

## News from the Member Federations | General CoESS news

- The Belgian Private Security Association (APEG-BVBO) launched its new website!
- SNES (French CoESS member) - Certified quality in manned guarding
- VPB (Dutch CoESS member) quality mark private investigation agencies
- VPB (Dutch CoESS member) security quality mark
- CoESS' 20 years' celebration on the occasion of the CoESS General Assembly - September 30-October 2, 2009 (Rome, Italy)

## News from the CoESS Working Committees

- CoESS Working Committee Cohesion - May 7, 2009 (Vienna, Austria)
- CoESS Working Committee Electronic Surveillance - May 14, 2009 (Birmingham, United Kingdom)
- CoESS Working Committee Guarding - May 26, 2009 (Brussels)

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

- Behavioural Analysis Solutions - spotting the enemy
- EU freezes airport slot rules ahead of summer season
- European airports disappointed by European Parliament vote on slots
- European Commission proposes a new framework to regulate aviation security charges
- EU air safety agency pledges better rulemaking
- ICAO drives pandemic contingency plans for aviation sector
- Reducing aviation's emissions - IATA calls for a global sectoral approach

## News from the European Union

- European Commission conference discusses better and safer parking areas for trucks
- Layoffs dwarf job creation across Europe
- Eurociett position paper for the Employment Summit
- Czech Senate approves EU's Lisbon Treaty
- Eastern Partnership Summit to strengthen EU links with Eastern Europe and South Caucasus
- Working Time breaches could lead to legal action
- Twelve measures to offset the effects of the crisis presented at the Employment Summit
- Insufficient evidence found to support licensing of in-house security guards
- EU Employment Summit agrees on ways to tackle rising unemployment
- Iceland prepares to launch EU accession talks
- Watchdog website keeps eye on MEP voting records
- Euro area annual inflation stable at 0.6%
- All EU countries celebrated European Maritime Day in Rome - May 18-20, 2009
- Czechs pushing for EU Services Directive implementation
- Call for Ireland to set referendum date
- Turkey receives reassurance on EU membership bid
- European Commission organises conference to look at new challenges for the protection of personal data
- Unlicensed operators working in security services with PSA consent
- EU adopts Blue Card scheme for skilled migrants

## News from the Member Federations | General CoESS news

### The Belgian Private Security Association (APEG-BVBO) launched its new website!



APEG-BVBO is proud to announce its new website: [www.apeg-bvbo.be](http://www.apeg-bvbo.be)! Next to a fresh and dynamic design, the new website also offers improved navigation, user-friendliness and search functionality. The range of available information has been significantly widened. Visitors can subscribe to RSS feeds so they can immediately consult current information via e-mail, GSM or other mobile devices. Get acquainted with the sections 'News and press' and 'Legislation and CLAs' and stay tuned for the latest general and legislative developments within the private security landscape. For the members of the Association, a varied member section was developed. Besides an activity calendar, the intranet also offers APEG-BVBO's membership numerous information and working documents in preparation and follow-up of internal APEG-BVBO dossiers.

### SNES (French CoESS member) - Certified quality in manned guarding

#### QualiSécurité

In response to a survey launched in April 2008 by French private security federations SNES and USP, both active members of CoESS, clients and buyers of private security services indicated that the most important issue they encounter is that there are no objective criteria available to evaluate the quality of services provided. In May 2009, SNES provides a sustainable answer to this question by introducing AFNOR Certification, thereby completing the development and official publication of the new quality system 'Afaq Service Confiance QualiSécurité' which is aimed specifically at manned guarding services.

→ Source: SNES | May 2009

→ For further information, please consult the SNES website (French): [http://www.e-snes.org/i\\_zip/cp\\_qualisecurite\\_mai09.pdf](http://www.e-snes.org/i_zip/cp_qualisecurite_mai09.pdf).

### VPB (Dutch CoESS member) quality mark private investigation agencies



VPB, the Dutch private security federation, active member of CoESS, developed a quality mark for private investigation agencies, based on its security quality mark. The former has now been officially approved by all VPB members. The quality mark for private investigation agencies is active as of April 17, 2009. VPB members specialised in private investigation have until April 16, 2010 to achieve the quality mark.

