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News from the Member Federations | General CoESS news

Effective security is imperative during economic instability



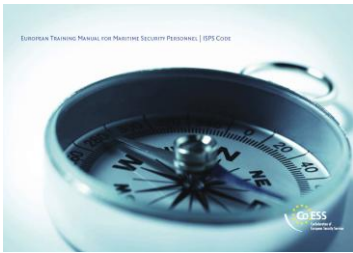
The British Security Industry Association (BSIA), member of CoESS, is advising organisations who may be contemplating cutting back on security during these uncertain economic times to think again. With the Home Office anticipating an increase in overall crime figures - based on previous downturns - now more

than ever, the BSIA believes, that existing security systems and procedures should be maintained. There may even be a case for additional investment to protect assets and people and to realise long-term savings in terms of the impact of crime on public and commercial areas.

- ➔ Source: BSIA | January 9, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the BSIA website:
http://www.bsia.co.uk/LY8WLW49550_itemid;NFMTXF83991_backlinktype;home_action;displayitem.

News from the CoESS Working Committees

CoESS Working Committee Maritime Security - development of the Train-the-Trainer programme



The CoESS Working Committee Maritime Security recently published its manual entitled 'European Training Manual for Maritime Security Personnel - ISPS Code', which is available for download and review on the CoESS website: <http://www.coess.eu/pdf/COESS-ISPSmanual.pdf>. The Training Manual is the ideal tool to provide port facility security personnel with the specialist education they need in order to ensure they are fully compliant with the ISPS Code. In order to turn the Manual into a practical training course, a specific Maritime Security Project Group developed a full-fledged Train-the-Trainer programme. From February 17-19, 2009 a three-day Train-the-Trainer course will be organised for national trainers who will in turn train port facility security personnel in their respective countries. Please do not hesitate to ask the CoESS General Secretariat for further information and a full programme!

CoESS Working Committee Electronic Surveillance

Following the Working Committee Electronic Surveillance of November 26, 2008 in Milan, Italy, an article was published in the Italian security magazine 'Vigilanza'. The Working Committee was organised in the framework of the Sicurezza Exhibition. The Working Committee members were proud to welcome representatives from the Italian telemonitoring federation, who gave their expert input regarding the structure and specificities of the Italian telemonitoring market, current legislation on telemonitoring and future trends and evolutions and public/private cooperation with public authorities and the police.

- ➔ The full article (Italian) can be reviewed on the CoESS intranet site: <http://coess.org/intranet/login.php>. Please note that you will have to login to be able to consult the document. In case you have any difficulties logging in, please contact the CoESS General Secretariat.

CoESS Working Committee Electronic Surveillance - January 19, 2009 (Brussels)

On January 19, 2009 the Working Committee Electronic Surveillance organised a meeting in Brussels. The following topics were tabled: follow-up of the CENELEC workgroup (n° 14) on ARC specifications, White Paper on ARCs entitled 'The role of an ARC in today's private security landscape' and the Working Committee action plan for 2009.

- ➔ The minutes of the Working Committee Electronic Surveillance of January 19, 2009 will soon be made available on the CoESS intranet site: <http://coess.org/intranet/login.php>. Please note that you will have to login to be able to consult the document. In case you have any difficulties logging in, please contact the CoESS General Secretariat.

CoESS Working Committee Guarding - January 27, 2009 (Brussels)

On January 27, 2009 the Working Committee Guarding for the first time welcomed its new Working Committee Chairman, Erik-Jan Jansen, since his election during the last CoESS General Assembly. The agenda focused on the following topics: Working Committee action plan for 2009, present situation in EU and CEN projects, status of the Services Directive, methodology for survey statistics, definition of private security and status of the planned mobility project.

- ➔ The minutes of the Working Committee Guarding of January 27, 2009 will soon be made available on the CoESS intranet site: <http://coess.org/intranet/login.php>. Please note that you will have to login to be able to consult the document. In case you have any difficulties logging in, please contact the CoESS General Secretariat.

