

# Biometric Consortium 2005 Conference

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**Topic:** Overview of the European approach to the cross-jurisdictional and societal aspects of biometrics.

**Abstract:** Many experts maintain that the inadequate consideration of cross-jurisdictional and societal aspects of biometrics may be considered as one of the most significant causes of the still unsatisfactory diffusion of biometric applications. The importance of these non-technical aspects of biometrics has been recognized by the International Organization for Standardization which has created a specific working group (WG 6 on "Cross-jurisdictional and societal aspects") in the framework of the ISO/IEC JTC1 Sub-Committee 37 "Biometrics". During the working group discussions, a substantial international common view on many cross-jurisdictional aspects of biometrics has emerged. On the other hand, other sensitive issues, such as the influence of privacy in biometrics, have highlighted a certain difference among countries. With particular reference to this consideration, the presentation foreseen for the 2005 Biometric Consortium Conference will focus on a brief analysis of the some European Countries' perspective in terms of biometrics & privacy. Furthermore it will be shown the progress of work in WG6, with particular reference to the Technical Report in course of completion. Finally, it will be emphasized that an increase of collaboration among the various Data Protection Commission is absolutely necessary in the light of new very large scale global initiatives such as the developments of the new electronic travel documents equipped with biometric identifiers.

**Biography:** Mario Savastano was born in Napoli, Italy, on 1953 and received his degree in electronic engineering from the "Federico II" University of Napoli. He has a background in digital signal processing, electrical/electronic measurements and simulation of systems. In 1982, he joined the National Research Council of Italy (Consiglio Nazionale delle Ricerche, CNR), and currently holds the position of Senior Researcher at the Institute of Bio-structures and Bio-images. Since 2004 he is temporarily associated with the Department of Electrical Engineering (DIEL) of the Federico II University of Napoli. In 2001 he became a member of the Biometric Consortium ad-hoc group on Performance and Testing, and in 2002-2003 Mario Savastano was the leader of the research on medical issues in biometrics in the framework of the EU-funded "Biovision" project which drew up a roadmap for the European biometric community to follow. Mr. Savastano has been the Convener of the ISO/IEC JTC1 SC 37 WG 6 on "Cross-jurisdictional and societal aspects" of Biometrics since 2002 has represented SC37 at the April 2005 JTC 1 SWG on Accessibility Meeting. As for national activity, he is the IBB/CNR and DIEL scientist responsible for research programs in the area of biometrics along with several Italian government agencies. Since 2004 he is one of the scientific consultants of the Competence Center on Biometrics owing to the Italian National Center for Information Technology in the Public Administration. The current research activity of Mr. Savastano concerns the evaluation of non-technical aspects of biometrics and face recognition algorithms. Mr. Savastano is currently the Chairman of the ISCS (Italian Society for Computer Simulation).