→ Source: VPB Checklist | May 2009

→ For further information, please consult the VPB website: [www.vpb.nl](http://www.vpb.nl).

### VPB (Dutch CoESS member) security quality mark



VPB will soon update its existing security quality mark. Some additional requirements relating to aggression and violence at the workplace, socially responsible undertaking and requirements vis-à-vis the entrepreneur will be added. Furthermore, the percentage required to achieve the quality mark will be raised from 60% to 70%. All scored questions relating to integrity will become obligatory criteria.

→ Source: VPB Checklist | May 2009

→ For further information, please consult the VPB website: [www.vpb.nl](http://www.vpb.nl).

### CoESS' 20 years' celebration on the occasion of the CoESS General Assembly - September 30-October 2, 2009 (Rome, Italy)



In 2009, CoESS celebrates 20 years of representation and unification of private security in Europe! During its 20 years of existence, CoESS has accomplished key achievements in the promotion, development and professionalisation of the European private security industry. To mark this momentous occasion, an Academic Session will be organised on September 30, 2009 in Rome, Italy.

The Academic Session will be followed by an exclusive cultural visit and celebratory gala dinner. The CoESS General Assemblies will both take place on October 1, 2009. Traditionally, in order to limit travel and accommodation expenses for all participants, some CoESS Working Committees as well as the CoESS Board of Directors have decided to meet in Rome on October 2, 2009.

→ For further information, please consult the CoESS website: <http://www.coess.eu/ne090430.htm>.

## News from the CoESS Working Committees

### CoESS Working Committee Cohesion - May 7, 2009 (Vienna, Austria)

On May 7, 2009 the Working Committee Cohesion organised a meeting in Vienna, Austria. The following topics were discussed: Slovenian member federation's project 'Development of the Social Dialogue in the Private Security Industry - Networking and Neighbourly Help in the New Eastern European Member States and Candidate Countries of the EU - II', Vienna Roadmap - Chapter II project (White Paper), objectives of the Vienna Roadmap and presentation of country reports. The Working Committee and the General Secretariat kindly thank our host, VSÖ, for accommodating the meeting.

→ The minutes of the Working Committee Cohesion of May 7, 2009 are 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 Electronic Surveillance - May 14, 2009 (Birmingham, United Kingdom)

The Working Committee Electronic Surveillance was organised on May 14, 2009 in Birmingham, United Kingdom, in the framework of the IFSEC 2009 Exhibit, which took place from May 11-14, 2009 in the National Exhibition Centre (NEC) in Birmingham. The topics tabled included: follow-up of the CENELEC workgroup 14 on ARC specifications, White Paper on ARCs and discussion on new topics and projects to be dealt with by the Working Committee. The Working Committee and the General Secretariat kindly thank our host, BSIA, for accommodating the meeting.

→ The minutes of the Working Committee Electronic Surveillance of May 14, 2009 are 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.

→ For further information on the IFSEC 2009 Exhibit, please consult the IFSEC 2009 Exhibit website: <http://www.ifsec.co.uk>.

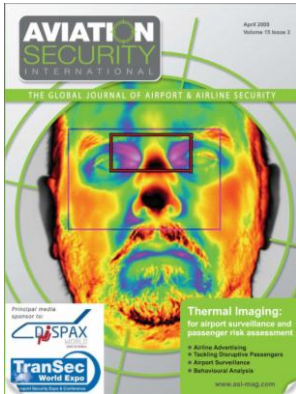
### CoESS Working Committee Guarding - May 26, 2009 (Brussels)

On May 26, 2009 the Working Committee Guarding organised a meeting in Brussels to discuss the following topics and projects: update on the present situation in EU and CEN projects, discussion on a possible future EU harmonisation, methodology for survey statistics, definition of private security and state of play of the mobility project.

