



Data protection developments in Germany

We continue our coverage of developments in Germany with this summary of the latest issue of *Recht der Datenverarbeitung (RDV)*. RDV is published five times a year by the Gesellschaft für Datenschutz und Datensicherung (GDD), Germany's Data Protection Association. The following selected extracts are from RDV's February 1996 edition. The full text of RDV reports are available from their Bonn office (see footnote for contact details).

Data protection in a multimedia world

The expansion of the information society and evolving computer technology have created new responsibilities and tasks in the area of data protection. Dr Joachim Jacob, Germany's Federal Data Protection Commissioner, introduces the challenges posed by multimedia systems in his address to the 19th Data Protection Conference (Cologne, November 1995) and presents different approaches to resolving them.

RDV 1/96. Dr Joachim Jacob

Computerisation of teleworking and labour law

The resurgence of home working is a logical consequence of advances in communication technology. Teleworking is defined as the occupation of employees outside their regular working facilities. Dr Peter Wedde discusses this growing area of work and explains its technical, organisational and legal aspects.

RDV 1/96. Dr Peter Wedde

Europe and new information and telecommunications technologies

Jörg Wenzel, in his capacity as Commissioner Dr Martin Bangemann's Cabinet Chief at the European Commission in Brussels, addressed the GDD 19th Data Protection Conference (Cologne, November 1995) on new technologies. In this summary, he covers developments such as the Internet, teleworking and ISDN, and concludes that it is necessary to intensify discussion between industry, administration and data protection managers. He also presents legal instruments to

incorporate data protection law into national and international applications of these new technologies.

RDV 1/96. Jörg Wenzel

The European Data Protection Directive - implementation in Member States

The adoption of the Directive by the Council of Ministers, on 24th July 1995, means that, for the first time, supra-national law exists for the protection of personal data. In this summary of his address to the 19th Data Protection Conference (Cologne, November 1995), Dr Ulf Brühann, Head of Department at the European Commission's Directorate General 15, describes how the Directive can be implemented in the EU's Member States.

RDV 1/96. Dr Ulf Brühann

The use of Catholic church records and its data protection problems

In Germany, church records have been in existence since the 4th century. Catholic church records are regulated by the provisions of ecclesiastical law. "The Regulation for the Protection and Use of Catholic Church Records" was passed in 1988. Dr Siegfried Facht, Data Protection Commissioner for the Catholic diocese of Baden-Württemberg, explains this regulation and deals with the various ways that the records can be used.

RDV 1/96. Dr Siegfried Facht

The Internet

Millions of users are now attached to the Internet. In this summary of his address to the 19th Data Protection Conference (Cologne, November 1995), Michael Esser describes the organisation, structure and costs of the Internet.

RDV 1/96. Michael Esser,

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