



Report to EFMI Council

For the period July 2002 to September 2003
To be presented at 50th EFMI Council Meeting, Rome
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Current objectives

- ❑ **A. RID-MIP** – to establish a reference image database for medical image processing R&D groups (RID-MIP) within the EFMI member countries.
- ❑ **B. EIPG-IS** – to establish a Web-based Information System (IS) about European Image Processing Groups (EIPG) and their current activities.
- ❑ **C. Website** – to create and maintain a Working Group Website providing public information and (in a protected sub-area) WG-internal documents and work plans.
- ❑ **D. Workshops** – to organize workshops dedicated to the WG topics at the MIE conferences and other events.
- ❑ **E. Cooperation** – to build and maintain close relationship with persons, groups, organisations and standardisation bodies working on the MIP field and medical domains involved.

Recent activities

- ❑ **Ad A:** On the basis of a RID database schema worked out by Michael Prinz, Vienna, in collaboration with the WG chair, a *Reference Image Database Work Prototype Version 1.0* has been implemented in MySQL at the Technical University of Munich. It is meant for WG-internal discussion and decision-making in the next phase of the work. Application for funding has been tried within IST Call 1 of the Sixth Framework Programme of the European Commission as part of an Integrated Project (IP); unfortunately, this was not successful. Alternative funding opportunities will have to be discussed.
- ❑ **Ad B:** Not yet started (needs some funding).
- ❑ **Ad C:** The WG website www.efmi-wg-mip.net has gone online on July 11, 2002. The website can be reached through a link on the working groups' webpage of EFMI website. It contains a public and an internal area (access for members only). The public area informs about news, work, meetings, activities and cooperation, and it provides reports and finished documents for download. The internal area contains the list of members with contact information, actual work lists with current status, and internal protocols, reports, working drafts and other documents for download.
- ❑ **Ad D:** In a short 45 minutes *WG business meeting on August 26 at MIE2002* in Budapest the WG chair gave a summary of annual report to three new interested colleagues from Germany and Denmark. The participants found the WG very interesting, especially the RID-MIP objective; due to the limited time it was agreed in continuing the discussion in the framework of the WG workshop next day. This *1st WG workshop on August 27 at MIE2002* has been held on the topic "Reference Image Datasets for Medical Image Processing Research and



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Development” with 8 participants. The actual state of the WG’s RID-MIP activities was presented by the WG chair. Christian Lovis presented the Geneva image database software Casim@ge. The following discussion ended up with a list of recommendations about the further steps in the RID-MIP initiative. Protocols of both events can be found on the WG website.

- ❑ **Ad E:** 1) The 2nd WG workshop with seven presentations has successfully been held at MIE2003 in Saint Malo on Monday 5 May 2003 on the topic “Integration of Medical Image Processing into Clinical Workflow and the Electronic Patient Record”. There was no further contact with EHRcom (Electronic Health Record communication) CEN TC251 task force, so far. The agreed exchange of information will be initiated in the near future. 2) CARS (Computer Assisted Radiology and Surgery). On September 9, 2002, the WG chair met with the CARS organizer Heinz Lemke in Berlin. They agreed in concrete co-operation and an active participation of the WG in the organization of CARS conferences. According to this agreement, at CARS2003 conference a scientific subprogram on “Image Processing and Display” has been arranged co-operatively. The EFMI was officially mentioned as co-organizer in the CARS program. 3) Contact with related organizations in USA has been established (NIH, NCI and NLM). There is high interest in a co-operation from both sides.

Future activities

- ❑ **WG meetings.** It is planned to have a business meeting at CARS 2004 in Chicago. This will especially be interesting for intensifying the contact with related US initiatives. A work meeting shall be held as soon as the discussion on the RID work prototype has reached a mature state.
- ❑ **Scientific Programs.** For CARS2004 conference again a scientific subprogram on “Image Processing and Display” shall be organized co-operatively by CARS and EFMI.
- ❑ **Workshops.** The 3rd WG workshop will either take place at Medinfo 2004 or CARS 2004. The topic is not yet decided. Possible issues are Reference Datasets (in general) or some more specific problem related them, especially the problem of a sound Gold Standard for the evaluation of MIP methods and systems.
- ❑ **RID-MIP.** The RID work prototype will be presented at MIE Special Topic Conference in Rome, September 2003. It will be thoroughly discussed via electronic communication among working group members. Efforts on finding a funding opportunity will continue. Close co-operation with organizations in USA (NIH, NCI and NLM) shall be established.

Conclusion

During this second year of the WG grew and it has now 21 members and associated persons from EFMI countries (Austria, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Lithuania, Spain, Switzerland, The Netherlands) and USA. Further steps to achieve the major objective (RID-MIP) have been taken, but things go slower than expected and planned (not yet success in finding funds). Ongoing discussion has taken place. A WG website has been established as information and communication platform. The WG is actively participating in CARS conferences, which is important for bridging the gap between EFMI and strongly engineering-dependent medical domains like radiology and modern surgery.



EFMI
European Federation for Medical Informatics

Working Group on Medical Image Processing

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