→ The minutes of the Working Committee Guarding of May 26, 2009 are 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)

### Behavioural Analysis Solutions - spotting the enemy



A man stands in an airport security line, restlessly fidgeting with his bulky coat while shifting his eyes back and forth. Beads of sweat drip from his forehead. The aviation security officers at the checkpoint must be prepared to spot such suspicious signals as well as proceed to determine whether the passenger is an actual threat, a nervous flyer or simply upset over something in his personal life. As Stacey A. Shannon reveals, the global aviation industry is examining a variety of ways to make sure security officers are able to best analyse behaviour by training them to see potential threats through observation and utilisation of emerging technologies.

- ➔ Source: ASSA-I | May 1, 2009
- ➔ To review this article, please consult 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.

### EU freezes airport slot rules ahead of summer season

On May 7, 2009 the European Parliament adopted a European Commission proposal to help crisis-hit airlines glide through the recession by allowing them to keep their landing slots at European airports in summer 2010, even if they do not use them fully this year. The legislative report was adopted with 508 votes in favour and 20 against amid seven abstentions, concluding two months of informal stakeholder consultations and negotiations between the Commission, EU Member States and the Parliament.

- ➔ Source: European Parliament | May 7, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Parliament website: [http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress\\_page/062-55233-124-05-19-910-20090506IPR55232-04-05-2009-2009-false/default\\_en.htm](http://www.europarl.europa.eu/news/expert/infopress_page/062-55233-124-05-19-910-20090506IPR55232-04-05-2009-2009-false/default_en.htm).

### European airports disappointed by European Parliament vote on slots

ACI Europe regrets the European Parliament's adoption of a proposed Regulation, which suspends the application of the so-called 'use-it-or-lose-it' rule for airport slots, for the summer season. Just like other players in the aviation industry, Europe's airports are heavily impacted by the current economic crisis, the effects of which are likely to hit them even harder as a result of this suspension. ACI Europe is concerned that the suspension will result in an inefficient use of scarce capacity at congested airports and expose the travelling public and communities to late cancellations of air services in particular on regional routes. It will also create an artificial barrier to market access for new entrants. However, ACI Europe is appreciative of the European Parliament's efforts to subject any extension of the suspension to the winter 2009 season to a number of conditions, including a prior impact assessment of the suspension effects on all stakeholders, as well as a revision of the existing slot Regulation to ensure the optimal use of scarce capacity at congested airports.

- ➔ Source: ACI Europe | May 8, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the ACI Europe website: [http://www.aci-europe.org/upload/09\\_05\\_07%20-%20slots%20final%20result.pdf](http://www.aci-europe.org/upload/09_05_07%20-%20slots%20final%20result.pdf).

### European Commission proposes a new framework to regulate aviation security charges

On May 11, 2009 the European Commission adopted a proposal for a Directive on aviation security charges in Europe. The proposal follows a recent report on the financing of aviation security. The aims are to ensure transparency, non-discrimination and consultation of airlines when fixing the level of charges, as well as the cost-relatedness of security charges. It also proposes to establish an independent supervisory authority in each EU Member State.

- ➔ Source: European Commission | May 11, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Commission website: <http://europa.eu/rapid/pressReleasesAction.do?reference=IP/09/731&format=HTML&aged=0&language=EN&guiLanguage=en>.

## EU air safety agency pledges better rulemaking

The European Air Safety Agency EASA has promised to incorporate more “communication moments” into the rulemaking process to make sure that stakeholders are not taken by surprise when new safety rules for airports and air traffic management (ATM) are proposed, EASA’s Director of rulemaking, Jules Kneepkens, stated. As a result, he said the decision to extend EASA’s responsibilities to aerodromes and air traffic management, taken earlier this year, would change the way the agency works regarding the draft rules for public consultation.

- ➔ Source: EASA | May 14, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EASA website: [http://www.easa.europa.eu/ws\\_prod/r/r\\_main.php](http://www.easa.europa.eu/ws_prod/r/r_main.php).
- ➔ To read the full interview with Jules Kneepkens on the topic, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/transport/director-easa-improve-stakeholder-consultation/article-182168>.

