The View from the EEMA Chair

It’s 30 years since the US government introduced the Computer Security Law of 1987. This early piece of legislation was put in place to improve the security and privacy of sensitive information in federal computer systems and to establish a minimum acceptable security practices for such systems. Roll forward to 2017 and the digital world in which we live has become far more complex and expansive, yet we are still tackling issues of privacy and identity, with new regulation such as EU General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) and e-Privacy Regulation.

This year, EEMA celebrates its 30th anniversary and its continual focus on driving the trust, privacy and identity agenda has never been more relevant or necessary. As a result, our annual conference which takes place on 4th and 5th July in London is entitled ‘Privacy vs Identity – Opportunities vs Challenges’.

The conference is being hosted by Microsoft and just as Bill Gates made some startling accurate predictions about the future of technology in 1987, we will be looking to the next 30 years, with a close eye on what we need to do today. It is vitally important that we put in place the right foundations now, regarding privacy and identity, to ensure we can all prosper in the digital economy and new world tomorrow.

The EU-funded project LIGHTest is a great example of real progress that is being made to build this essential infrastructure and I encourage everyone to come along and find out more about this initiative in July. Our expert speakers will also be shining the spotlight on hot issues including mobile identity and the impact of artificial intelligence, as well as providing an update on the latest regulation (featuring a close look at eIDAS 12 months since the trust services’ provisions under the regulation entered into application) and standards.
With more than 50 speakers participating in plenaries, four track sessions and roundtables debates, EEMA’s 30th anniversary conference boasts our most comprehensive agenda yet. What’s more we will be celebrating with one very big party to thank our members for their continued support.

I look forward to seeing you there.

For more information about EEMA’s ‘Privacy vs Identity – Opportunities and Challenges’ conference visit http://eema-annual-conference.eema.org/

Chair of EEMA, Jon Shamah