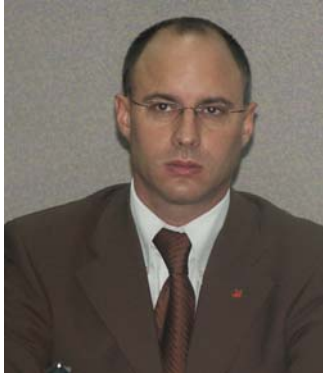


PS11

Infrastructure for eGovernment

Chair: **Zsolt Nagy**, Minister of Communications & Information Technology, Romania



The Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Zsolt Nagy, is an engineer specialized in automation and industrial informatics. He is married and has two children.

Zsolt Nagy has been a member of and held a number of managing positions in technical-scientific associations and coordinated programs initiated by the Democratic Association of the Hungarians in Romania (DAHR) in the sector of local public administration. As well, between 2003 and 2004, he coordinated the collaboration program on Information Society initiated by DAHR and the Ministry of Informatics and Communication in Hungary.

In 1996 and 2000, Zsolt Nagy coordinated the electoral campaigns of DAHR, and in 2004 he was the campaign manager, both in the local and in the general elections. At present, he holds the position of DAHR Vice-President.

Zsolt Nagy is a graduate of the Faculty of Automation and Computers within the Technical University of Cluj-Napoca and holds an Engineer Diploma, profile – System and Computer Science, specialization – Automation and Industrial Informatics. Between 1997 and 2000, he attended the courses of prestigious management schools, such as: Robert Schuman Institute (Budapest), National Democratic Institute (Washington DC), International Republican Institute, the Foundation for Pluralism and Democracy after Communism (AFC), Hungary.

In 1992, he became a member of the Hungarian Technical-Scientific Society in Transylvania

Since 2000, he has been the President of the Progress Foundation for promoting digital culture, and in 2004, he was appointed President of the Cultural Foundation Janovics Jenő.

As Minister of Communications and Information Technology, Zsolt Nagy supports the development of broadband communications and encourages investments in the IT&C field. Furthermore, the Minister is determined to contribute to enhancing the competitiveness of Romanian economy. Therefore, he encourages the operators to use the latest information technologies, and is committed to consolidating the IT&C industry, improving the institutional performance of public administration and the comfort of the citizens.

In January 2005, he has been awarded the "Neumann Janos" prize for supporting and promoting Information Society. In October 2005, he was named the "IT&C Personality of 2005" by the Bucharest Business Week.

Key questions

- Building infrastructure in public-private partnerships
- Which is the first: infrastructure or services?

Hugo Kerschot, Indigov



Hugo Kerschot (1961) is Senior Consultant and partner of Indigov, a Belgian leading company in terms of eGovernment research, spin-off of the University of Leuven. He realized as public servant in 1995 the first Belgium public service website. After passing through a number of internet start-up companies he developed for the European Commission as a Cap Gemini consultant, the web-based survey on Electronic Public Services, the European reference on e-government status measuring.

Hugo Kerschot has a Master in Communication Sciences (University of Leuven, Faculty of Social Sciences). In 2004 he joined Jo Steyaert in the start-up Indigov. Within Indigov he is involved in eGovernment research and strategy development and implementation of eGovernment projects. Indigov is as a research and consulting bureau specialized in eGovernment, iDTV and adoption of new media. Indigov combines academic quality and objectivity with creativeness, speed and efficiency.

iDTV as a new platform for eGovernment

Belgium is since the beginning of 2005 an interesting test-garden for iDTV. The major Belgium Telco (Belgacom) as well as the major Cable company Telenet are competing each other via the ADSL/VDSL network (for Belgacom) and the Coax-cable with IP return path (for Telenet in the North of the country) in order to convince the Belgian consumer to enter the interactive TV area. In this still early adopters market, Indigov, a Belgian eGovernment consultant, did some user-survey and adoption research that tends to reconsider to e-inclusion discussion. All preliminary research, points a considerable user interest for public service information, especially local government services via iDTV. Focussed by this idea, a consortium of organisations developed a testplatform for local governments to publish basic information via an ASP-architecture.

Although the limited scale of this platform, we dealing with commercially operational different networks (coax and twisted pair); there is a considerable involvement of the Flemish government and experiments can lead us to a better insight of the "demand" site of eGovernment, especially the digital divide issues.

Jens Mortensen, Vice President, Public Services & eGovernment, Oracle EMEA



Jens Mortensen is Vice President, Public Services & eGovernment within Oracle EMEA heading Oracles business in Central, Regional & Local Government as well as Higher Education, Defence, Justice and Law Enforcement.