News from ASSA-I (Aviation Security Services Association International)

ACI Airport Economics and Finance Conference

On February 10-11, 2009 Airports Council International (ACI) will organise the Airport Economics and Finance two-day Conference and Exhibition on financial management and economic sustainability of airports. This international event will take place in the London Marriott Hotel Regents Park.

- ➔ Source: Airports Council International (ACI) | January 7, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the ACI website: http://www.aci.aero/cda/aci_common/display/main/aci_content07_c.jsp?zn=aci&cp=1-4-7772^25715_666_2.

Travellers to the US face new entry regime

As of January 12, 2009 EU citizens have made a major change in their preparations to travel to the US. A new system came into force requiring them to fill out a form online and receive authorisation to travel from US border officials before stepping onto a plane. The scheme, called the Electronic System for Travel Authorisation (ESTA), has been operating since August 1, 2008, but on a voluntary basis. It is part of a broader reform of the US visa-waiver programme, carried out in parallel with an expansion of the programme to include new countries.

- ➔ Source: European Voice | January 8, 2009

Air passenger transport in the EU27 up by 7% in 2007

The total number of passengers transported by air in the EU27 rose by 7.3% in 2007 compared with 2006, to 793 million. In 2006, passenger numbers in the EU27 rose by 4.7%. In 2007, the highest numbers of passengers were registered in the United Kingdom (217 million, +3%), Germany (164 million, +6%), Spain (164 million, +9%), France (120 million, +6%) and Italy (106 million, +11%). The number of air passengers rose in 2007 in all EU Member States. Four Member States recorded growth of above 20% compared with 2006: Romania (+41%), Latvia (+27%), Poland (+25%) and Lithuania (+22%). The lowest growth rates were reported in Luxembourg (+2%), the United Kingdom (+3%), the Netherlands, Hungary and Cyprus (all +4%). Of the total number of passengers transported by air, 22% (176 million) were carried on national flights, 44% (346 million) on intra-EU27 flights and 34% (271 million) on extra-EU27 flights.

- ➔ Source: Eurostat | January 13, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Eurostat website: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/portal/page?_pageid=1073,46587259&_dad=portal&_schema=PORTAL&p_product_code=KS-SF-09-001.

Alitalia reborn with smaller network

On January 13, 2009 the relaunch of Alitalia as a fully-privatised company was a fact. The new entity consists of a downsized 'old' Alitalia combined with Air One and Volareweb. The airline revealed that a new joint network will serve a total of 70 destinations of which 23 are within Italy.

- ➔ Source: Alitalia | January 13, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Alitalia website: <http://www.alitalia.com>.

European Airport Traffic Trends

As part of some research undertaken for ACI Europe on trends in demand at European airports this summer, anna-aero collected data on over 250 airports across Europe (and Morocco). The spreadsheet can be sorted by country, airport name, size or growth rate in each month. This makes it the most comprehensive source of European airport traffic trend data available today.

- ➔ Source: anna-aero | January 16, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the anna-aero website: <http://www.anna.aero/european-airport-traffic-trends>.

European Parliament may sell body scanners

Full-body scanners that have been lying around in the European Parliament since 2005 may now be put up for sale after MEPs last year voted down their use in EU airports. The controversial machines were bought three years ago in the aftermath of the 2001 Al Qaeda attacks on New York and Washington.

- ➔ Source: EUobserver | January 21, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/9/27451/?rk=1>.

News from the European Union

Slovakia says “yes” to the Euro



The Euro became legal tender in Slovakia on January 1, 2009. After a 16-day transition period during which both currencies were in use, the Slovak Koruna disappeared from wallets and tills. The date marks 10 years since the launch of the Euro in 11 EU countries, although they kept their national notes and coins until early 2002. In 2001 Greece adopted the Euro. Slovenia followed in 2007, and Malta and Cyprus in 2008. Entering the Eurozone required reform of economic and fiscal policies over many years.

- ➔ Source: European Commission | December 31, 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Commission website: http://ec.europa.eu/news/economy/081231_1_en.htm.

