

PRIVACY LAWS & BUSINESS

Editor: Merrill Dresner

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In this issue, the last in 1987, PL&B brings you news direct from the Annual Conference of Data Protection Commissioners held in Quebec, which we attended in September.

The Republic of Ireland's government is the latest to introduce a data protection bill into its legislature. The bill, analysed in full in this exclusive report, looks set to be passed into law in the next few months. Following normal PL&B practice, our report has been checked with the national authority which drafted the bill, which ensures maximum possible accuracy. The Irish bill is the latest of the current group of 2nd generation bills (see PL&B May '87 p.13) which do not take the universal registration route following Sweden's law. It will be interesting to see if the next group of national data protection bills, like that in Greece (see PL&B August '87 p.6), are amended to follow the 2nd generation model.

Also in this issue is a report from Trent Polytechnic's Ian Walden on a survey of business response to data protection laws in Austria, France, Germany and the United Kingdom....and Keith Holroyd looks at how ICI has organized itself to comply with the UK's data protection law.

The index to your 1987 collection of Privacy Laws and Business is organized by both country and subject to help you use this valuable information resource as a management tool.

Assuming you renew your subscription to PL&B for 1988 (by paying the enclosed invoice -and we hope you will!), you will find included in the February issue: a report from November's Council of Europe Data Protection Conference in Athens (including a look at the EEC's role in data protection held over from this issue) a survey of how companies are complying with the data subject access provisions of the UK's data protection act.... how data protection laws affect medical records.... and a useful roundup of the scope and status of data protection legislation in some 25 countries.

Merrill Dresner

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