

DIGITAL FORENSICS SPECIALIST GROUP

Notes of the eighth meeting, held at 11:00am on Thursday 16 August 2012 at Cobalt Square, London

Present:

Mark Stokes	Met Police (Chair)
Neil Cohen	Centre for Applied Science and Technology
Geoff Fellows	LG Training Partnership
Nigel Jones	Technology Risk
Angus Marshall	Forensic Science Society
Miranda Moore	5pb Chambers
Peter Sommer	LSE
Miles Trent	Criminal Cases Review Commission
Charles Welsh	Skills for Justice
Kenny Chigbo	Home Office (Secretary)

In attendance

Keith Foggon	Financial Services Authority
Peter French	JP French Associates
Simon Iveson	Home Office
Dave Johnston	ACPO Data Communications Group

Apologies

Mark Cameron	Child Exploitation and Online Protection Centre
Andy Kay	NPIA
Charlie McMurdie	Met Police
Craig Wilson	Digital Detective

Introduction

1.1 Mark Stokes welcomed all to the eighth meeting of the group, and introduced Keith Foggon from the FSA, who was invited to give the group an insight on the FSA's use of digital data.

Presentation: FSA Investigations Unit

2.1 Keith Foggon started his presentation saying the FSA was looking to streamline their forensic services. They had about 400 investigators and needed to provide capability for their case teams. This involved an end to end processing of data, tying in collection of exhibits to their presentation in court. An Evidence Management System (EMS) has been created. This is a suite of applications to control the movement of exhibits, analyse, search and review electronic evidence, upload hard copy documents, prepare evidence for court and comply with all legal and regulatory requirements. The EMS has been in

operation for nine months with 30m files. The next task is to link the forensic network to EMS. This is currently being done manually.

2.2 The Chair thanked Keith Foggon for his presentation and members agreed it was useful and they will explore how to engage further with the FSA.

Minutes of the last meeting

3.1 The minutes of the last meeting were agreed.

Matters arising

3.1 All the actions from the last meeting were either cleared or are agenda items.

Terms of Reference

4.1 The following changes were suggested to the ToR:

- The reference to “the Council” should be replaced with “FSAC”.
- Refer to 17020 and “other applicable standards” in Part v and viii.
- In the definition of “digital forensics”, delete footnote and include remote storage in the list.

Action: Simon Iveson

Audio sub-group

5.1 Peter French introduced his talk on audio analysis saying that this was a very broad area which does not sit very easily anywhere. However, the digital tools used make it fit into the digital forensics landscape. Audio analysis requires work on a code of conduct for practitioners. There is currently a requirement for practitioners to disclose an adverse judgment.

5.2 The DFSG agreed that Peter French should set up a subgroup involving people that cover the relevant key areas of audio analysis. He should then come back to the DFSG with an update and ideas how to cover audio analysis as an appendix of the Regulator’s Code of Practice.

Action: Peter French/Simon Iveson

Competence assessment framework

6.1 Charles Welsh introduced this item stating that Skills for Justice are integrating quality standards into quality management systems. They are looking at how to assess competence in cyber crime detection and are keen on integrating ISO17025 into digital forensics. This involves offering help to high-tech crime units. They are currently mapping and reviewing standard operation procedures. The outcome would be a targeted approach to

assessing competence. In this regard, they are creating templates and modules for training, and creating a report to be reviewed and published. This will be a model for a transparent assessment of individuals. ACC Stuart Hyde is the ACPO sponsor for the work. The DFSG was asked to act as a steering group for the programme.

6.2 The DFSG fully supported the work and agreed to act as a steering group. Charles Welsh was asked to keep the Group updated at regular intervals and feed in output for review by the DFSG.

Video appendix

7.1 The Home Office's Centre for Applied Science and Technology has commented on the draft. It has also been through consultation. The DFSG added these further comments:

- Paragraphs 1 and 3 on Page 3 are the same.
- Comment LS7 on Page 4 needs reviewing.
- Typo on Page 5, it should be "frame" not "fame".
- The comment on Page 5 is not correct because it implies manufacturer's validation can be relied upon or utilised directly.
- An explanatory sentence is required about risk-based validation.

Action: Simon Iveson

Triage

8.1 The Group agreed to shelve this item until the next meeting.

Action: Simon Iveson

Cell Site Analysis

9.1 It was agreed that cell site analysis should be part of the DFSG and that an appropriate person should be identified to lead on this. A couple of names were suggested to explore with the Forensic Science Regulator.

Action: Simon Iveson

Cognitive bias

10.1 The DFSG discussed whether more work was required on this. But it was agreed that this was a professional standards issue.

ISP/CSP Data

11.1 Dave Johnston of the ACPO Data Communications Group gave a brief outline to the DFSG about his group. They represent the relationship between law enforcement and the communications industry. The DFSG was asked to consider whether ISP/CSP (Internet Service Provider/Communications Service Provider) data should be an area covered by ISO17025. It was agreed that the Forensic Science Regulator will be asked to consider this.

Action: Simon Iveson

11.2 Dave Johnston was asked to be part of a subgroup to draft an appendix to support cell site analysis.

Action: Dave Johnston/Simon Iveson

AOB

12.1 No further issues were raised.

Date of next meeting

13.1 13 November 2012, Private Dining Room 2, Home Office, 2 Marsham Street, London SW1P 4DF