The European Security Strategy - Providing security in a changing world

Five years on from adoption of the European Security Strategy (ESS), the European Union carries greater responsibilities than at any time in its history. On December 11-12, 2008 an evaluation of the ESS was reviewed and approved by the 27 EU Member States. The evaluation was based on a report by Javier Solana, High Representative for CFSP and Secretary-General of the Council of the European Union, on the ESS' implementation since 2003 and includes modifications to update the strategy.

- ➔ Source: Council of the European Union | December 2008
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Council of the European Union website: http://consilium.europa.eu/cms3_fo/showPage.ASP?id=266&lang=EN&mode=g.

Czech Republic at the helm



As of January 1, 2009 the Czech Republic presides over the meetings of EU-27 between January and June 2009. The preparations for the Presidency took two years. The organisation and formulation of the Presidency's priorities, meetings with Heads of State and Prime Ministers of all Member States as part of the 'tour de capitals', as well as closer cooperation with the European Commission were all crucial elements to a successful Presidency. Sweden will take over the Presidency in the second half of 2009.

- ➔ Source: Czech Presidency | January 1, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Czech Presidency website: <http://www.eu2009.cz/en/>.

Three EU States open up to Bulgarian and Romanian workers

The New Year has brought with it the lifting of restrictions for Bulgarian and Romanian workers in Greece, Spain and Denmark, but a number of EU States will be keeping barriers to their labour markets for three more years. On December 31, 2008 Greece became the latest 'old' EU Member to lift restrictions for Bulgarian and Romanian workers, following Spain and Denmark, which set the example earlier in December. By contrast, the UK, Ireland, Germany, Austria, Luxembourg, the Netherlands and Belgium have announced in the last weeks that they would keep their labour markets closed to Bulgarians and Romanians for a second period of three years, citing the economic downturn as the main reason.

- ➔ Source: EUobserver | January 2, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/9/27339/?rk=1>.

Euro area inflation estimated at 1.6%

Euro area annual inflation is expected to be 1.6% in December 2008 according to a flash estimate issued by Eurostat, the Statistical Office of the European Communities. It was 2.1% in November 2008.

- ➔ Source: Eurostat | January 6, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Eurostat website: http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/pls/portal/docs/PAGE/PGP_PRD_CAT_PREREL/PGE_CAT_PREREL_YEAR_2009/PGE_CAT_PREREL_YEAR_2009_MONTH_01/2-06012009-EN-AP.PDF.

Capitals tune in to European Commission's musical chairs

Just under a year ahead of the appointment of the next EU Executive, word is already out regarding the redistribution of portfolios of some Commissioners, nominated by the 27 EU Member States.

- ➔ Source: EurActiv | January 6, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/future-eu/capitals-tune-commission-musical-chairs/article-178290>.

Czechs prepare for possible second Irish No



The Czech EU Presidency is preparing a contingency plan for one of the most sensitive areas in the EU Institutional set-up in case Ireland rejects Europe's Lisbon Treaty for a second time later this year. According to the Irish Times newspaper, Prague is working on a plan for how to reduce the size of the European Commission should Irish voters once again vote No in autumn.

- ➔ Source: Irish Times | January 8, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Irish Times website: <http://www.irishtimes.com/newspaper/world/2009/0108/1230936761694.html>.

Schengen data-sharing system faces further delay

On January 15-16, 2009 Interior Ministers accepted a further delay in upgrading a data-sharing system used by police and border guards because of problems encountered by contractors. The upgrade, which will enable the system to store biometrical data, was originally scheduled for completion in 2007, but work may now stretch into 2010. The delay could affect Bulgaria's and Romania's preparations to join the passport-free Schengen area.

- ➔ Source: European Voice | January 8, 2009

Czechs hope to finalise working-time rules before the European elections

The Czech Presidency of the EU will engage in a race against time to secure a deal on maximum working hours in the EU before MEPs leave Brussels to campaign in the European elections. The European Parliament and the Council of Ministers are currently at loggerheads over the working-time rules. MEPs adopted a report in December 2008 calling for opt-outs to the EU's existing 48-hour

working week to be scrapped and for all time that people spend on-call to be counted as working time. This differs markedly from a common position adopted by national governments in June 2008. This says that opt-outs should be retained and that on-call time should be counted towards the 48 hours only when people are actually required to work.

