Quo Vadis Prüm?

European Police Records Index System (EPRIS) functionality under Prüm

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European Commission – Directorate-General Migration & Home Affairs
Unit D1 – Police Cooperation and Information Exchange
Some Ideas for a new Prüm instrument

Facial-Image

Interoperability

Shared BMS

EPRIS
Pseudonymised Police Index

Police Index

Police Case management systems
1st step EPRIS pseudonymised search and reply via Prüm router

1st step reply only hit/no-hit

Advantages of router as explained in first workshop

Establishment of EPRIS index on an optional/voluntary basis (& connection of Prüm router to the national EPRIS index on an optional/voluntary basis)

…but without an EPRIS index and hence EPRIS technology it would be complex to query the indexes of other MS/SAC

2nd step follow-up to receive core-data also via Prüm router, identical to a latent-fingerprint, a facial-image, a DNA follow-up

3rd step follow-up for (full) additional data is out of scope for Prüm (Police Cooperation)
Operations dashboard for EPRIS (examples):

- Number of pseudonymised records in national indexes
- Naming the national source systems feeding the national index
- Number of transactions
- Overall matching-scores per field per national index
- Last refresh of index

The national source systems that feed the national index need to be known to all at any time

This composition is a (purely) national decision
Hollywood scenario....
...unfortunately not really

On Saturday 23 Dec, a person drives a car into a large crowd of people in Cologne (Germany), killing and seriously hurting people. The driver with the car escapes, no accurate description of the driver or the car.

Police has pictures from surveillance cameras to identify the car and the Belgian number plate. The surveillance camera pictures show a bad quality picture of the driver. The car is found back in Düsseldorf. Forensic experts lift 8 latent fingerprints from various parts of the car. Latent fingerprints are matched in the German criminal police databases at BKA. After verification by forensic experts, no hit.

With new Prüm:

• Latent fingerprints are directly sent to all national databases (including those missing in the current Prüm) and to Europol.
• All results from all systems come back 6h later.
• The long list of candidates is re-matched into a new candidate-list through a new Prüm re-matcher, German forensic experts quickly indicate three possible hits on Belgian, Dutch and Europol data. The other 277 candidates are probably not analysed as they score too low.
• The identity details and further details are requested on-line and obtained 10 min later via the new core data exchange functionality, from Belgian, Dutch and Europol systems, this includes the facial-images (where they exist)
• The Belgian hit is excluded, the facial-image and the surveillance image (even if of bad quality) are too different to correspond to the same person.
• The Dutch hit concerns a criminal record of a person previously resident in the Netherlands.
• The hit on Europol data refers to a foreign terrorist fighter, data received some years ago from the United States. Dactyloscopic experts confirm that the Dutch hit and the Europol hit refer to the same person.
• The fingerprints from the Dutch/Europol hit are used to query the Common Identity Repository & Shared Biometric Matching System (CIR & sBMS).
• the CIR delivers a hit on the VIS one minute later. The central access point verifies that conditions are fulfilled to access the VIS for law enforcement purposes and a person with a totally different identity in the Visa Information System (VIS) is found.
• The identity from the Dutch hit and the identity from the VIS are used to query all police databases in the EU via the EPRIS function in the new Prüm.
• The hit/no-hit results from EPRIS are known 1 minute later from all systems.
• The person is known in the Dutch system (obviously) but also in the Swedish Police system under the identity from the VIS.
• The Swedish SPOC is contacted and replies one day later with further details including a Swedish address of the suspect.

1 day has passed, a potential suspect was identified and potentially located.