



Newsletter – January 2012

Dear colleague,

A new year has begun.

We already know that it will be too short to finish all our projects but this is far from affecting us. On the contrary we are pleased.

Indeed, we are filled and enriched from our experience and from our hopes and goals.

The UIHJ is as powerful as its 72 members.

The year ahead will be highlighted with several major events, including:

- **From 23 to 25 February 2012 in Benin the first Ufohja session of the year.** We are expecting many African colleagues for this important training meeting.

- **On March 15, 2012 in Brussels (Belgium) the first meeting of the Council of the European Presidents:** this regional structure internal to the UIHJ will be created there and all European presidents are expected to attend this major event in the life of the UIHJ.

- **On March 16, 2012 in Brussels (Belgium) our fifth European Training Day:** in addition to its traditional jurisprudence and European legislation reviews on our profession, we will propose two workshops for our colleagues with practical and case studies on e-Learning and the difficulties in the implementation of cross-border service of documents and its limits.

As you know, we are currently the only ones offering such training. Once again your presence will make the day a success.

It is for the presidents to spread this information to their colleagues to give them access to the European training.

- **From 2 to 4 May 2012 in Cape Town (South Africa) the International Congress of the UIHJ.**

We hope you will be in attendance for this great gathering which will undoubtedly be crucial to our profession and its future.

We know we can rely on your willingness to be involved in the actions of the UIHJ.

We know we can count on your support for the development of our profession.

You will find attached a registration form to the UIHJ Club.

When you join, you will receive in return a membership card and an extranet code for the UIHJ extranet web site.

You will find all the latest information to help you follow the life of the UIHJ.

You will also have financial benefits: reductions in registration fees for conferences and other events organized by the UIHJ (including the Congress, the Training day), free UIHJ Magazines.

Our latest Newsletter is also found enclosed.

It is highly focused on new technologies and thus to a future that we wish fruitful and productive for you!

Leo Netten
President



Newsletter – January 2012

A Message from the President

*Ends a year, comes a new one
Let me wish you
Everything you hope for and beyond...
Cape
Town will
Reinforce our profession
Open new goals and bring
New occasions to celebrate our
International and
Convivial Union*

Dear colleagues,

Please forgive the liberty I took with this acrostic which has no other purpose than to draw your attention to the general theme of the first newsletter of the year: [e!](#)

Just a single letter... but it contains all our future!

E for electronic.

Our activities will increasingly be preceded by this letter.

Wherever you are, in any part of the world, whether you are a private or a civil servant judicial officer, this trend is here to stay.

It could even become a driving force for the harmonization of our profession, but that is another story to be told in Cape Town where I will be very pleased to see you...

Leo Netten
President



Newsletter – January 2012

Interview with Alain Bobant, Judicial Officer (France) Chairman of the National Federation of Trusted Third Parties (FNTC)

1. Mr Chairman, can you briefly introduce the FNTC?

The National Federation of Trusted Third Party was founded in 2001 by accountants, judicial officers, clerks of commercial courts, and companies offering services in the field of future technologies, together with experts and associations recognized in the Digital Economy.

It includes around a hundred members within four Colleges:

- 1 / operators and trust service providers
- 2 / publishers and integrators of trust oriented solutions
- 3 / experts and user representatives
- 4 / institutional representatives and regulated professions

For over ten years, with conviction and determination, the members of the FNTC involve in prospective projects and networks related to the Digital Economy.

The two fundamental "pillars" of the FNTC are electronic signatures and electronic archiving, but its members seek to create value and generate novelty through the production of several Working groups on emerging technologies, including e-Voting, e-Bill and e-Pay slip, traceability, digital identity, e-Health, "hybrid" document, and 2D certification...

The FNTC also established a labelling program. The first to emerge was in 2004, the FNTC-TA label dedicated to the services of third party archiving. Since then, two other labels have emerged: the FNTC-CFE "Electronic Safe" label and the FNTC-PFFE "Platform for Electronic Invoicing" label.

The handbooks published by the FNTC (ten to date) are reference books and valuable aids for those who want to understand serenely the world of dematerialization (handbook to electronic archiving and electronic safe, legal handbook of dematerialization...).

2. According to you what are the immediate applications for judicial officers among the products offered by the FNTC, and what do you expect from the collaboration with the UIHJ?

Most of the technologies mastered by the members of the FNTC can easily be integrated by the judicial officers who are already able to benefit from "premium" products and services in the above mentioned areas.



Newsletter – January 2012

The judicial officers who are members of the UIHJ will be able to benefit from the expertise and the relevance of the FNTC experts, at all levels: before investing (e.g. a project to set up an electronic filing system or a platform for dematerialized exchanges) and at the implementation stage of the project.

Some members of the FNTC are European leaders in their field, and many of them are internationally recognized experts (standardization of electronic records within the ISO).

