

NEWS FROM TERENA (143)



SURFnet and TERENA organise 802.1X workshops

31 March 2004

On 30 March 2004, and again on 31 March 2004, SURFnet and TERENA organised in the TERENA offices in Amsterdam an introductory and training workshop on the use of 802.1X technology. The workshop aimed to explain the general concepts of 802.1X technology and to provide a practical introduction on how to set up an 802.1X-based infrastructure.

Although 802.1X technology is not something new for people who work in the field of authentication, the technology has increasingly received interest in the past few years, as it is being used to provide access to wireless networks. It has been one of the activities of TERENA's task force TF-Mobility to investigate the use of 802.1X for the provision of inter-NREN roaming. Universities have been using 802.1X to provide access to their wireless networks, and at the moment this technology appears to be the most successful choice for institutions that intend to set up a wireless network for the first time.

Each of the two workshops was attended by about twenty participants from various European countries. Due to the interactive nature of the workshop the number of attendees had to be limited, and despite the repetition of the programme on the second day many potential participants had to be disappointed. The feedback from the participants was very positive and provides a clear indication that similar events should be organised in the future.

Each workshop started with presentations on the theoretical foundations of the 802.1X technology. Klaas Wierenga (SURFnet) discussed the need for, and benefits of 802.1X, Tom Rixom (Alfa & Ariss) went into the technical aspects, and Paul Dekkers (SURFnet) talked about the server side of 802.1X. This was followed by hands-on exercises, where participants had to set up and configure different systems.

The workshop programme and presentations can be found at

<http://www.terena.nl/tech/task-forces/tf-mobility/1x/index.html>

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