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News

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WITFOR 2009 Meetings and launching ceremony

From 30 October to 1 November a number of preparatory WITFOR 2009 meetings took place in Hanoi, Vietnam. These were combined meetings of the International Steering Committee, the subcommittees of the National Organizing Committee and the Commissions. Thanks to the participation of many colleagues from both inside and outside Vietnam the preparations have been taken an important step forward. On behalf of all the international participants I want to express a great appreciation and admiration for the flexibility and commitment to attend the meetings despite the enormous problems with the weather conditions and the flood problems which were the worst in Vietnam in 35 years.

Continuous heavy rains cause serious flooding and traffic jams in many streets in Ha Noi. — VNA/VNS Photo

CÔNG NGHỆ THÔNG TIN & TRUYỀN THÔNG

Journal on Information and Communication Technologies

http://www.tapchibcvt.gov.vn/News/PrintView.aspx?ID=19679

On 31 October a launching event took place to officially launch WITFOR 2009. This ceremony was attended by many government officials, industry and press. Besides announcing the event, also the first two sponsorship agreements were signed. The ceremony got very good press coverage both in the written press and on the internet (for an impression google WITFOR 2009). One of these reports has been selected for this Newsletter to give an impression of how WITFOR is positioned and covered in Vietnam (please see last page of this News).

October, 31 2008 in Hanoi, the launching of "**World IT Forum – WITFOR 2009**" was held by Vietnam Ministry of Information and Communications (MIC) to officially the hosting of the event in Hanoi, Vietnam. Representatives of government agencies, foreign diplomatic missions, international and Vietnamese business communities attended the ceremony, which was opened by the Vice Minister of MIC Nguyen Thanh Hung.

Initiated by the International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP), the aim of the World IT Forum is to strengthen cooperation of ICT in economic and social sectors, thus helping to achieve the UN Millennium Development Goals and to implement the World Summit on the Information Society's (WSIS) Plan of Action.

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Under the theme "***ICT for Sustainable Development***", WITFOR 2009 will take place from 26 to 28 August, 2009. The Conference will be organized at ministerial level with around 1.500 domestic and international participants. The Vietnamese Prime Minister Nguyen Tan Dung will be the Honorary Chair of the Conference.

Not only to cover academic and technological aspects, the WITFOR 2009 facilitates discussions and exchange of views on a wide range of issues pertaining to ICT applications in economics, societies… fostering the role of ICT in ensuring regional and global sustainable development. This is also a chance for all high-level industries, organizations, associations together with a populous number of staffs who are working in the ICT sector not only to exchange the know-hows, experiences but also to approach and share the knowledge with international partners and associates, to affirm the strengths and potentials of Vietnam in the ICT area. Meanwhile, this would bring an opportunity to foreign colleagues and investors to have better understandings about ICT sector in Vietnam so that they can be well equipped to accommodate long-term and realistic investments into Vietnam.

Accompanied with the official scheduled program, including 07 plenary sessions and 32 commission sessions, there will be a wide range of side events such as: exhibitions on ICT products and solutions, computer provision for students, meetings with international delegations, associations, enterprises and speakers of the ICT field…

Vietnam would be the perfect country selected to host the first WITFOR in Asia because the country to host WITFOR should be using ICT and having a clear policy and plan for this on the one hand but should not be to far advanced on the other. In addition, Vietnam is "hot" and in the focus of attention of many investors which is an important factor to create favourable conditions for a successful event, Leon Strous, IFIP Vice-president and Chairman of the WITFOR 2009 International Steering Committee said.

To organize this event, a national organizing Committee (NOC) and International Coordinating Committee had to be established. The Vice Minister of the NOC Nguyen Minh Hong is Chief of NOC. This NOC would have to include members from different organizations, government, relating ministries as well as industry. The NOC plays an important role in all arrangements concerning the venue, marketing, logistics, sponsorships, administration, security.

As a global-scale event recognized and supported by the UN and other world bodies, the WITFOR 2009 will be of significant implications. The Conference will help promote the image and status of Vietnam on the international stage, particularly in UN's activities, such as contributing to Vietnam's common goal of becoming the regional and international centre for Information and Communication Technologies.

Leon Strous (IFIP Vice President and Chairman of the WITFOR 2009 International Steering Committee)

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July 27 – 31, 2009

Website: http://www.wcce2009.org/

The 9th IFIP World Conference on Computers in Education (WCCE 2009) is an IFIP event hosted by theBrazilian Computer Society - SBC (Sociedade Brasileira de Computação), and organised by UFRGS (Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul),UFSC (Universidade Federal de Santa Catarina), IDESTI (Instituto de Capacitação, Pesquisa e Desenvolvimento Institucional em Gestão Social de Tecnologia de Informação). This is the first WCCE to be held in South America ever.

