

Panel session: Authors' Rights and Copyright protection

Panelists: Gerard Eizenberg (ONERA-CERT)
Dominique Gonthier (European Commission)
Alistair Kelman (Copyright Barrister)
Jean-Jacques Quisquater (UCL)

The potential world-wide distribution of electronic documents through networks is generating both commercial enthusiasm and anxiety. Aiming wide markets, the authors, producers, publishers and distributors are concerned with fair payments for their contributions.

There are various reasons to restrict the distribution of the electronic works. First, quite different customs and legal contexts exist, even within Europe. A wide dialogue and some harmonisation are requested to make possible the distribution of works. The intensity of present diplomatic initiatives related to that issue is well known. Second, the existence of cost effective technical solutions is not sufficient: the legal acceptance to use and trade them is necessary. With respect to cryptology, this condition is not yet easy to satisfy. Third, appropriate technology must be developed.

The new technology must satisfy many challenging requirements, including:

- the availability of efficient digital payment systems,
- to control the copies of electronic documents, while making their usages convenient and consistent with widespread equipments (the end-user is not always trusted to respect the copy restrictions),
- to avoid the flood of proprietary solutions that could not interoperate
- to respect all the Authors' Rights.

The panelists come from quite different areas, but all these areas are strongly involved in the protection of the Authors' Rights and of the Copyright: the Law and legal context, the European Commission policy and Computer Security. As a framework of the panel session, here are some questions submitted to the panelists and to the attendance:

- Applications of the Computer and Communication Security (CCS) Technology in the Electronic Copyright Management Systems (ECMS): requested security properties, relative importance, examples,
- Give the existing CCS technology appropriate answers to the requirements? If not, are there questions specifically addressed to the searchers in CCS?
- Borders between ECMS and digital payment systems,
- Interoperability of the ECMSs,
- Main existing initiatives in the ECMS area.

The attendance is invited to widen that list and the answers.