



Understanding the Computer-Implemented Inventions Directive

***An informal discussion workshop for
Members of the European Parliament with patent experts***

Venue: Dorint Novotel, Boulevard Charlemagne, 11-19, B - 1000 Brussels

Date: Tuesday 31 May 2005

Time: 10:00 – 13:00, with buffet lunch provided

Organised by the *Computing Technology Industry Association*

The Directive on the Patentability of Computer-Implemented Inventions (CIIs) has recently aroused much controversy in the media, boardrooms and parliamentary halls of Europe. One, however, might be surprised to learn that patents for CIIs have already been granted in Europe for over 30 years. What is truly at issue is that Europe's current legal framework for CIIs is based on the European Patent Convention (EPC), an international treaty which is interpreted differently by national patent offices. Unless greater trans-continental legal certainty is provided, CII innovation in a borderless Europe will not reach its full potential. Members of the European Parliament are poised to help bring this legal certainty across Europe with the current draft Directive.

Appreciating the issue's importance and highly technical nature, CompTIA, the Computing Technology Industry Association, would like to invite a small group of MEPs to participate in an interactive discussion workshop with two leading CII experts and an innovative SME company in order to answer any questions you may have relating to any of the Directive's provisions. We hope that this will offer you an informal environment to discuss some of the key questions of the moment, including:

- What exactly are "computer-implemented inventions"?
- What is meant by 'technical contribution'?
- Is pure software patentable?
- Is the "one-click" internet business method patented in Europe?
- How is this Directive related to TRIPs?
- How much does it cost for a small business to get a patent?
- Can I learn of specific examples of existing CIIs?
- How is a CII patent filed?



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Agenda

10:00 **Welcome Coffee & Introductions**

10:15	"London to Vilnius": Screening of CII Documentary Video
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10:30 Expert I:

- ❖ **Gino Herreman**, Director of Computer-Application Cluster, European Patent Office (EPO), The Hague
- ❖ Questions & Discussion with MEPs

11:10 Expert II:

- ❖ **Alain Strowel**, Counsel, Covington & Burling, & Professor of St. Louis University, Brussels, and University of Liège
- ❖ Questions & Discussion with MEPs

11:50 Expert III:

- ❖ **Jerzy Dryndos**, CEO Logotec, Myslowice, Poland
- ❖ Questions & Discussion with MEPs

12:30 Lunch