➔ Source: European Voice | January 8, 2009

Crises send Blair top of EU Presidency list

While the European Union grapples with its latest international crisis over gas supply and the Israeli incursion into Gaza, EU officials and diplomats seem more determined than ever to improve the chances of Tony Blair becoming EU President.

➔ Source: Financial Times | January 12, 2009

➔ For further information, please consult the Financial Times website: http://www.ft.com/cms/s/0/c919a4b4-e04a-11dd-9ee9-000077b07658.html?nclick_check=1.

Irish poll shows majority support for Lisbon Treaty



A new poll suggests that a majority of Irish voters may back the Lisbon Treaty in a second referendum to be held in autumn this year. The Sunday Independent/Quantum Research survey carried out on January 9, 2009 showed that 55% of the 500 people asked would support the Treaty while 37% said they would oppose it and 15% said they were undecided.

➔ Source: Irish Independent | January 12, 2009

➔ For further information, please consult the Irish Independent website: <http://www.independent.ie/national-news/poll-meltdown-for-cowen-gormley-1598238.html>.

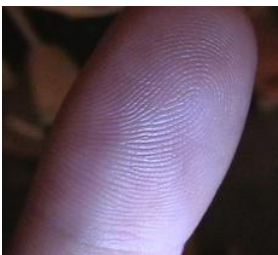
Euro coin counterfeiting in 2008

The total number of counterfeit Euro coins removed from circulation in 2008 was 195,900, down from 211,100 the year before. While this development confirms the success of the action to render Euro coins safer for the users, Member States should maintain and intensify efforts to remove counterfeits from circulation. Two European Commission initiatives presented in 2008 to further improve the fight against Euro counterfeiting, were successfully adopted by the Council in December 2008: ensuring that financial institutions authenticate Euro coins and banknotes putting them back into circulation and ensuring that medals and tokens are sufficiently different from Euro coins, so as to avoid potential confusion of coin users.

➔ Source: European Commission | January 12, 2009

➔ For further information, please consult the European Commission website: <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=MEMO/09/7&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

EU to launch biometric passports by summer



On January 14, 2009 MEPs backed new rules on the introduction of biometric passports throughout the EU later this year, while exempting children under 12 years from having fingerprints included in their passports. The rules were approved at a first reading by an overwhelming majority of MEPs - 594 against 51, while 37 abstained.

➔ Source: European Parliament | January 14, 2009

➔ For further information, please consult the European Parliament website: http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/019-46172-012-01-03-902-20090114IPR46171-12-01-2009-2009-false/default_en.htm.

Report cites need for Eurozone central regulator

An Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) report published on January 14, 2009 cites the need for centralisation of financial regulation in the Euro area. In a televised interview, senior OECD economist and head of the EU desk, Nigel Pain, said one way to achieve this aim “is to have an agency which oversees the work of the existing national supervisors.”

- Source: Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) | January 14, 2009
- For further information, please consult the OECD website:
http://www.oecd.org/document/53/0,3343,en_2649_34569_41950453_1_1_1_1,00.html.

Parliament paves way for single EU defence market

On January 14, 2009, MEPs approved new EU rules to open up national defence procurement to all European suppliers, raising hopes that more transparency and competition will be introduced to this sensitive market. But industry fears the move will damage R&D investment. The new legislation establishes a coordinated EU procedure for public procurement of defence and security goods. This Directive also includes non-military goods. It covers all public service contracts concluded between EU operators, with a minimum threshold of € 412,000 for supply and service contracts and € 5.15 million for works contracts. It does not apply to intelligence-related or extra-EU contracts.

- Source: European Commission | January 15, 2009
- For further information, please consult the European Commission website:
http://ec.europa.eu/internal_market/publicprocurement/dpp_en.htm and
http://ec.europa.eu/prelex/detail_dossier_real.cfm?CL=en&DosId=196507.

