European Biometrics Summit

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Authentication, the linking of an identifier to a person who is authorized to use that identifier, depends one or more of four possible authentication factors, usually summarized as
* What you know (i.e., passwords, passphrases);
* What you have (i.e., tokens, such as physical keys or password generators);
* What you are (i.e., biometric authenication using physical features such as hand geometry and patterns on irises, retinas and fingers);
* What you do (i.e., biometric authentication using such dynamic features as signatures and voice patterns).

Here's some information I recently received about a conference that sounds interesting for network security managers considering biometric identification and authentication solutions.

BIOMETRICS IN BUSINESS-THE EUROPEAN BIOMETRICS SUMMIT
6th - 8th December, 2000
Flanders Language Valley, Belgium

Biometric technology, once an idea marginalized in science fiction, is finally reaching a mass audience. Large investments in the market, the strategic focus of companies like Microsoft and the support of analysts have combined to develop a new security standard, based on voice, face and fingerprint recognition. As we enter the new millennium, demand for biometric security solutions is expanding exponentially.

Between the 6th and the 8th of December, 2000 at the Flanders Language Valley, Belgium, the major players in this exciting market, such as Keyware Technologies, SAIL Trust and Visionics, IT and telecom players, such as EDS and Microsoft, will be addressing and discussing key industry issues. The conference, named Biometrics in Business and themed around the idea that "only bodies speak the truth," will focus on exploring the security and convenience benefits of biometric solutions. Attendees will be able to discuss real life business cases with end-users in vertical markets such as banking, telecom and government, and gain an appreciation of the strategic application of biometric technology.

Top decision-makers from a broad range of industries across Europe will be able to meet with leading solution providers to see how biometrics is already making a difference in their fields. Presentations will cover a variety of strategies and solutions, from physical access to Internet security, from smart cards to digital signatures, allowing attendees to find the solution that best

meets their needs.

More information about the Biometrics in Business Summit can be found at www.bibizz.com. To attend the Summit, please email < info@bibizz.com >. Members of the media are welcome.

[The announcement above is communicated as a matter of information; inclusion in this column does not imply endorsement or involvement by the author or by AtomicTangerine, Inc.]

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Mich Kabay can be reached by e-mail at <mkabay@atomictangerine.com>. He invites inquiries about a wide range of information security courses he would be delighted to deliver to your employees at your site and at your convenience.

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