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BACKGROUND DOCUMENT

The European e-SENS Non-Repudiation Solution successfully tested at the IHE Connectathon 2015

The objective of e-SENS project is to ensure the interoperability of existing online business, health, procurement and justice functionalities through the use of cross-domain IT 'building blocks'.

In the e-Health domain, which is one of many piloting areas to be piloted (among e.g. e-Justice, e-Procurement and business lifecycle) e-SENS strives to pursue the enhancement of the cross border services started in the former Large Scale pilot epSOS to provide cross-border access to patient summaries for citizens and electronic Prescriptions to health professionals across Europe. These two use cases support the implementation of the Directive 2011/24 on the application of patients' rights in cross-border healthcare. The Directive obliges also Member States to set up National Contact Points (NCP) for cross-border healthcare. e-SENS started to enhance the OpenNCP software developed in epSOS by integrating cross sectorial Building Block (BB). OpenNCP is a reliable ICT system that enables NCP to securely exchange data between them and avoids NCP the need to create different individual interfaces with all existing NCPs. The first year of the project was dedicated to taking stock of BB used in former large scale pilots in other domains (e-Justice, e-Business, e-Procurement and e-ID) funded by the EC and assessing whether they can fit to the e-Health domain.

Last month (20-24 April) the 15th European IHE Connectathon was held in Luxembourg. During this week, 300 participants from 74 vendors, performed 2300 Registry-Repository related tests, verified by 50 monitors, with the help of the Gazelle GITB compliant tool. The IHE-Europe Connectathon is an annual connectivity test marathon, it was organised this year in Luxembourg by IHE-Europe in partnership with the national e-Health agency, Agence eSanté. IHE-Europe is the European section of Integrating the Healthcare Enterprise (IHE), an international initiative bringing together professionals from the healthcare and industry sectors to improve information exchange between software systems in this field. The IHE initiative defines integration profiles in order to achieve a high interoperability rate between the systems available to healthcare professionals. The validity of their implementation is tested every year in the context of the Connectathon, where industry professionals meet and connect their applications by using the IHE profiles for designing health information systems within a variety of fields, including radiology, cardiology, IT infrastructure, etc.

e-SENS e-Health domain took advantage of this event to test its first integration of a e-SENS BB, the Evidence Emitter BB, into the OpenNCP software and demonstrated to the industry its efficacy. The Gazelle tool have been instrumented with the e-SENS Test Assertions (made in conjunction with CC6.4), by linking them to real tests. Test Assertions refer to the Evidence Emitter ABB. This fact witness the joint effort towards an EU-level testing approach.





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The integration of the Evidence Emitter ABB aims at enhancing the OpenNCP approach to manage audit trails with a more formal account of Evidence based on based on XACML policies and ETSI REM evidence. Evidence Emitter ABB enables non-repudiation services, mandated to generate, collect, maintain, make available and validate evidence concerning a claimed event or action in order to resolve disputes about the occurrence or non-occurrence of the event or action. The instantiation of the Evidence Emitter ABB for the e-Health domain tested at the Connectathon is ready for Health IT industry adoption is freely available on <https://bitbucket.org/openncp/e-sens-non-repudiation/src>.

The participating nations, Italy, Greece, Luxembourg, and Portugal with the DG SANTÉ will pilot the two use cases, beginning of June, in preproduction environment to perform test in real conditions. In parallel, the central services of OpenNCP will be realign with the more generic standard central service offered by the EC with the e-Delivery BBs location and lookup capability. This update will enable sustainability of e-Health cross-border services through maintenance cost reduction of its central services. The last BB planned to be integrated will enable health professionals to seamlessly identify electronically the patient to access this health document abroad.

More information about the project: www.esens.eu

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