TRUSTGUIDE

Trustguide: making our future ICT-enabled world a safe one

Trustguide is an on-going collaborative project between HP Labs and BT Research, continuing the dialogue that began with the Foresight Cyber Trust and Crime Prevention project that looked into building a safer cyber world. The Trustguide project seeks to establish clear guidelines for the research, development and delivery of trustworthy ICT (Information and Communication Technology). HP and BT both have extensive experience of developing technology from research through to product and service, in testing that technology with the public and routinely supporting the wider involvement of the public with science, and so present a worthy partnership to undertake the Trustguide project.

The Foresight Cyber Trust and Crime Prevention project began a dialogue into where the responsibilities lie in making our future ICT-enabled world a safe one. The Royal Society's Science in Society programme extended the cyber trust debate to include the public. By engaging those that shape our ICT future with a wider community it is believed that we can build a world where future ICT systems are more trustworthy and citizens can confidently lead an online life.

Trustguide directly builds on the outputs of the Foresight Cyber Trust and Crime Prevention project and aims to pick up where Foresight finished. Trustguide seeks to produce clear guidelines for trustworthy ICT through workshops that bring together particular research projects, those interested in formulating trust enhancing guidelines and the public.

Opinions differ as to how responsibilities should be divided between those that regulate ICT ("illegal downloading should be prosecuted"), those that produce the technology ("software companies should be liable for any security defects"), those that use the technology to deliver services ("ISPs and banks should do more to protect consumers from phishing scams") and those that consume the services ("consumers should maintain firewalls and anti-virus software on their PCs"). Much of today's technology is developed with little attention being paid to the wider cyber trust implications, yet at the same time we become increasingly reliant on that tech-

nology. In addition, many hold the view that because ICT is shaped on a worldwide stage little can be done within the UK to influence future developments. Rather than wait for the inevitable polarised confrontations we believe it important to show leadership within the UK.

We feel that by engaging members of the public with current ICT research projects, we can refine the suggestions from Foresight as to how cyber trust might be enhanced into simple checkbox guidelines that could be used as research, development and delivery project health checks. In short, we need to bridge the gap between general comments on trustworthiness ("everything should be open source") and today's specific advice on how to produce secure code ("avoid buffer overflow"). These guidelines can form the basis of subsequent discussion between government, universities and industry.

In addition to Foresight, The Royal Society, the Information Assurance Advisory Council (IAAC), the Central Sponsor for Information Assurance (CSIA), CERIAS the "Center for Education and Research in Information Assurance and Security" at Purdue (US), and many others have documented the need for paying continued attention to cyber trust. Within the UK, project Endurance (from the National Hi Tech Crime Unit) and several cross industry, government and academic groups are taking forward information assurance and its implications for safeguarding today's world. Trustguide is complementing these initiatives by looking at how we influence and shape tomorrow's ICT.

To summarise, the objectives of the Trustguide project are:
- to build on the outputs of the Foresight project
- establish a dialogue between those that shape the technology, other interested participants, and the wider public, in order to enhance the existing cyber trust community so that it is capable of addressing complex and subtle issues as they arise
- produce guidelines for those engaged in the research, development and delivery of ICT on how cyber trust might be enhanced
- champion the guidelines.

The Trustguide project is work-in-progress and due to conclude in October 2006, after which the full results will be published.

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To learn more about Trustguide and share your thoughts on trustworthy ICT visit the project website at www.trustguide.org.uk

Workshops

We are realising the project's objectives through a series of workshops engaging with individuals across the country. Participants include researchers, those interested in formulating guidelines and the public. The workshops produce qualitative data in order to develop hypothesis that can be tested and explored in finer detail in future studies.

We recognise the importance of getting participants into a frame of mind where they can see how technology might develop, and so immerse the participants of each workshop into one or more current research projects (it is much better for a participant to put on a wearable computer than to be told about it, and seeing a prototype paper-thin display that does not need power to maintain the picture is better than trying to paint in words alone a future world of addressable displays on every available surface). Discussions that take place in each workshop are well grounded in the trust issues that emerge from the particular research projects demonstrated.

Each workshop is designed to attract attendees with similar backgrounds. By the time the project is completed our intention is to have worked with citizens, SME, corporate customers, local government and education. Throughout the series of workshops, we focus on three types of contributors, namely consumers, consumer/influencers and professional influencers. The professional influencer category will include academics and other researchers, both technical and non-technical.

Public involvement

You can find out more about the Trustguide project by visiting http://www.trustguide.org.uk There you will find an online survey and discover how you can contribute to the production on the guidelines by joining in the on-going discussions taking place in our on-line forum. We envisage the guidelines being used within the ICT curricula, both in schools and universities, as well as supporting industrial best practice. You will be able to respond to a range of views expressed in our workshops or introduce new topics for discussion.

Sciencewise

The Trustguide project is funded in part by the DTI Sciencewise programme. Sciencewise supports projects that bring scientists, government and the public together to explore the impact of science and technology in our lives. While the public is generally positive about science, the rate of change of scientific and technological development can raise concerns about how these discoveries are controlled and regulated. The Government wants the UK to take full advantage of the opportunities offered by scientific discovery and technological development, so that our society has confidence in the decisions that are made in the development, governance, regulation and use of science and technology. Sciencewise believes that to achieve this, the public should be given the opportunity to engage in dialogue about implications of new areas of science and technology. The outputs of the projects are used to inform the policymaking processes used by government and other key organisations.

About HP Labs Bristol

HP Labs Bristol is HP's second-largest central research laboratory and is among the premier corporate research labs in Europe. Since it opened in 1983, HP Labs Bristol has cultivated leadership and centres of excellence in a wide range of technical fields, with a current emphasis on utility computing, computer security, the Semantic Web, quantum cryptography, digital imaging, media and publishing, mobility and display technologies. The mission of the Trusted Systems Lab is to carry out research on trust, security and privacy to provide safe, simple to own and assured systems, enabling confident participation in the digital economy and delivered through HP's infrastructures and infrastructure services.

**Trusted Systems
Laboratory**

HP Labs, Bristol UK