Kim Cameron appointed Honorary President of EEMA

EEMA is delighted to announce the appointment of Kim Cameron to the role of Honorary President. A recipient of the EEMA Lifetime Achievement Award, Kim is the CIO of Convergence Technology and the former Chief Architect of Identity at Microsoft. His seminal paper The Laws of Identity was published in 2005 and is still being discussed 15-years on. He has been described by Phil Windley, Chairman of the Sovrin Foundation as a “being from the future”.

The benefits of Cross Border eID Interoperability using eIDAS and (qualified) trust services

Frank Leyman, Manager International Relations at BOSA Chair the first in EEMA Annual Conference Webinar, accompanied by eIDAS Expert, Wim Coulier and Steffen Schwalm, Principal Consultant at msg.

Can you provide an introduction to eIDAS regulation?

eIDAS has been applicable since 2016 and it has two main goals. The first is to enable people and business to use their national electronic identities to access public services in other EU countries. For example, citizens of Belgium can now use itsme mobile app to access services in Spain. The second goal is to remove barriers in the EU internal market for trust services across borders.

Continued...
What is itsme?

Itsme is a mobile identity application developed in Belgium and notified by the Europe Commission. It has more than 2 million users who can identify themselves to the Belgian government and private sector services and via eIDAS to other member states. They can also create qualified electronic signatures.

How does an eID become qualified or notified?

Anyone can create a trust service but to get qualified an accreditation process needs to be followed. This begins with a Conformity Assessment Audit which is then forwarded to the supervisory body within the Member State for scrutiny. If accepted it will be published on its trusted list.

In order to be notified the service must be running in the Member State. It then passes through a pre-notification process and peer review which will advise on the level of assurance (low, substantial or high). This is followed by notification by the Member State and hooking up to its eIDAS nodes. Once this has been completed, citizens can use the eID service to authenticate themselves within their own and other Member States.

Can distributed ledger technology and blockchain be compatible with eIDAS?

It is complex, but yes it can be done. To combine distributed ledger technology / blockchain and eIDAS for transactions it is necessary to have a Gatekeeper which delivers a clear identification and trust service, which can be placed on the ‘chain’ to make the transaction on that chain evident for non-repudiation.

The webinar is available to watch now at: [https://vimeo.com/433597523](https://vimeo.com/433597523)

Future trends of identity & access management - Closing the chaos theory era of IAM

The Chair of EEMA, Jon Shamah, was joined by the Director of Identity Standards at Microsoft, Pamela Dingle and Principal at Spherical Cow Consulting, Heather Flanagan, to discuss the past, present and future of identity as part of EEMA’s Annual Conference Webinar Series.

What is the chaos theory of identity?

As identity professionals we are balancing innovation and predictability – the ability to act at scale. We have evolved through a series of paradigm shifts from LDAP V3 in 1997, though SAML 2.0, OAuth 2.0 to DID-SIOP today, all of which tend to layer in order to solve problems for different communities.

Continued...
Can you explain DID-SIO?

DID-SIOP stands for Decentralized Identifier Self-Issued Open ID Provider. In theory, it gives the ability for any single software client to have an identity, but also to allow individuals to put a route of trust that they themselves own, outside of any corporate of DNS entry, onto a blockchain.

What do you mean by proof of possession?

Today the world runs on bearer tokens. This means that you are issued with a token and when it is presented in exchange for digital access or data, it should be respected. Where we want to get to is the idea that you need to prove that the token was issued to you as the client in the first place, before it can be redeemed. It is one of the future pieces of the security and access management puzzle that we have not got right yet.

Why are we not making the progress that we should be making in identity management?

We are solving problems without consideration for the history of pre-existing solutions. There is a wild west of innovation, for example in the evolution of identity standards from the creation of Keberos, through the creation of SAML, OAuth and now blockchain. Part of our struggle in reinventing the wheel is a lack of awareness of what got us here today.

We can be a lot more efficient at helping IAM practitioners to learn about what exists and save new innovation for those problem spaces that don’t have a solution yet.

The webinar is available to watch now at: https://vimeo.com/433601288

YourID joins EEMA

EEMA welcomes YourID as a new member. It is a platform that offers end users, governments and businesses a single, convenient, re-usable and highly secure identity solution. Users can reliably confirm their identity across a range of services, websites and platforms using a single biometric credential, with minimum friction and maximum control over their private information.

Why does my company need to join EEMA?

Watch our short video >

The EEMA One Minute Questionnaire

In light of the increased use of digital signatures, how can we simplify the understanding of “legal admissibility” of transactions to all the community?

To take part in this short survey visit: https://survey.fra1.qualtrics.com/jfe/form/SV_7P5UGx3EsuO5I9H
Meet the European Trust Foundation: Kantara Initiative

The Kantara Initiative is an international industry association that is recognised as a trust framework operator of conformity assessment and trust marked schemes for digital identity, credential and consent management service providers.

Executive Director of the Kantara Initiative, Colin Wallis, provides insight into what he refers to as the ‘rhythm’ of Kantara and areas it is focusing on right now.

Can you explain the rhythm of Kantara?

Nurture, develop and operate is what we do. It’s what sets us apart from most industry associations. It provides the context for our nurturing of new ideas through the R&D activities, some of which proceed with development of best practice and specifications and some of those have the potential to be operated as assurance schemes. We are not tied to that pattern though. Most opportunities arrive at Kantara’s door at any stage, without necessarily having proceeded through earlier ones. Some industry organisations have a virtuous circle in that respect - incubate their own ideas, mature those and assure them. Kantara is driven by what the industry ecosystem needs and what the wider digital economy needs.

What are the areas that Kantara is focusing on right now?

Trust marked conformity assessment and certification through our assurance trust framework continues to be a focus for us. This has been driven partly by COVID and the demand for evidenced legitimacy of digital identity solutions, and partly by relying parties increasingly including third party audit and certification requirements in procurement. I’ve never known it busier in Kantara’s 10 years of trust framework operations.

Right now, the Information Sharing Interoperability work group is very much driven by the upcoming ISO SC27 meetings which are almost a month earlier than usual. This is putting a strain on getting comments developed and agreed for contribution via Kantara’s formal liaison with SC27’s Working Group 5 identity management and privacy technologies. These are related to Kantara’s much acclaimed consent receipt specification, a simple example of the consent receipt can be found in Annex B of ISO/IEC 29184 online privacy notices and consent. Right now it’s the contributions to a new companion project ISO TS 27560 consent record information structure which is in very early draft form.

It doesn’t stop there. The User Managed Access (UMA) work group is standardising further extensions to its existing portfolio of OAuth 2.0 extensions based on demand from implementers to date and may inform the new OAuth 2.0 work ‘xyz tx’. And as ISO/IEC 18013-5 Personal identification — ISO-compliant driving licence gets closer to fruition, so does the potential to use them as a mobile identity, outside of their core purpose. Conformity assessment and assurance is necessary in that context also, to give the relying party confidence in them appropriate to the identity related risk in the use case, and Kantara is receiving expressions of interest for its community to develop and offer services in that space too. In short, there’s a helluva lot going on right now!

For more information about the Kantara Initiative visit: https://kantarainitiative.org