Czechs want VAT compromise by March 2009

On January 20, 2009 EU Finance Ministers will discuss how a compromise could be achieved by March 2009 on a proposal to reduce value-added tax (VAT) rates on labour intensive services. The Czech Presidency of the EU will present a timeline to Ministers for discussion following an agreement by EU leaders in December 2008 that they should “settle this issue by March 2009”.

- Source: European Voice | January 15, 2009

Eurozone growth down

Growth in the EU is expected to fall by 1.8% in 2009, but fiscal stimulus packages and rate cuts will see growth increase by 0.5% in 2010, according to interim forecasts from the European Commission. The fall in growth in the Eurozone will be 1.9% this year with unemployment in the 16 Eurozone economies expected to rise to 9.25%. The unemployment rate in 2009 for the EU27 is expected to be 8.75%.

- Source: European Commission | January 19, 2009
- For further information, please consult the European Commission website:
<http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/67&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

Croatia's EU timetable threatened by border dispute



Croatia's ongoing border dispute with Slovenia must be solved within the next few weeks or the country is unlikely to conclude EU talks by the end of 2009 as planned, the MEP in charge of the dossier warned.

- Source: European Parliament | January 21, 2009
- For further information, please consult the European Parliament website:
http://www.europarl.europa.eu/meetdocs/2004_2009/documents/re/753/753365/753365en.pdf.

EU announces maritime transport strategy



EU Transport Commissioner Antonio Tajani launched proposals for a new maritime transport strategy on January 21, 2009 at a time when the sector faces stiff competition during the economic downturn. Under the new proposals, measures simplifying customs procedures will be adopted this year and guidelines aimed at accelerating plant and animal checks will also be published. Eighty percent of world trade is currently carried out across the seas, with the EU as the world's largest exporter and second largest importer.

- ➔ Source: EUobserver | January 21, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/882/27453>.

German court handed new complaint on EU Treaty

Germany's constitutional court was handed a second complaint over the EU's Lisbon Treaty with the potential to delay the country's final ratification of the document for several months. The new legal action, running to over 200 pages, is concerned with economic as well as political issues, which the complainants say are not addressed by the Lisbon Treaty.

- ➔ Source: Handelsblatt | January 27, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Handelsblatt website: <http://www.handelsblatt.com/politik/deutschland/neue-klage-gegen-eu-vertrag-von-lissabon;2134725>.

EU mulls new data protection initiatives

As Europe celebrated its third 'data protection day' on January 28, 2009, the European Commission announced plans to tighten the relevant rules. Meanwhile, EU privacy authorities are focusing on Internet search engines' data storage and street viewing software. Brussels will launch a Europe-wide public consultation by April 2009 on how to reinforce data protection. "We have to reflect on the possible necessity of modernising the existing legal framework to respond to the challenges posted by new technologies," said EU Justice and Home Affairs Commissioner Jacques Barrot on January 28, 2009. An expert group set up by the Commission is currently studying possible innovations. Many issues are at stake, including extending the concept of personal data to IP addresses and cookies.

- ➔ Source: European Commission | January 28, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Commission website: <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=SPEECH/09/27&format=HTML&aged=0&language=FR&guiLanguage=en> and the following European Commission document: http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/fsj/privacy/news/docs/pr_10_12_08_en.pdf.

Czechs delay Lisbon vote again, despite popular support

The Czech Parliament's vote on the Lisbon Treaty has once again been deferred to allow a parliamentary committee to examine the text further. Meanwhile, almost two thirds of Czech citizens are in favour of ratifying the Treaty, a poll found. The Czech parliament's speaker announced that the vote will now take place on February 15, buying more time for the foreign affairs committee to scrutinise certain aspects of the document.

- ➔ Source: EurActiv | January 29, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/future-eu/czechs-delay-lisbon-vote-despite-popular-support/article-178961>.

For further information on these topics, please contact the General Secretariat

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