tScheme News

tScheme Website
tscheme Members area

Issue 6

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A monthly tScheme round up from the Secretariat

November / December 2001

Sadly, our Christmas logo - the tScheme shield with a sprinkling of snow on top, and a robin replacing the 'tm' - was not ready in time for this festive issue. Rather than go half way, and just use the flashing lights, the 'ho-ho-ho' sound bite and java pop-up card, I've decided to simply make this the Newsletter That Christmas Forgot.

Committees, Groups and Forums

The Issue 2 profiles are now on the website (link above). Our opening weekend broke all records, and official "Issue 2" merchandise will shortly be available.

The Marketing Forum and the Profiles and Processes Committee have prepared an Approval fee structure, reflecting real-world business models, and this has now been proposed for discussion and acceptance by the Approvals Committee, prior to ratification by the tScheme Board.

The Marketing Forum has revised the brief for our logos. Whilst this does also make them eligible for next years Turner prize, the changes are necessary and establish more consistency, and will help for building the brand (even if we're not controversial enough to get short-listed). Pictured below are the not-quite finalised version - our designer is weaving his magic as I write. They should be completed for the new year - members main contacts will get the usual versions - so perhaps a good resolution will be to display the appropriate ones prominently..?

The Legal Group will also be finalising, and we'll be signing, the contracts with our Assessors (and letting them have the logo pictured above).

The Approvals Committee met for the first time on 6th of December, with reviewing the progress of our Registered Applicants being a key item on the agenda. All five were found to be making satisfactory progress, and so their status has been confirmed. The Approvals Committee, chaired by Andy Scott, will meet regularly before the board meetings.

Membership

All members have now been invoiced for 2002. Thanks to the two members who

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have already paid up in full. We're still fielding new membership enquiries, so watch this space.

Board News

The board is still in contact with the National Consumer Council, eCentre and CBI eBusiness Council in search of a third user representative for the board.

The year in review

Whilst neither Stephen or myself have been here for the entire year, it nonetheless seems prudent to just remind everyone of the huge amount of progress tScheme (through the membership) has made throughout the year.

- Seven new members
- Two full issues of Profiles
- Comprehensive set of legal contracts
- Extensive (and popular) web presence
- Successful exhibition stand
- Dialogue with other schemes
- Strong brand established
- 'tScheme' known far and (world)wide

And perhaps the crowning achievement is the successful introduction of the Registered Applicants programme. This ushers in a new benchmark of trust for the industry as a whole.

Key activities for 2002

Early 2002 will see tScheme's first wave of service approvals, and we are also involved in a number of live discussions with further Registered Applicants, and potential new members.

For this first wave of approvals, the tScheme marketing machine (or 'forum') will be planning a major launch event for the first approval - timing for this event is most likely in March. Celebrity bookings are already being looked into (suggestion to Ben), and the millennium dome is being hosed down for us.

Revision of the government gateway documents, currently available on the tScheme website, should be forthcoming following earlier discussions. A representative of the gateway team is coming to the Profiles Committee meeting on the 20th of December to further develop the existing close relationship on this important initiative.

The training framework for "tScheme recognised" courses, is now prepared and ready for review. The framework consists of three modules: executive overview, implementation and assessment. Courses will be run by licensed training organisations, starting early next year.

The vital work of all three committees will develop further in 2002, and tScheme will continue its transformation from the theoretical to the actual.

This brief round up is published on a monthly basis. Between issues, please feel free to contact the Secretariat for information on any tScheme matter.

A concession to the festive season.

Whilst I stated that there wasn't going to be a overtly Christmas theme, it doesn't seem polite not to wish everyone the season's best. In keeping with our fair and open way of doing things though, we're going for an inclusive greeting. So please have lovely Christmas/Chinese New Year/Diwali/Hanukkah/Kwanzaa/Ramadan/couple of days off*, with best wishes from the tScheme office/secretariat. Thanks for all your fantastic work in 2001 (and before) and we raise a glass for the continued success in 2002.

Administravia
The tScheme office is closed after the 21st and re-opens on the 2nd.

*apologies if I have left anyone out

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