Education and technology for a better world is the main theme for WCCE 2009. The conference will enlighten and explore different perspectives of this theme, covering all levels of formal education as well as informal learning arenas, societal aspects and challenges that are faced by developing countries.

This is a conference with strong international participation and brings together professionals from all continents working in the field of Education and Information and Communication Technologies (ICT).

WCCE is the biggest event serie in TC 3. Up to now the following conferences have been arranged:

2005: Stellenbosch, South Africa
2001: Copenhagen, Denmark
1995: Birmingham, UK
1990: Sydney, Australia
1985: Norfolk, USA
1980: Lausanne, Switzerland.
1976: Marseille, France.
1977:1970: Amsterdam, Netherlands.

The Proceedings from these conferences is probably the best history of how computers in a wide sense have been used in education.

If you visit the conference website, you will get all information you need. But let me give some information about the conference.

Programme chair:
Sindre Røsvik, Norway
Vice-chair of TC 3
E-mail: sinro@online.no

Organising Committee Chair:
Rosa Maria Vicari
E-mail: rosa@inf.ufrgs.br

Organising Committee Co-Chair:
Raul Sidnei Wazlawick
E-mail: raul@inf.ufsc.br

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Contributions may be of the following categories:

- Full Paper
- Short Paper
- Demonstrations
- Symposium
- Poster
- Interactive collaborative sessions
- Workshop
- Panel

Picture from the conference hotel in Bento Gonsalves

Key dates:

- 31st December 2008 - Submission of papers and contributions
- 28th February 2009 - Notification of acceptance
- 15th March 2009 - Final confirmation to speakers
- 30th April 2009 - Submission of final version of paper for publishing
- 30th April 2009 - Submission of presentation material
- 27th - 31st July 2009 - Conference dates

How to arrive in Bento Gonsalves:

Map of Brazil. Downloaded from Lonely Planets Maps.
http://www.lonelyplanet.com/maps/south-america/brazil/

The nearest town with an airport to Bento Gonsalves is Porto Alegre.
A free busservice will be set up between Porto Alegre and Bento Gonsalves.

One example of how to arrive:
1: Plane to Sao Paulo
2: Plane to Porto Alegre
3: Bus to Bento Gonsalves.

I suppose many of you will combine WCCE 2009 with a tourist visit to Brazil. Then you can plan your own travel but remember that the nearest town with an airport is Porto Alegre.

Some pictures from Bento Gonsalves:

Conference site

Hotel

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Tourist opportunities:

Last, but not least: I hope and expect to meet you at WCCE 2009!

Jan Wibe e-mail: jan.wibe@plu.ntnu.no

8th IFIP Conference on e-Business, e-Services, and e-Society

The 8th IFIP Conference on e-Business, e-Services, and e-Society (I3E 2008) was held successfully in Tokyo, Japan, on September 24–26, 2008. 150 attendees from 12 countries enjoyed keynote speeches, panels, an organized session, and general-paper sessions as well as a reception and a banquet.

In the keynote speeches, Dr. Takeshi Muzuike from KDDI R&D Laboratories, Japan, Mr. Adam Gross from salesforce.com, USA, and Professor Jan A. G. M. van Dijk from the University of Twente, Netherlands, provided their views on IT uses in business and society. Two panels organized by Dr. Tadao Saito, professor emeritus of the University of Tokyo, and Professor Shiro Sakata from Chiba University were on P2P and on smart card and tags, respectively. The organized session by Professor Osamu Sudoh from the University of Tokyo discussed e-Service on healthcare and social innovation.

Keynote by Professor van Dijk on September 25

In the general sessions, 29 papers - 25 research track and 4 industrial & administration track - were presented by authors from 10 countries with active discussions by attendees. From these papers, the committee selected two for best paper awards: one co-authored by Ms. Eeva Aarnio and Ms. Reetta Raitoharju, both from Finland, and the other by Mr. Seiichi Kondo, Professor Mizuho Iwaihara, Professor Masatoshi Yoshikawa, and Mr. Masashi Torato, all from Japan. The banquet was held at Happoen, a Japanese-style hall, where attendees enjoyed talking and drinking as well as seeing the beautiful Japanese garden.

Talking and drinking at the banquet

The committee would like to thank authors who submitted and presented papers, attendees who discussed actively, and people and institutions that supported us in preparing, carrying out, and budgeting the conference.

The **I3E 2009 conference** (http://i3e2009.loria.fr/) is the ninth IFIP conference on e-Business, e-Services, and e Society sponsored by IFIP WG 6.11 in cooperation with TC11 and TC8. It will be hosted in **Nancy, France**, September 23-25.