## ICAO drives pandemic contingency plans for aviation sector

The International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) has intensified efforts to assist Member States in developing effective and globally harmonised national contingency plans in the event of a pandemic caused by Influenza A (H1N1). Work on guidance for aviation contingency plans began with the Severe Acute Respiratory Syndrome (SARS) outbreak of 2003 and increased a couple of years later over concerns that the Avian Flu might develop into a human influenza pandemic. Related guidelines were subsequently developed and have been continually updated to reflect the growth of knowledge concerning pandemic preparedness planning. Much of the work continues to be carried out under a Cooperative Arrangement for the Prevention of Spread of Communicable Disease through Air Travel (CAPSCA). Launched in the Asia/Pacific region after the SARS outbreak, the project provides training for local officers, as well as airport evaluations against the ICAO guidelines and relevant articles of the International Health Regulations (2005).

- ➔ Source: International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) | May 20, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the ICAO website: [http://www.icao.int/icao/en/nr/2009/pio200906\\_e.pdf](http://www.icao.int/icao/en/nr/2009/pio200906_e.pdf).

## Reducing aviation’s emissions - IATA calls for a global sectoral approach

The International Air Transport Association (IATA) reiterated aviation’s commitment to responsibly addressing the challenges of climate change and called on governments to deliver a global and sectoral approach to reducing aviation emissions in Kyoto 2. IATA’s Director General and CEO, Giovanni Bisignani, called on governments to define a sectoral approach in Kyoto 2 with global accounting for aviation’s emissions through the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) and open access for airlines to properly regulated carbon markets. Such an approach would maintain a level playing field for all airlines and replace overlapping national and regional schemes.

- ➔ Source: International Air Transport Association (IATA) | May 24, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the IATA website: <http://www.iata.org/pressroom/pr/2009-05-24-01.htm>.

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## News from the European Union

### European Commission conference discusses better and safer parking areas for trucks

On April 29, 2009 policy makers and business leaders operating in transport gathered in Brussels to look at the best way forward to improve security, quality and availability of parking areas for heavy goods vehicles along the European road network. The conference was organised under the auspices of the European Commission. It explored solutions for improving truck park security, information, certification and capacity and presented the results of EU-funded projects aimed at promoting good practice for security and quality of truck parking areas. The conference also gave an overview of existing key national initiatives in the field. Some of the key highlights included a release of a European best practice handbook, a call for interest to truck parking developers to get a European label of quality and the launch of a new online service providing information on existing parking areas in Europe.

- ➔ Source: European Commission | April 29, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Commission website: [http://ec.europa.eu/transport/road/events/2009\\_04\\_29\\_parking\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/transport/road/events/2009_04_29_parking_en.htm).

## Layoffs dwarf job creation across Europe

The first quarter of 2009 saw announced job losses outnumber job creation by almost three to one, according to the European Restructuring Monitor (ERM), published by Eurofound. The financial sector, auto industry and retail sector were worst hit by the losses, with new employment recorded in discount stores and fast food outlets. 220,000 job losses were recorded by the ERM - the highest since it began to collect statistics in 2002 - with just 90,000 jobs created.

- ➔ Source: Eurofound | May 4, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Eurofound website: <http://www.eurofound.europa.eu/emcc/erm/templates/displaydoc.php?docID=51>.

## Eurociett position paper for the Employment Summit

On May 6, 2009 Eurociett, the European Confederation of Private Employment Agencies, officially published its position paper for the EU Employment Summit of May 7, 2009. In this paper, Eurociett illustrates how the agency work industry contributes to maintaining employment and job creation, skills enhancement and work mobility. For each of the dimensions, Eurociett puts forward key recommendations for policies to soften the impact of the crisis on the labour market and for accelerating economic recovery. The position paper forms part of a broader positioning of the agency work industry on the economic crisis.

- ➔ Source: Eurociett | May 6, 2009
- ➔ To review the position paper, please consult the Eurociett website: [http://www.eurociett.org/fileadmin/templates/eurociett/docs/position\\_papers/2009\\_Economic\\_Crisis/Eurociett\\_Position\\_-\\_Employment\\_Summit\\_May\\_09.pdf](http://www.eurociett.org/fileadmin/templates/eurociett/docs/position_papers/2009_Economic_Crisis/Eurociett_Position_-_Employment_Summit_May_09.pdf).

