

PRIVACY LAWS AND BUSINESS

Editor: Merrill Dresner

No.8

November 1988

In this issue, we bring you news from the annual meeting of Data Protection Commissioners in Oslo which we attended in September. The discussion ranged over employment records, AIDS, health files, police files, tax records, research data, credit reference information, the fair obtaining of data, and Amnesty International records. This is the seventh year we have attended this meeting, gathering the news, developing our understanding of privacy trends and developing the network of personal contacts that makes possible this newsletter and related research and consulting projects.

In October, we were delighted by the very enthusiastic response to our conference in London, where there were participants from 10 countries. Both data protection authorities and companies were pleased to have an opportunity to meet informally. The papers from the conference are now available and we have started planning next year's conference.

In response to requests from our readers with operations in Ireland, we are pleased to announce a conference on Ireland's Data Protection Act, together with the Confederation of Irish Industry, on February 9th in Dublin. The Data Protection Commissioner, Donal Linehan, will give details of the Act and how it will be enforced. Privacy Laws & Business will explain the impact on company operations and one of the Commissioner's staff will show participants how to complete the registration forms.

The February 1989 features will include a completely updated global roundup of data protection laws and bills and summary tables... an in-depth review of the Council of Europe's role in data protection... Norway's data security policy.... We look forward in 1989 to again providing you with information and advice on international privacy laws.

Merrill Dresner.

Merrill Dresner, Editor

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