It provides a forum for users, engineers, and scientists in academia, industry, and government to present their latest findings in e-business, e-services, and e-society applications and the underlying technology to support those applications. The conference will host keynotes as well as regular paper sessions comprising research track and industrial and administration track. Areas of particular interest for the regular paper sessions include but are not limited to:

- **e-Business** : Innovative e-Business models, Trust, privacy and security , Inter-organizational systems, Enterprise application integration, Business process integration, e-Negotiations, auctioning and contracting, Business process re-engineering, Supply, demand, and value chains, e-Marketplaces, e-Hubs and portals, e-Commerce content management, Digital goods and products, Dynamic pricing models, User behaviour modelling, Mobile business

- **e-Services** Service-oriented computing, Trust, privacy and security, Web services, P2P co-operation models, Semantic web services, Ubiquitous, mobile and pervasive services, Service composition, Agent-oriented e-Services, Service orchestration, Service mashup, SaaS, Web 2.0 applications, Service componentization, Inter-organizational services

- **e-Society** e-Government (e.g. G2G, G2B, and G2C), Trust, privacy and security, Digital cities and regions, Multimedia and multilinguism, e-Democracy and e-Governance, Digital culture and digital divide, e-Health and e-Education, Mobile public services, Disaster monitoring and prevention system, Legal, societal and cultural issues, Public e-Services for citizens and enterprises, Public-private partnerships, One-stop government - service integration, International dimension of e-Gov.

The proceedings of the conference will be published by Springer within the **IFIP book series** and **indexed by DBLP**. Extended versions of selected papers will be published in the International Journal of e-adoption and the Advances in Enterprise Systems e-journal. For more information about submission and deadlines, see the Web site of the conference.

IFIP – CEPIS Meeting

On November 14th, 2008 IFIP Vice President Leon Strous, IFIP Honorary Secretary Roger Johnson and Head of IFIP Secretariat Eduard Dundler met the representatives of CEPIS in Brussels. Target of the meeting was to give a mutual update on new developments and activities within both organisations. Besides an update on the recent development of IP3 by Roger Johnson a useful discussion took place about membership issues and related task forces in IFIP and CEPIS.

The IFIP delegation was very grateful to CEPIS for hosting the meeting in CEPIS's premises.

"Cultural usability and Human Work Interaction Design techniques that connects"

IFIP WG 13.6 Human Work Interaction Design held in November a one-day workshop in association with NordiCHI 2008 in Lund, Sweden, with theme "Cultural usability and Human Work Interaction Design - techniques that connects".

The workshop had participation from more than seven different countries, including USA, China, Japan, India and Germany.

Participants in the workshop

In the workshop, we analyzed the use of techniques to connect empirical work analysis and interaction design in different cultural contexts. In industry, a wealth of usability evaluation methods is used to evaluate computer software user interfaces and other interactive products: Inspection methods, Workplace observation, Think-Aloud Usability Test, etc. These techniques often give - seemingly - similar results when applied in diverse cultural settings, but experience shows that we need a deep understanding of the cultural, social and organizational context to interpret the results, and to transform it into interaction design. The workshop presented current research into cultural usability and human work interaction design. Cultural usability is a comprehensive concept, which adheres to all kinds of contexts in which humans are involved (private family, work, public and private organizations, nature and climate, etc.).

After an introduction to IFIP WG 13.6 Human Work Interaction Design research, the participants presented and discussed design of mobile phones for the illiterate Indian user of mobile phones, text entry for the Chinese user of mobile phones, how to describe users with personas across several countries, and cross cultural research methodology. This was followed by conceptual papers about usability, and the workshop ended with a panel discussion about how to combine usability evaluation with studies of empirical work in order to better understand cultural usability .

The workshop was also socially a good experience.

Workshop proceedings can be downloaded from http://ilex.cbs.dk/hwid/ or www.culturalusability.com or request for a copy on tc.inf@cbs.dk

Some of forthcoming IFIP events. For a full list of events, please look at http://www.ifip.org

