

NEWS FROM TERENA (123)



TERENA creates Task Force on Mobility

16 December 2002

Today the TERENA Technical Committee agreed on the creation of a new task force to investigate roaming for mobile devices using access technologies that are already deployed or are planned to be deployed in national research and education networks (NRENs) in Europe. The initial mandate of the task force, to be known as TF-Mobility, is for a period of eighteen months from January 1st, 2003. The task force will be chaired by Carsten Bormann of the University of Bremen, Germany, and James Sankar of UKERNA, the British national research and education networking organisation. The task force secretariat will be provided by TERENA's Licia Florio.

The aims of the task force will be:

- to provide a forum for exchanging experiences and knowledge, and to make the results of the work of the task force available to the research networking community;
- to identify requirements to address security aspects as well as regulatory issues;
- to define and test an inter-NREN roaming architecture;
- to evaluate mobile equipment and software;
- to evaluate next-generation mobile technology for handovers and roaming.

In the last area, TF-Mobility will collaborate closely with TERENA's task force TF-NGN (Next-Generation Networking) and with the working group on IPv6 and mobility of the 6NET project.

Mobility was already identified in the year 2000 as one of the areas that the TERENA Technical Programme should focus on in the future. Following a recommendation made by the TERENA Technical Advisory Council in its 2001 meeting, TERENA organised on 5 March 2002 in Amsterdam a workshop on mobility issues. This was followed by further informal meetings on June 2nd at the TERENA Networking Conference 2002 in Limerick and on October 28th in Amsterdam. These meetings led to the definition of a large number of deliverables, which are planned to be produced by TF-Mobility in the period up to July 2004. The first official meeting of the task force will be held at the TERENA offices in Amsterdam on 10 February 2003.

Further information can be found on the TF-Mobility website:

<http://www.terena.nl/task-forces/tf-mobility/>

For further press information, please contact:

TERENA Secretariat
Singel 468 D
1017 AW Amsterdam
The Netherlands
Tel: +31 20 530 4488
Fax: +31 20 530 4499
e-mail: pr@terena.nl