## Czech Senate approves EU's Lisbon Treaty



On May 6, 2009 the Czech Senate approved the EU's Treaty of Lisbon, a move that was greeted with relief in Brussels and that ups the pressure on Ireland, facing its second referendum on the document. Fifty-four of the 79 senators voted in favour of the new institutional rules, which introduce an EU Foreign Minister, a Permanent President of the European Council and widely extend the powers of the European Parliament. The lower house passed the document in February 2009.

- ➔ Source: EUobserver | May 6, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/9/28078/?rk=1>.

## Eastern Partnership Summit to strengthen EU links with Eastern Europe and South Caucasus

The first Eastern Partnership (EaP) Summit, organised in Prague on May 7, 2009, gathered leaders from the EU Member States, EU Institutions and Armenia, Azerbaijan, Belarus, Georgia, Republic of Moldova and Ukraine to launch this new framework of reinforced bilateral and multilateral cooperation. This ambitious initiative will lead to deepening of political and economic relations, more energy security, increased mobility, and will give an additional boost to pro-democratic and market-oriented reforms in partner countries.

- ➔ Source: European Commission | May 7, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Commission website: [http://ec.europa.eu/external\\_relations/eastern/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/external_relations/eastern/index_en.htm) and [http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms\\_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/106809.pdf#page=12](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_data/docs/pressdata/en/ec/106809.pdf#page=12).

## Working Time breaches could lead to legal action



Many Member States could face infringement proceedings for non-compliance with the Working Time Directive following the collapse of talks on revising the legislation on April 27, 2009. According to Vladimír Špidla, the European Commissioner for Employment and Social Affairs, a “fairly high number” of Member States are in breach of the existing Directive. His officials have identified failures to enforce rules on compensatory rest for workers who have exceeded their normal working hours, and health and safety rules attached to night shift work.

→ Source: European Voice | May 7, 2009

## Twelve measures to offset the effects of the crisis presented at the Employment Summit

On May 7, 2009, during the Employment Summit, organised by the European Commission and the Czech Presidency, BusinessEurope President Ernest-Antoine Seillière urged policymakers and social partners to address both the social and economic dimension of the crisis and outlined twelve concrete measures to boost growth and employment. Mr. Seillière further emphasised the importance of implementing flexicurity policies and pushing forward with structural reforms. The Employment Summit was also the occasion for the European social partners to present their new EU Social Dialogue work programme 2009-2010 as well as joint recommendations to improve the access to and impact of the European Social Fund in times of crisis.

→ Source: BusinessEurope | May 7, 2009

→ To review the address by President Seillière, please consult the BusinessEurope website:

<http://212.3.246.117/docs/1/NLHJLFKBNOADKGCFAOKDPBPDBG9DWYBW9LTE4Q/UNICE/docs/DLS/2009-01108-E.pdf>.

→ To review the twelve proposed measures to offset the effects of the crisis, please consult the BusinessEurope website:

<http://212.3.246.117/docs/2/NLHJLFKBNOADKGCFAOKDPBPDBG9DWYB39LTE4Q/UNICE/docs/DLS/2009-01107-E.pdf>.

## Insufficient evidence found to support licensing of in-house security guards

Licensing requirements will not be extended to include in-house security guards, the UK Security Industry Authority (SIA) announced on May 7, 2009. A SIA review, involving wide consultation with the security industry, found insufficient substantiated evidence of risk or threat to the public to support in-house licensing. The assessment took into account that regulation should only be targeted where action is needed, and that regulation should only intervene where there is a clear case for public protection. Following detailed discussion with SIA Chairman Baroness Ruth Henig and SIA senior management, the Home Office approved the recommendation, requesting that the subject be revisited in three years time.

→ Source: Security Industry Authority (SIA) | May 7, 2009

→ For further information, please consult the SIA website: [http://www.the-sia.org.uk/home/about\\_sia/news/nr\\_090507.htm](http://www.the-sia.org.uk/home/about_sia/news/nr_090507.htm).

## EU Employment Summit agrees on ways to tackle rising unemployment

On May 7, 2009 the EU held a special summit in Prague dedicated to tackling the impact of the economic crisis on jobs in Europe. The Troika Presidencies (Czech, Swedish and Spanish governments) joined the European Commission, employers and trade unions to pool their best ideas on how to keep people in work and help them back into new jobs. The Summit identified ten actions to fight unemployment and create new jobs. The Commission will build on the Summit’s discussions when formulating its input to the European Council of June 18-19, 2009.

