



Grant Thornton International Forensic IT challenges





Grant Thornton Forensic & Investigation Services

about Grant Thornton

- Offices in over 100 countries
- Forensic & Investigation Services units in about 40 countries (e.g. US, Canada, UK, Netherlands, India, Hong Kong,)
- Also called “the lean fifth”

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about your speaker

Background

1989 – 2000 law enforcement

- national and international
- fighting organized crime
- setting up unit fighting child pornography on the internet and initiating international cooperation
- involved in creation of cyber cop/high tech crime units
- assisting setting (inter)national standards

2000 – present private sector

- founded various forensic technology/investigative companies
- specialized in leading complex (inter)national investigations
- specialized in forensic readiness issues
- expert witness
- lecturing and involved in development of educational programs
- daily involvement in actual investigations





**The goal for the next hour:
giving food for thoughts, giving thoughts for solutions**

Topics for today

- Challenges regarding cross border investigations**
- Public Private Cooperation in cross border investigations**
- Technical challenges today and in the future**
- The growing need for forensic readiness**



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Challenges regarding cross border investigations

Legal topics

- Data and privacy protection
- Tax laws
- Civil seizure
- Admissibility of evidence
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Challenges regarding cross border investigations

Practical topics

- Culture
- Language
- Time zones
- Planning
-



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- ✓ **Challenges regarding cross border investigations**
- ❑ **Public Private Cooperation in cross border investigations**
- ❑ **Technical challenges today and in the future**
- ❑ **The growing need for forensic readiness**



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Public Private Cooperation in cross border investigations

STATEMENTS

Public Private Cooperation in cross border investigations does not exist at all

When for example Dutch government approves and acknowledges results of non governmental investigations being the start of a public prosecution case then it could be a big problem getting this case admissible for a German court?

Still, public and private are not able to join efforts in creating methods and techniques

For example Europe spends a lot of money on EU subsidized programs, are results being used and further developed by either public or private? Do they join effort there? A lot of law enforcement agencies reinvent the wheel over and over.



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Public Private Cooperation in cross border investigations

Question

Is there a need for public private cooperation or should we just accept that these two worlds exist besides each other?



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Technical challenges today and in the future

- The normal challenges like size, speed, costs etcetera
- Evidence from cloud environments
- Issues related to identity theft
- Access to your own outsourced data
- Standard encryption
- Anti forensics
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Technical challenges today and in the future

- ❑ In 5 years a standard pc contains 5TB of storage
- ❑ In 5 years hardly any company data is still stored locally
- ❑ In 5 years computers will be 5 to 10 times faster
- ❑ In 5 years public and private will still not really cooperate
- ❑ In 5 years the Forensic IT market will be 20 times bigger
- ❑ In 5 years “cyber” destruction and identity theft will be the big problems
- ❑ In 5 years I will find out that my predictions where unreliable



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The growing need for forensic readiness

All the issues mentioned until now motivate that there is a growing need for Forensic Readiness.

If we don't manage that data will still be available in a forensic solid way then the “good guys” will lose from the “bad guys”

Legislation, procedures, privacy protection, anti forensics, standard encryption, floating storage environments, legal safe heavens, are a big threat to effective and efficient investigations



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questions – remarks

! get the best out of this conference and don't stop discussing !