Number	LANCS-D4.4-RN-Policy-03	A-PI--

Title	Research Note (RN) for D4.4
Subtitle	Policy view

PROBLEM		SOLUTION	

Research Note	X	Selected Annotation	

Categories: | | |

Summary: Policy view on the internet of things

CONTEXT

The internet of things is a vision of mundane and specialised objects, including bodies, interconnected to exchange information and sensory data, and to share data-managing capabilities. Expanding this way the range of objects and devices that are connected, changes the ways in which objects can interact with other objects and/or humans in the environment, and how data can be tracked and monitored in transit.

FACTS

The internet of things is already here, albeit, not the idealized version of a vast range of mundane and specialise objects operating on a fully seamless infrastructure. But, its presence is evident already in a range of commercial and occupational practices, for example:

1. the use of RFID embedded in products for identification and location purposes.
2. the use of sensory devices attached to industrial materials to manage volume and the risk of hazard.
3. the use of sensor systems in environmental monitoring, traffic control and related operations

PROBLEM

Infrastructures have never been seamless which in the case of an internet of things, relates to persistent complications in technical problem-solving in areas such as:

1. correctly capturing the identity and state of objects
2. correctly capturing the state and/or identity of bodies and persons
3. correctly processing information in order to 'notify' other objects or humans what is the case and what to do next

SOLUTION

Policies and regulation on the internet of things ought to be informed by:

- what we can learn about existing infrastructures, in particular, how they are intercepted by humans, operated and maintained.
  - What are the activities around the 'cracks' and what risks do they pose?
- better understanding of how the distribution and diversity of common applications that connect to existing infrastructures evolves and why.
  - How are they actually used and how are they serviced?
  - Can existing devices / systems / services and infrastructures realistically be more uniform and seamless than they currently are?
- viable methods to hold visionaries and research leaders to account over promise and expectations.