Press Release, 23 January 2020

**VICTORIA Video Analytics Contest**

Open Call for Video/Audio Analysis Developers to test and benchmark their algorithms on the VICTORIA Video Analysis Platform

The European security project VICTORIA has developed a Video Analysis Platform (VAP) prototype which shall accelerate, facilitate and improve the investigations of Law Enforcement Agencies (LEAs) after crimes and terrorist acts. The open and flexible platform is designed to support analytic tools from third parties with varied features. The consortium invites Video and Audio Analysis Technology Developers to the VICTORIA Analytics Contest to test and benchmark their algorithms and to also develop the necessary plug-ins to communicate with the platform.

**Context: Insufficient analytic tools hinder current crime investigations**

Video recordings are a major resource for legal investigations after crimes and terrorist acts. Due to the lack of mature video investigation tools, Law Enforcement Agencies still need to carry out most of the video analysis manually. This is resource taking and difficult to handle due to the steadily increasing volume of videos that need to be analysed. Consequently, investigators cannot analyse all available videos anymore and extracting first clues from the video takes too long. On top to that, only a few investigation tools are available and these are mostly vendor-closed systems. The VICTORIA partners have therefore developed an open, ethical and legally compliant Video Analysis Platform (VAP) prototype aiming at the LEA community, which shall accelerate video analysis tasks by a factor of 15 to 100, while providing reliable results.

Open Video Analysis Platform shall trigger the production of new investigation products

“The open concept of the platform shall facilitate and stimulate innovation and market growth for new video investigation products, which LEAs urgently need in order to solve criminal acts more efficiently”, says project coordinator Luc Sonke (IDEMIA Identity & Security). "To best meet real life operational conditions of the Law Enforcement Agencies, we have directly involved LEAs in all stages of the development process. The VAP will therefore significantly increase the usability of delivered tools.”

**The Analytics Contest: Exclusive chance to test and benchmark developers’ algorithms**

The project consortium is now inviting video and audio technology developers/providers/researchers to test their tools and to develop the necessary plug-ins to communicate with the Video Analysis Platform on VICTORIA datasets. “The contest offers the developers an exclusive view into this platform and gives them the chance to get to know and shape the VAP, LEAs will be working with in the future, states coordinator Luc Sonke. “Also, testing and benchmarking their algorithms on this platform helps the developers to better assess the usability of their own tools. We are very much looking forward and excited about the analytic tools the developers will present. Their input and ideas could make a difference for the future investigative work of Law Enforcement Agencies.”

**The VICTORIA Analytics Contest: in three steps to public presence**

The contest is split into three different challenges. The 12 best performances and most innovative tools will be rewarded with appealing prizes. A special prize will reward the challenger submitting several challenges, including a plugin integration. The winners will also be given public presence on the project website and are invited to present the rewarded functionalities at the VICTORIA International Conference taking place on 27-28 April 2020 (the venue is still to be confirmed). Travel and accommodation will be offered by the project.
CHALLENGE I: Video/Audio Analytics: “Detect & track challenge”

The challengers need to propose either Video or Audio Analytics Algorithm (to possibly be integrated as plugins into the VAP, see challenge 3).

- Video Analytics addresses the detection and tracking of one (or more) of the 2 categories: person and car.
- Audio Analytics addresses the detection of one (or more) of the 5 sound categories: engine, car horn, voice, music and door noise.

The algorithms performances will be evaluated using datasets that contain ground truth information allowing relevant test conditions.

CHALLENGE II: “Innovative analytics challenge”

Challengers are invited to propose the most innovative functionality related to post-event crimes and terrorism acts.

Both challenges will have the possibility to be integrated as plugins into the VAP (see challenge 3).

CHALLENGE III: “Plugin integration challenge”

Proposing a plugin integrated into the VAP.

One is free to submit either one, two or the 3 challenges described above.

The platform will be available in a cloud server during the challenge for testing and integration.

The new deadline for registration is Friday 28 February 2020.

REGISTRATION
https://cmt.eurtd.com/events/event/view/220180/analytic-contest

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