In this role Jens has developed and implemented Oracles eGovernment strategy for the region including the ABCD-for-eGovernment - a concept targeted for Public Sector institutions and Governments who requires a phased and controlled eGovernment strategy.

Jens joined Oracle in 1996 as a Senior Financial Applications Consultant, which involved him in some major implementations of Oracle's eBusiness Suite in Nordic. In 1997 he was promoted as Principal Consultant and later that year to Consultant Manager. In 1998 he started in Oracle's Europe, Middle East & Africa organization, as a Senior Product Manager for Oracle Financials, focusing on Public Sector, and in 1999 he was appointed to Director - Applications, Oracle Industries, EMEA.

Jens is an experienced speaker and presenter on eGovernment and eBusiness for Government topics.

Before joining Oracle, Jens held various positions as CFO and CEO in SME's within the service industries in Denmark, and he has a Bachelor degree of commerce in Management Accounting.

SYNOPSIS – Oracle – Infrastructure for eGovernments

Simply offering public services online won't solve the challenges governments

face in the years ahead. Service, Savings and Security are what taxpayers

want: to achieve them, public bodies must use technology more radically

Most of Europe's local, regional and national government agencies can now handle basic service requests online. In many EU Member States one can apply for a passport, get company reports, report a minor crime, pay a parking fine, register a birth, book a driving test or submit tax returns on the Web. It's good news for citizens who increasingly choose to go online, rather than wait in line. Accustomed now to efficient, accessible, round-the-clock service from online bookstores, financial services companies and airlines, citizens expect nothing less from public bodies.

But while today's online public sector presents an up-to-date, accessible face to the citizen, all too often the modernity is only skin-deep. Europe faces a severe demographic and fiscal challenge in the years ahead. To meet that challenge, governments will have to make far bolder, more holistic use of technology. Grid Computing plays a keyrole in this new technology – and enable governments to increase its level of services to its constituents and at the same time increase its ITC efficiency.

Sergio Bonora, CEO of Laboratori Guglielmo Marconi

Born in Bologna in 1956. Degree in Electronic Engineering and Ph.D. on mobile radio network planning from the University of Bologna in 1981 and 1987.

Since 1990 he has been partner and CEO with Laboratori Guglielmo Marconi, an engineering company which provides network and security management services as its core business.

He has also acted as an expert member in various technical fora and task forces coordinated by the European Commission in the ICT and ITS (Intelligent Transportation Systems) fields.

Through his company he is involved in fibre optic and wireless communications network planning, deployment and commissioning; assessment of emerging communications technologies; service delivery cost models and scenarios; design and roll-out of video-surveillance networks.

Lepida: the broadband private network of Emilia-Romagna Public Administration

Broadband plays a major role in modernising economies and societies. As an enabling technology, it is at the core of the diffusion of the information society and of the development of information and communication technology (ICTs). These technologies in turn are key drivers of productivity and growth.

Conversely, the lack of widespread availability of broadband connections might hinder the potential of economic growth within a region.

Inspired by this vision, the regional administration of Emilia-Romagna (about 4 million people on an area of 22,000 sqkm) has launched its initiative of a broadband private network for the Public Administration.

This project has been named Lepida, after the Roman consul Marcus Æmilius Lepidus which built via Æmilia in the II century B.C. thereby giving rise to urban development, economic and cultural growth around this road. Today, Lepida aims to be the XXI century digital highway that will bring all the region together.

As Lepida unfolds, the regional administration will be connected with 341 municipal administrations, 9 provinces, 18 mountain communities, 5 regional universities, 17 health care agencies (over 60 hospitals) through broadband links.

While favouring the development of broadband infrastructure and services, Lepida will help:

- support the widespread diffusion of innovative eGovernment services;
- gather all public administration in a single purchasing group;
- reduce the geographical digital divide factor;

- make the region as a whole more competitive by improving and easing access to broadband services for businesses and citizens as well, also through local operators.

Lepida initiative has been declined on the institutional, financial, technical, and service planes.

Lepida is already providing connection to over 220 public administration entities, by way of on-net guaranteed bandwidth between 100 Mbps and 1 Gbps, and a few Mbps Internet access. The overall infrastructure will be completed by 2006.

In addition to eGovernment applications (digital terrain models from land offices, services for agriculture enterprises, labour information system, detection of urban degradation events, eProcurement, document flow, citizen relationship management), Lepida is at work in the health care and research sectors.