



INDICARE and the eContent Programme

INDICARE responded to the 3rd call, subline 3.3: Management of rights for digital content, of the eContent Programme of the European Commission, DG Information Society. INDICARE, a so called Accompanying Measure, started first of March 2004 and is scheduled for two years (Ref.: EDC - 53042 INDICARE / 28609).

How to benefit from INDICARE

INDICARE will provide information in different formats:

- A **comprehensive and informative website**.
- An **electronic discussion forum** utilising weblogs and e-mail lists to exchange opinions, provide timely information about recent developments and personalised answers to specific questions.
- A **newsletter** will convey thoughtful, sometimes provocative opinions, personal experiences, cases of best or worst practice, reviews, news items, interviews, etc.
- **Five workshops** will be organised dealing with 'Business Models and Rights Management', 'e-Payments for Digital Content', 'Consumer Perspective on DRM', 'Social Exclusion by DRM', and 'Human Factors of DRMs'.
- **State of the art reports** will provide up-to-date information about legal, technological, economic, application and implementation level developments of DRM.
- A **consumer survey** will be performed to gather reliable data on consumer behaviour with respect to digital goods, usage patterns, acceptability and preferences of DRM solutions.
- **Publications for specifically targeted audiences** encompass a 'Consumer Guide', a 'Guide for Users', and 'Policy Papers'.

Brief Project Description

Version 2, 1 June 2004

Overall goal

The overall goal of INDICARE is to raise awareness, help to reconcile heterogeneous interests of multiple players, and to support the emergence of a common European position with regard to consumer and user issues of Digital Rights Management (DRM) solutions.

Focus

INDICARE addresses problems pointed out in the eContent work programme 2003-2004: "There has been little attention to the consumer side of managing rights. Questions remain open as to the level of consumer acceptability of rights management solutions. Interface and functionality of systems, as well as policy issues linked to privacy and access to information should be investigated. The consumer question also involves the easiness of access, the legitimate use of content and business models and the easiness of access for disabled persons" (p. 19). In addition to consumer issues INDICARE will address the user side, in particular concerns of creators and small and medium-sized information providers.

Approach

The INDICARE project will establish and maintain an informed dialogue about consumer and user issues of DRM. **Informed dialogue** means that discussions will be stimulated and informed by good quality input such as news information and profound analyses (see box on left). Part of the input will be derived from interdisciplinary in-depth research of the INDICARE partners as well as from knowledge of experts and stakeholders cooperating with INDICARE.

How to join INDICARE

It is an essential of INDICARE to intensively involve different types of participants.

- ▶ You are invited to participate as active subscriber who may contribute to the weblogs and receive the newsletter.
- ▶ As an expert or committed individual you are encouraged to contribute articles to the newsletter.
- ▶ You may also consider joining the 'INDICARE Core Network' of stakeholders and experts who are to play an active role in the animation of the online discussions, in the review process of the newsletter, and in quality control of other project publications.

Composition of Partners

The composition of partners is expected to bring together the competences required for the Informed Dialogue. **ITAS**, the co-ordinator of the project, has long-standing experience in socio-economic studies of information and communication technologies (ICT), technology assessment and policy advise. **Berlecon**, a private research and consultancy company, is specialised in electronic markets, services, usage and effects of information technologies. The economic and technical expertise of Berlecon is based on scientific methods of analysis. **IViR** is one of the outstanding European centres for information law, focusing on intellectual and industrial property, e.g. copyright, software patents, privacy and media law. **SEARCH** has expertise in technology research on DRM systems, mobile and Internet security, and adds the perspective of new member states.

How to contact INDICARE

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