tNews

tScheme Website
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A monthly tScheme round up from the Secretariat

May 2002

With a turnout that puts to shame even the historic response to the French election – even without us having a far right candidate – the tScheme election took place, and we're happy to welcome two new Board members onboard.

tScheme is also now officially one of the fast growing companies in the world, with our full time staff expanding by a staggering 100% in a single month …

British Chambers of Commerce Event

After renting the entire stock of the IT supplier's flat screen monitors, the Starship tScheme's continuing voyages of exhibition were underway once more.

Steve's incredible blurring hand trick always pulls crowds.

The futuristic look of the thousands of pounds monitors, computers and plasma screens added to the overall impression of sleek professionalism, and our intrepid demonstrators constantly amazed and impressed the punters.

Douglas Alexander visits the tScheme stand

With demonstrations from Royal Bank, BT Ignite, ViaCode and Trustis, the stand represented a solid team work effort from both of our approved services and two of our registered applicants.

The event was quite different from the ISSE, tScheme's last public outing. With speakers of the likes of Estelle Morris, Iain Duncan Smith, and David Blunkett, to name but a few, tScheme's contribution, as vital and exciting as it was, did have an uphill struggle for attention. However, our presence was felt, and along side the our show guide entry (a classic in my humble opinion), tScheme is much more firmly on the map, and electronic signature have made (at least) a subliminal impact and are linked in people's minds to tScheme.

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Press and Awareness Campaign

With coverage like the above, tScheme is making headway in our mission to promote tScheme, and through us, the industry at large.

Around 50 press packs were taken away by journalists (more nationals than trade press this time) and Stephen's individual briefings are taking off. The foundation is ready for the house now.

Board elections

In an election with an turn out that put to shame the recent record breaking French vote – and without a far right candidate – tScheme is pleased to welcome two new members to the board, Chris Gregory from Lloyds-TSB and Alan Boxer, from eCentre. Anthony Parish and Jim Pang were also returned to the board. Anthony was again confirmed as Chairman, although Jim decided to pass on the baton as vice chair. I'm sure everyone at tScheme would like to thank Jim for all his hard work, and look forward to his continued input to the board.

Stepping up to the challenge is Richard Mabbott; a board member for a year now, and well suited for the rigours of the vice chairmanship. The board will also be announcing the appointment of three further directors shortly, in continuation of the policy of inviting a broad range of contributions.

Fast growing company

tScheme is expanding its permanent full time staff by 100% this month, with the appointment of Richard Trevorah as Technical Manager. Many of you will already know Richard from his time as Chubb's (now Baltimore) representative on the Profiles Committee, and more recently as an independent. A long standing expert in PKI, he's been appointed to augment tScheme central's technical knowledge and provide a strong focus (beyond our intrepid and wonderful editors) for the Profiles Committee.

tScheme's use of e-signatures

There has long been an anomaly at tScheme. I refer not to the quality of the coffee (!), but rather our own use, or lack thereof, of electronic signatures.

Beyond the simple security issues (for we want to use the same technology to provide encryption as well) there is definitely room for enhancement of our processes (model agreement signing), and simply put, we need to practise what we preach.

To this end, all of the Approved Services and Registered Applicants are being invited in to tender for the project. Watch this space.

New Member Campaign

tScheme is as keen as ever to attract new members, and we're introducing a referral programme. Yes, in exchange for [the introduction of] a new member, you can win a free subscription to tScheme news for a year. And the acclaim of your peers.

Spearheaded by Stephen and the Marketing Forum, a prospect lists has been drawn up (now available in the member's area), and if you have anything to add – either company names, or fields/sectors to target, please let him know.

Looking Forward

Whilst there is much to look forward to over the next month, highlighted for your reading pleasure is the Decision Analysis Workshop.

Jointly sponsored by tScheme, the DTI and the Office of the e envoy, approximately 30 carefully selected people - both Trust Service users and Providers will be working on a question, centred around barriers to making e signatures work for businesses, or at least be adopted on a larger scale. The objectives of this exercise are to produce a clear mutual understanding of the barriers to progress. An industry report will be the output, which will include a proposed Action plan. Naturally it will carry tScheme branding and position us firmly at the heart of the debate.

This Thursday (23rd), both the Profiles and Process Committee and the Marketing Forum (am/pm respectively) will be meeting. As always, members are welcome and if you want to join any of our committee, want to find out more about their scopes, or think someone else in your organisation would be interested, please simply let us know.