Moreover, the experience of the members of the FNTC in the field of norms and standardization can be used to initiate a think tank on the establishment of a global "technological" strategy of the UIHJ. This aims at modelling simple - but powerful - technological processes especially interoperable from one country to another.

Each country can then be equipped with a technical architecture composed of standard elements on a global scale, and truly user friendly for professional exchanges.

3. What do you think of a common training provided by the UIHJ and the FNTC to the judicial officers of the member countries of the UIHJ, after having assessed their needs?

The idea is excellent! The experts of the FNTC - often bilingual - are available to participate in the development of "technology" training programs to be provided in the member countries of the UIHJ.

Currently, the FNTC partnered with the French Ministry of Higher Education and Research to ensure conferences with students enrolled in the C2i program (IT and Internet Certificate).



Newsletter – January 2012

e-Book

This is our first step in the world of new technologies and the title itself already calls for some clarification.

The simplest definition could be "electronic book". This means that reading this book will be on a computer or any other relevant electronic device (tablets, iPads ...).

This type of reading, although still confidential for individuals, is becoming more prevalent in the professional field.

The UIHJ could get into the publishing of this type of books. Indeed, our work resulting from symposia and seminars on comparative law are intended to be published.

Students and academic researchers often use the data on our profession that the UIHJ is the sole provider at world level.

Publishing an e-Book giving an overview of law enforcement in the world would give them an even better readability and accessibility.

We questioned Jos Uitdehaag (first quaestor of the UIHJ) who is at the origin of this idea of e-Books for the UIHJ.

Why an e-Book?

Jos Uitdehaag: *One of the disadvantages of paper publications is that they very quickly become obsolete.*

With electronic publication, we could continuously update our data.

But there are other advantages:

- *The application can be started as soon as data is entered (whether the work of a conference or writing a book such as that written on enforcement in the Balkans¹).*
- *It is easier to continually update the data*
- *Applications can be downloaded by anyone interested*
- *This will widely contribute to raise the awareness on the scientific contribution of the UIHJ in matters concerning enforcement and the activities of our profession"*

So off we go?

¹ Jos Uitdehaag and Eric Vincken: *Civil Enforcement in the Western Balkans*, an overview of the present and future developments in the various legal systems in the Western Balkans, published by the Balkans Enforcement Reform Project, 2011, ISBN 999560399-3



Newsletter – January 2012

E-learning

During the last permanent council of the UIHJ in Paris in November 2011², Professor Huub Spoomans, from the University of Maastricht was one of the participants of the e-Learning workshop.

This is about online training that is to say remote, interactive and using new technologies channels.

There are two types of scenarios:

- Teacher and student are connected together in real time during teaching
- The course is pre-recorded and students may connect when they want

What are the advantages of this type of training?

- Travel and sometimes costly logistical constraints are avoided
- Lectures can be followed at will
- Contents of the courses are necessarily uniform

The UIHJ immediately perceived the advantage of this technique that could be used to disseminate training to a larger number of countries where our profession lacks training structure.

Of course, the needs of everyone have to be assessed and relevant training modules have to be implemented in order to circulate this way and be continuously improved.

However “physical” contacts or trainings should not be suppressed. On the contrary they will be event more improved if the basic knowledge has been acquired using these tools.

In fact, this training material also contains limitations which are those of the technical content of the lessons in particular.

Training of judicial officers is one of the pillars of the UIHJ. It is not enough to hammer that the future of our profession lies within its high level training. We should be proactive and e-Learning provides an opportunity to show that quality.

During our next European Training Day in Brussels on March 16, 2012, we will organize a live e-Learning session in a workshop format where everyone will experience this type of training.

We are looking forward to meet you there!

² See UIHJ Website



Newsletter – January 2012

Electronic signature

The definition of electronic signature that we will try to give hereafter will be voluntarily succinct. This is just to describe the mechanism as simply as possible.

The electronic signature is a process aiming at identifying the signatory of an electronic document, and at preserving the integrity of this document.

A complex cryptographic method...

For this we use the process of asymmetric cryptography based on the use of two keys (the "dual key"): a private key (secret) that will create the signature, and a public key that is used to verify the identity and the integrity.

The public key is "certified" by a "Certificate Authority" that proves the link between the identity of the holder of the "dual key" and his public key.

...But very easy to use:

However complicated the process of creation / verification of the electronic signature is very easy to operate - and transparent. The user will simply enter a "pin" and added to a few "clicks" on the mouse.

We can easily see its advantages and the potential uses for our profession.

Indeed today, documents are increasingly dematerialized.

We exchange and inform via the Internet with the risks involved. The need to guarantee and secure these exchanges is crucial for their development.

Economic security needs evidence, evidence in the particular commitments of the parties.

The UIHJ, member of the FNTC³, supports the positioning of the profession as a trusted third party. One of the objectives of the work on e-Justice in our organization is to make it the root certification authority. This means establishing a single agency responsible for issuing digital certificates in order to reinforce their credibility.

³ The National Federation of Trusted Third Parties, see Interview above