ReliAble euRopean Identity

Second ARIES pilot at the Leeds Bradford Airport

In November 2018 as part of the ARIES testing / validation processes, a prototype demonstration was organized at the UK regional airport of Leeds. The set of activities included functional testing in end user environment with project partners, as well as evaluation and validation against a set of criteria, done by representatives of an airline, the airport management and duty-free retail staff. Evaluation and validation analysis process included operational guidance through all virtual ID lifecycle phases, starting with registration. User friendliness feedback and a survey on enhancement of the service offered to passengers and customers, were collected.
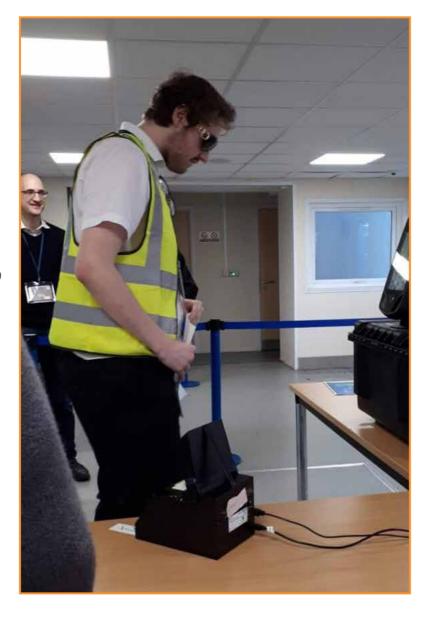
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The demonstration set up at the airport included methods to try and "fool" the biometric verification equipment, for example by using disguises, make up, hats, sun glasses, scarves etc. Fake and out of date passports were also used and the results in detecting false eID or eID misuse was very positive.

Overall, the feedback received from end user group stakeholders was positive. Passengers and duty-free shop customers welcomed the fact they could decide the extent or type of their data to disclose. When making an age restricted purchase in a shop, all that needed to be revealed was a credential that the person was older than a minimum age required to complete purchase. Users also felt that their personal data was held securely in a mobile phone and having it under their control increased perception of privacy. The airline management and airport staff saw the potential in speeding up boarding whilst also contributing to increase security with more accurate passport / ID verification checks at the boarding gate.

Stakeholders have an interest in speed and convenience, but they also have different priorities for a variety of reasons. Security has a particular relevance for all, but the trade off with convenience might cause conflicting views among them. This feedback suggests that in the next phase of the project, and specifically in the exploitation phase, attention has to be paid to differentiation of messages for different target audience.

The evaluation and validation results, as well as feedback collected to date will be used to further refine the system, prior

to the next demonstration in early 2019, this time with a focus on ecommerce scenario and exploring the use of another biometric identifier - voice.

Events and News

ARIES was presented last 27th November at the Atos Research & Innovation (ARI) Digital Show 2018

The ARI Digital Show is an annual event with the objective of sharing knowledge about mature project results developed in ARI, and presenting them to Atos Business Units, as well as external audiences.

The representative for ARIES was Javier Presa, privacy and security expert who explained how the project emerged from the need of associating a "virtual identity" with an official government issued electronic Identity document.

Mr. Presa elaborated on several of the most innovative features of the project, as the use of biometrics to verify identity at the airports, or the possibility of

derivation of several virtual identities, with various degrees of privacy, from the same government issued electronic Identity document.

Presentation of the ARIES solution at the Biometrics Institute Annual Conference 2018

Juliet Lodge (Prof Em. Dr) from Saher (UK) Ltd and partner in ARIES was a participant at the Biometrics Institute Annual Conference 18-19 Oct 2018 in London.

This high level international annual meeting gathers technologists, ethicists, privacy lawyers, government officials and international organisations, biometrics developers and eID solution providers together to discuss and demonstrate new developments in the field.

Juliet chaired the special panel on ethics eIDs and she shared insight with the audience on how the ARIES solution could help to address the issue of reconciling privacy with ethical practice. Whilst the ARIES project focuses on prevention of ID fraud in an eCommerce and smart Airport scenario, the presentation insight was of special relevance to international organisations, such as Oxfam and the EU Fundamental Rights Agency who were particularly interested to learn how to minimise information disclosure and resist function and mission creep both in disaster and emergency relief and in peace keeping.

The ARIES project was of significant interest for the audience and the debate / panel discussion that followed will help to enhance future ARIES activity with regard to ethics and the use of eIDs.

Second ARIES Advisory Board meeting

Last 24th October the second AB meeting was held in Paris.

The objective was to present new results from the second phase of the project and to receive feedback from the experts either related to the technical solution or to the viability of the business model behind the proposed framework.

The meeting was attended by the following advisory board members: Herbert Leitold, Kirsten Bock, Kalev Pihl, Abbie Barbier, Antonio Kung and Jon Shamah, covering different area of expertise.

The meeting was found to be very productive with several open discussions about the impact of eIDAS (the obligation of mutual recognition of notified e-IDs in Europe entered in force in September 2018) privacy aspects of the overall solution, and possible standardization contributions to ISO working groups. In general, the members of the advisory board are considering that the project is progressing well and making results with a clear impact.

ARIES solution was demonstrated at Bilbao Airport on 10th December

Ertzaintza is the police force for the Basque Country, an autonomous community in northern Spain. They are partner in ARIES project and on December 10th they have organized a demonstration of the ARIES solution at the airport of Bilbao. On this occasion, the audience was composed by members of Iberia (biggest Spanish Airlines) and Aena (Spanish Airports Management Operator) that act as ARIES Associated ARIES Partners, both interested in the use of ARIES virtual ID for the boarding use case. For this reason, the presentation was oriented to the technical issues of the registration of the virtual identity using e-passports, and their possible usage during the airplane boarding at the gates.

During a brief discussion after the presentation, meeting attendants highlighted the very good prospects for ARIES results, given the market challenges and state of the art, including fight against the identity fraud, cybercrime threats and the need to reduce time during the boarding process.

Upcoming News

ARIES is coming to an end. In February 2019 we will finish 30 months of hard and exciting work. That will be the moment to explain our achievements to our stakeholders: End-Users, Associate Partners, Monitoring Group Members...

We are preparing a workshop where we will show you our results and prototypes. A date still has not been set, but it will be probably held at the beginning of next February in Porto

Stay tuned...!

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