→ Source: European Commission | May 7, 2009

→ For further information, please consult the European Commission website:

<http://ec.europa.eu/social/main.jsp?catId=88&langId=en&eventId=173&furtherEvents=yesConsolidated%20report%20from%20the%20preparatory%20workshops>.

## Iceland prepares to launch EU accession talks

On May 6, 2009 Iceland took its first step towards potential EU membership, an unthinkable prospect until the global financial crisis wrecked the island's economy. Prime Minister Johanna Sigurdardottir said she would present a parliamentary bill authorising the start of membership talks. She did not give a timeframe for tabling the bill.

- Source: Deutsche Welle | May 7, 2009
- For further information, please consult the Deutsche Welle website: <http://www.dw-world.de/dw/article/0,,4232622,00.html>.

## Watchdog website keeps eye on MEP voting records



A new website hopes to open up the political habits of MEPs, exposing voting behaviour, attendance and party allegiances in a bid to bring some EU politics to the European elections in June 2009. The website VoteWatch.eu was launched on May 11, 2009 and aims to shed some light on the activities of euro-deputies who augment legislation affecting most aspects of EU citizens' lives.

- Source: VoteWatch | May 11, 2009
- For further information, please consult the following website: [www.votewatch.eu](http://www.votewatch.eu).

## Euro area annual inflation stable at 0.6%

Euro area annual inflation was 0.6% in April 2009, unchanged compared with March 2009. A year earlier, the rate was 3.3%. Monthly inflation was 0.4% in April 2009. EU annual inflation was 1.2% in April 2009, down from 1.3% in March 2009. A year earlier, the rate was 3.6%. Monthly inflation was 0.3% in April 2009.

- Source: Eurostat | May 15, 2009
- For further information, please consult the Eurostat website: [http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY\\_PUBLIC/2-15052009-AP/EN/2-15052009-AP-EN.PDF](http://epp.eurostat.ec.europa.eu/cache/ITY_PUBLIC/2-15052009-AP/EN/2-15052009-AP-EN.PDF).

## All EU countries celebrated European Maritime Day in Rome - May 18-20, 2009

The sea has always played a key role in Europe's prosperity. Our continent has almost 70,000 km of coastline and 22 of the EU's 27 Member States are coastal or island countries. Our maritime regions are home to 40% of our population, generate 40% of our economy and employ some 5 million people. For all these reasons, May 20, 2009 was a dedicated 'European Maritime Day' in the EU. This year, in cooperation with the Italian government, the Commission organised a three-day conference in Rome from May 18-20, 2009. This important event brought together stakeholders, administrations and other players from the European Union and this time also from a number of third countries, in particular from the Mediterranean region, to discuss the global challenges faced by maritime Europe today. European Maritime Day was set up as one of the key actions of the EU's Integrated Maritime Policy, launched in 2007.

- Source: European Commission | May 18, 2009
- For further information, please consult the European Commission website: [http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/maritimeday/index\\_en.html](http://ec.europa.eu/maritimeaffairs/maritimeday/index_en.html).

## Czechs pushing for EU Services Directive implementation

The implementation of the Services Directive is critical to boosting cross-border trade, according to the Czech government, which has also pledged to make implementing the Small Business Act a priority of the remainder of its EU Presidency. Speaking at the SME Week's closing ceremony in Prague, Vladimír Tošovský, Czech Minister for Industry and Commerce, called SMEs "a pillar of European competitiveness," but said just 5% of EU GDP is currently generated by providing cross-border services. "Therefore, fast and accurate implementation of the Services Directive is critical," he said.

- Source: EurActiv | May 18, 2009
- For further information, please consult the EurActiv website: <http://www.euractiv.com/en/enterprise-jobs/czechs-pushing-eu-services-directive-implementation/article-182433>.

