

PRESS RELEASE

HEADER

The Data Protection Agency of the Community of Madrid announces the Third Edition of its Prize to the Best Practices of European Public Administrations on Data Protection.

SUMMARY.

With this prize the Data Protection Agency of the Community of Madrid wants to promote the growth of a "data protection culture" after the success obtained with the two previous editions, and awarded to the City Council of Vitoria-Gasteiz (2004) and to the Government and Data Protection Commission of Austria (2005).

BODY

The Official Gazette of the Madrid Regional Government publishes the 4th April 2006, the Resolution dated 16 March 2006 issued by the Director of the Data Protection Agency of the Madrid Regional Government announcing the Third Edition of the Prize to the Best Practices of European Public Administrations as regards Data Protection.

This initiative aims to spread the awareness of best practices in data protection proposed or implemented for data processing by any body or institution of the public administrations of any of the countries which signed the Convention of 28 January 1981 of the Council of Europe for the protection of individuals as regards automated processing of personal data.

Best practices to be considered may deal with different aspects such as the improvement of the quality of the personal data, the design of efficient systems for the information to the citizens regarding the collection of personal data, the management of the data subject's consent for the processing of personal data, data security, duty of secrecy, etc...

Applications may be submitted either in Spanish or in English before October 5th drawn up according to the sample form included as Annex to the Resolution of the announcement of the award. They shall be submitted by post or in person at the Registry of the Data Protection Agency of the Community of Madrid calle Cardenal Marcelo Spínola, número 14, tercera planta, 28016 Madrid or at any Registry of the Madrid Regional Government, or sent by e-mail to apdcm@madrid.org. Application forms must be accompanied by a full dossier explaining the project and for projects which have been implemented, a detailed report for the implementation and current situation.

The second edition of the prize was announced in 2005 and was awarded to the project "Data Protection Compatible Identity Management for e-Government" of the Government and Data Protection Commission of Austria. Special mentions of the prize were awarded to the projects delivered by the University King Juan Carlos and the Housing Office of the Regional Government of Madrid.

The best experiences identified will be divulged within the field of activity of **the European project "e-PRODAT: Data Protection Best Practices in Regional e-Government Services"**, in which the Data Protection Agency of the Community of Madrid participates as leader and which has obtained FEDER financing from the European Union within the INTERREG IIIC community initiative, with the participation of the Data Protection Inspectorate of Estonia, the municipality of Bologna and the Abruzzos Region –Italy–, the Association of local authorities of the Prefecture of Kavala and the Western Greece Region – Greece-, the University Rey Juan Carlos – Spain- and the University of Patras – Greece-.

The e-PRODAT project was launched on 1 February 2005 with an estimated duration of 24 months, and one of its key objectives is to create a European observatory of best practices in data protection and e-government that will disseminate and reproduce the most significant experiences in this area.