



INTERNATIONAL newsletter

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in this issue

2 Privacy news worldwide
Australia, Canada, Council of Europe,
Biometrics and Security. (also on p.26)

3 Terrorism, business and
data protection

4 Monitoring employees'
e-mail in Spain

6 Germany's Interception of
Telecommunications Law

8 Privacy Laws & Business
International Data
Protection Roundup
Argentina, Australia, Belgium, Brazil,
Canada, China, Czech Republic,
Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany,
Greece, Guernsey, Iceland, Isle of Man,
Italy, Japan, Latvia, Lithuania,
The Netherlands, New Zealand,
Norway, Peru, Spain, Sweden,
Switzerland, Taiwan, Thailand,
Ukraine, United Kingdom.

27 Book Reviews

PL&B Services

PL&B Services 6

PL&B online 13

Subscription form 24

Editorial

Part 1 of the International Data Protection Roundup (p.8) forms the focus of this issue of the PL&B International Newsletter. This greatly expanded Roundup, written by 31 contributors, gives readers an overview of the ebb and flow of developments in data protection and in some cases, freedom of information, in 30 countries around the globe.

This newsletter also reviews an important addition to the literature on privacy – Robert Ellis Smith's book, *Ben Franklin's Web Site* – an exploration of the history of privacy in the USA (p.27).

RA Jens Eckhardt discusses the implications of the Germany's enactment of the Interception of Telecommunications Ordinance (*Telekommunikations-Überwachungsverordnung – TKÜV*) which was adopted on 24th October 2001 and entered into force on 29th January 2002 (p.7).

Rosa J. Barcelo presents a snapshot of Spain's legal framework dealing with the monitoring of e-mail (p.4). She addresses the question faced by employers everywhere. Companies provide their employees with access to on-line communications for work purposes. Managers want their employees to use these services in a proper manner and not abuse them. How far does the law permit employers to go in monitoring their employees' actions?

Finally, all readers will continue to watch the recasting of privacy rights and data protection issues in light of the recent terrorist attacks. In the first few months after the attacks, the impact of these events on data protection laws and practices has not yet become clear. However, the one certainty is that the data protection landscape will change. Some of the possible changes are explored in a brief analysis of terrorism, business and data protection (p.3).

Eugene Oscapella, Associate Editor
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