bring in the field of specific technologies, but also to obtain their feedback and ideas on how the projects could better serve the end user's interest. 27 experts from 15 Member States border guard authorities (Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Estonia, Finland, Greece, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Luxemburg, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Spain, Sweden), as well as members from the DG Migration and Home Affairs and Frontex were present. FastPass could present newest results on biometric algorithms and sensors, video surveillance, interoperability results of passport scanning devices and the status of its demonstrations at air, land and sea borders. The interest of border guard authorities was manifested by the fact, that several experts announced to establish direct contact to the consortium or to be interested in visiting the FastPass pilots. The consortium is happy to include all the interesting feedbacks and further work on the harmonized modular reference solution for next generation ABC systems.

FastPass solution for land border crossing

by The Magnetic Autocontrol Group, Partner of the FastPass Consortium, one of the world's leading producers of barriers and access control gates. Organisation based in Schopfheim (Germany).



Test installation at Moravita - © Magnetic Autocontrol Group

Sustaining the border guards with an automated, harmonized and modular system that makes the border

process control faster, easier, and more secure – the whole concept behind FastPass enters now in the test phase. As part of the Consortium, Magnetic Autocontrol Group has made a major contribution for the demonstration at land border. Indeed, they have been entrusted with the development of a dedicated system that automatically checks the occupants of cars at the EU's external borders.

Thomas Bürgin, engineer from the Development/Design Department working in the FastPass project, explains: "We have worked on its design for a whole year". The system was launched in May 2016. The first trial plant of this type is located in Moravita, at the Romanian- Serbian border.

How does the system work? Cars arriving at the border are driven to the checkpoint. One or two terminals (depending on the number of occupants) approach the driver and passenger windows so that the equipment is easily accessible for the occupants. The terminals then check the passports and fingerprints, and, following a successful inspection, the vehicle is allowed to proceed. In principle, the terminal has the same inspection possibilities as the customs officials use. The biometric data are stored. "The system, however, replaces by no means the border guards," clarifies Thomas Bürgin. They are always nearby and helpful if there is some kind of problem – for example if the passport is accidentally dropped – because the driver cannot get out of the vehicle during the inspection. For this reason, there is also an emergency button so that a border guard can be called over at any time. The system is merely intended to simplify the border guards' routine work.

The technical challenge: what sounds so straightforward was actually a technical challenge for the designers. What is so special about this system is that the driver and passenger can remain in the vehicle. This, however, complicates the design because the width, length and height of the vehicles vary. The terminals detect this and approach the occupants with extreme accuracy. Of course, the system also detects obstacles such as the wing mirrors.

Over the coming months, the field trial will show how 'border-crossers' and border guards will be able to profit from this technology in future.

FastPass Panel at the CPDP 2016

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FastPass Partners KU Leuven (KUL) and Oxford Internet Institute (OII) organized a FastPass Panel discussion at the 2016 Computers, Privacy and Data Protection Conference (CPDP), which took place in January 2016 in Brussels. The Panel was entitled "Technologies for Border Control and Beyond: how to Integrate Privacy and Data Protection."

The main topics of the panel was the usage of solutions for Automated Border Control (ABC) and the proposals for an Entry/Exit System (EES) and a Registered Traveller Programme (RTP), which form part of the 2013 Proposal on the Smart Borders Package. The discussion focused on how these technologies (would) affect (1) the fundamental rights to privacy, data protection and non-discrimination and (2) the existing "architecture" of the Schengen provisions on border control.

The Panel was chaired by Diana Dimitrova (KUL) and moderated by Ian Brown (OII). The selected panelists who come from different backgrounds - Maik Rudolf from the German Federal Police, Wilfried Grommen from HP Enterprise (HPE), Gabriel Blaj from the European Data Protection Supervisor (EDPS) and Angela Sasse from the University College London (UCL) – exchanged their views on 3 questions, namely:

- The Fundamental Rights implications of data-driven border control.
- The data protection and privacy risks of biometric technologies at borders and the possible solutions to them.
- The necessity of and the right balance for measures such as the Smart Borders and proposals to extend some or all of its scope to all passengers.

As a result of the productive discussion different risks were pointed out, e.g. potential mismatches of biometric data leading to wrongful identification of passengers, and the panel tried to propose technical and non-technical solutions to these risks.

More information about the CPDP Conference and the FastPass Panel can be found here: <http://www.cpdpconferences.org/28012016/petite.html>.

FastPass and MobilePass projects sign a cooperation agreement

In spring this year, both Consortia of the FastPass and the MobilePass projects have agreed on signing a cooperation agreement. The objective of such concord is to join forces, where applicable, so that both projects gain in visibility and quality of work. Particularly encouraged by the European Commission, the cooperation of research projects ensures an exchange between the stakeholders involved in the solving of current challenges and enables the birth of new synergies over the territory. A common work between FastPass and MobilePass has been seen as really relevant, as diverse organisations are members of the

two Consortia. Obviously, both projects deal with border control. While FastPass focuses on developing a modular and harmonized reference system for ABCs at all types of borders, MobilePass concentrates on the creation of a mobile device facilitating the border control at land border. More information can be found on this project here. Both Consortia are looking forward to the added value this cooperation will bring to their work!

Meet the Consortium!

The FastPass Consortium will present papers at the European Intelligence and Security Informatics Conference (EISIC) in Uppsala, Sweden, from 17 to 19 August 2016.



The FastPass Consortium will be present at the **EAB-RPC 2016**. This event will take place in Darmstadt (Germany) on 19th-20th September 2016.

Our archived newsletters are available [here](#) !



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