## Call for Ireland to set referendum date



The Irish government has been asked to set a date for its referendum on the Lisbon Treaty at an EU Summit in June 2009. The call by Czech Europe Minister Stefan Fule followed a meeting of EU Foreign Ministers in Brussels on May 18, 2009, where Member States agreed to draw up strong legal guarantees to try and persuade Irish voters to vote 'yes' in its second referendum.

- ➔ Source: Irish Independent | May 19, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Irish Independent website: <http://www.independent.ie/national-news/cowen-gets-glimmer-of-hope-in-the-battle-for-lisbon-deal-1743447.html>.

## Turkey receives reassurance on EU membership bid



On May 19, 2009 the European Commission as well as the current and upcoming EU Presidencies reassured Turkey that it is negotiating for full membership of the European Union, despite France and Germany repeatedly stating their opposition. "The European Commission is committed to the EU accession process of Turkey (...) on the basis of the negotiating framework that was adopted by unanimity by all [EU] Member States and Turkey in October 2005," EU Enlargement Commissioner Olli Rehn said after talks in Brussels with Turkish Foreign Minister Ahmet Davutoglu.

- ➔ Source: EUobserver | May 20, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the EUobserver website: <http://euobserver.com/9/28158/?rk=1>.

## European Commission organises conference to look at new challenges for the protection of personal data

How should personal data be protected in a globalised world with increased mobility and in the wake of modern communication and information technologies and new policies? Which data is accessed and exchanged by public authorities and private companies? How well are current rules on international transfers of personal data working in a time of 'cloud computing'? What are expectations of individuals and business and society as a whole? These and other topical questions were addressed by a conference on the use, exchange and protection of personal data in the EU, organised by the European Commission on May 19-20, 2009.

- ➔ Source: European Commission | May 20, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the European Commission website: [http://ec.europa.eu/justice\\_home/news/events/conference\\_dp\\_2009/programme\\_en.pdf](http://ec.europa.eu/justice_home/news/events/conference_dp_2009/programme_en.pdf).
- ➔ The conference will soon be webcast under the following link: <http://webcast.ec.europa.eu>.

## Unlicensed operators working in security services with PSA consent

The Irish Security Industry Association (ISIA) is calling on the Private Security Authority (PSA) to clarify the Private Security Act 2004 following revelations that unlicensed companies are maintaining and servicing intruder alarms which have been installed by licensed operators. According to the Private Security Act 2004, an installer of security equipment means "a person who, for remuneration, installs, maintains, repairs or services electronic or other devices designed, constructed or adapted to give warning of or monitor or record unauthorised entry or misconduct on or in the vicinity of premises and must therefore be licensed to operate". A statutory Instrument (834), which was laid out in December 2005 defines an installer (intruder alarm) as "a person who is an installer of security equipment that consists of an electronic device which warns of an unauthorised presence or of entry or attempted entry on or in the vicinity of premises." The statutory Instrument has removed maintenance, repair and service activities from the definition and is therefore at odds with the Act itself.

- ➔ Source: Irish Security Industry Association (ISIA) | May 21, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the ISIA website: [http://isia.ie/isia/Main/2009News\\_PSA\\_Consent.htm](http://isia.ie/isia/Main/2009News_PSA_Consent.htm).

## EU adopts Blue Card scheme for skilled migrants



On May 25, 2009 the EU adopted plans for a European Union work permit aimed at attracting highly skilled foreigners to the 27 EU bloc, similar to the US' Green Card. The 'Blue Card' will allow foreign workers to be employed in any EU Member State, except Great Britain, Ireland and Denmark, and enjoy limited social and welfare rights for themselves and their family members for a renewable period from one to four years. The 24 Member States who have signed up for the scheme will have two years to transpose it into national law. They will grant Blue Card holders equal treatment with nationals when it comes to working conditions, including pay and dismissal, recognition of qualifications, the right to participate in trade unions and limited social security and pension rights, as well as access to housing and counselling.

- ➔ Source: Council of the European Union | May 25, 2009
- ➔ For further information, please consult the Council of the European Union website: [http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms\\_Data/docs/pressdata/en/agricult/107995.pdf](http://www.consilium.europa.eu/uedocs/cms_Data/docs/pressdata/en/agricult/107995.pdf).

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