"CrisisWall" - A Multi-Device, Multi-System Crisis Management Software

Abstract:
After two years of extensive experience with operating a big wall display it can be concluded that many large display installations are functioning from a hardware point of view. However, the software available to operate and utilize such video walls has much room for improvement in functionality, in particular for a situation room environment. With experience gained in human computer interaction (HCI) in several projects (including ECML experiments and developments for multitouch phones and tablets), the Crisis Monitoring and Response Technologies (CRITECH) action, in collaboration with the Open Source Text Information Mining and Analysis (OPTIMA) action, have developed a concept of dedicated software exploiting the benefits of a large video wall and supporting a clear set of situation room tasks: analysis, collaboration, and presentation. The concept combines novel layouts for the big wall display, support for multiple interaction modes (touch-screen, surface table, iPad, space mouse, etc.) and OLAP (on-line analytical processing) techniques. The software is in essence a presentation layer exploiting to the maximum the existing information systems of the Global Security and Crisis Management Unit (GlobeSec) unit but in a harmonized and integrated way: Global Disaster Alert and Coordination System (GDACS) [1] by the Crisis Monitoring and Response Technologies (CRITECH) action, Europe Media Monitor (EMM) [2] by the Open Source Text Information Mining and Analysis (OPTIMA) action, Global Human Settlement Layer (GHSL) by the Geo-Spatial Information Analysis for Security and Stability (ISFEREA) action, Theseus by the Statistics and Information Technologies for Anti-Fraud and Security (SITAFS) action, Spatial Data Infrastructure (SDI) by the Geospatial EMergercy Management (GEMMA) action, etc.

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