Fifth Annual IFIP WG11.9 Intl. Conference on Digital Forensics http://www.ifip119.org/Conferences	ICDF 2009	**25-28.1.2009** Orlando, FL, USA
The Sixth International Conference on Wireless On-demand Network Systems and Services http://nets.cs.ucla.edu/	WONS 2009	**2-4.2.2009** Snowbird, USA
Znalosti 2009/Knowledge 2009 http://www.fit.vutbr.cz/events/znalosti2009/	Znalosti 2009	**4-6.2.2009** Brno, CZ
ICT-professionalism, a global challenge – 2009 Working Conference http://www.IPROF09-arnhem.nl	IPROF-09	**12-15.2.2009** Arnhem, NL
The 3rd IFIP TC8 Intl. Conference on Research and Practical Issues of Enterprise Information Systems http://www.confenis2008.com	Confenis 2008	**25-27.2.2009** Kish Island, IR
Third Annual IFIP WG11.10 Intl. Conference on Critical Infrastructure Protection http://www,ifip1110.org/Conferences	CIP 2009	**22-15.3.2009** Hanover, NH, US**A**
IFIP WG8.1 Working Conf. – The 11th Intl. Conf. on Informatics and Semiotics in Organisations: Information Systems in the Changing Era http://www.orgsem.org/2009/	ICISO 2009	**11-12.4.2009** Beijing, CN
3rd Intl. Conference on Fundamentals of Software Engineering http://cs.ipm.ac.ir/FSEN09/	FSEN'09	**15-17.4.2009** Kish Island, IR
Networking 2009 http://www.networking-2009.org	Networking 2009	**11-15.5.2009** Aachen, DE
24th IFIP International Security Conference http://www.sec2009.org	SEC 2009	**18-20.5.2009** Pafos, CY
Assessing the Contribution of ICT to Development Goals http://ifip.dsg.ae/	IFIP WG9.4 2009	**27-28.5.2009** Dubai, UAE
7th IFIP WG13.5 Intl. Working Conf. on Human Error, Safety, and Systems Development http://www.isys.ucl.ac.be/bchi/hessd2009	HESSD 2009	**28-29.5.2009** Brussels, BE
11th IFIP/IEEE International Symposium on Integrated Network Management http://www.ieee-im.org/2009/	IM 2009	**1-5.6.2009** New York, NY USA
13th IFAC/IFIP/IFORS/IEEE Symposium on Information Control Problems in Manufacturing http://incom09.org	INCOM'09	**3-5.6.2009** Moscow, RU
7th European Interactive TV Conference http://www.euroitv2009.org/	EuroITV 2009	**3-5.6.2009** Leuven, BE
The 5th International Conference on Open Source Systems http://oss2009.org/	OSS 2009	**4-5.6.2009** Skövde, SE
The IS role in leveraging the intelligence and creativity of SME's http://creativeSME.dsi.uminho.pt	CreativeSME	**21-24.6.2009** Guimarães, PT
24th IFIP TC7 Conference on System Modelling and Optimization http://www.ifip2009.org	IFIP TC7	**27-31.7.2009** Buenos Aires, AR
9th IFIP World Conference on Computers in Education http://www.wcce2009.org	WCCE 2009	**27-31.7.2009** Bento Gonçalves, RS, BR

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IT&TELECOMS

Saturday November 1, 2008

VN to host World IT Forum 2009

HÀ NỘI — Việt Nam will host the World Information Technology Forum 2009 (WITFOR2009) next August, the Ministry of Information and Communications announced yesterday.

The three-day event, titled "Information technology for sustainable development" will be attended by about 1,500 delegates from almost 100 countries and territories. Most of them are leaders in their field, scientists and IT experts.

The event, organised by the information and Communications Ministry and the International Federation for Information (IFIP), will be chaired by the Vietnamese Prime Minister.

The forum is scheduled to include eight plenary meetings and 32 discussions, focusing on women's role in IT development, policies and experience of some countries in IT development and the state-enterprise, IT co-operation model.

"IFIP was of the opinion that Việt Nam would be the perfect country to host the first WITFOR in Asia and we formally invited the Government of Việt Nam to host WITFOR2009" said Leon Strous, IFIP vice-president.

He added that Việt Nam wa "hot" in the eyes of many in vestors and this would help cre ate favourable conditions for a successful event.

The biennial forum was firs held in 2003 to promote co-op eration between countries ir the IT area and assist develop ing countries apply IT into socio-economic areas. — **VNS**

Gathering of geeks

Tech enthusiasts visit a computer booth at the seventeenth IT Week in Hà Nội. The event includes a series of exhibitions and seminars focusing on advanced information technology. IT week has been an annual event since 1998, bringing opportunities for IT-concerned businesses, organisations and individuals to exchange experiences, introduce new products and seek business partners. — Photo Hoàng Lâm

SMEs eye software openings at capital workshop

HÀ NỘI — A workshop to discuss opportunities in the software processing industry for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) opened here this week.

Participants to the three-day function included 20 representatives from APEC member economies, experts from the United States and India, and local ICT businesses, such as FPT Software, CMCSoft and Tata Consultancy Service.

According to Nguyễn Trọng Dương, deputy head of the Ministry of Information and Communications' Information and Technology Department, Việt Nam has 1,000 companies operating in the software industry.

He said about 200 Vietnamese businesses were involved in software outsourcing. The key markets were Japan, North America and West Europe.

Addressing the workshop, Lalit Sawhney, chairman of the marketing committee of the International Federation for Information, suggested that to access more opportunities, software companies should apply standard business-management systems and improve customer services.

Meanwhile, the director of public policy for the Computing Technology Industry, Association, Michael Mudd, said key factors in attracting customers from developed economies included quick and trustworthy connection with partners, precise cost forecasts and professional skills. — **VNS**