



News for Immediate Release 443 words

## **eChallenges e-2005 – Facilitating ICT Knowledge Sharing across Four Continents**

**Grand Hotel Union, Ljubljana, Slovenia**  
**19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October, 2005**  
**[www.eChallenges.org](http://www.eChallenges.org)**

The e-2005 - eChallenges Advance Programme has just been published and features contributions from government, business and research from 37 countries in Europe, Africa, Asia & North America. For three days in October, from **19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup> October 2005**, researchers, government officials and representatives from the business community will come together to the beautiful city of Ljubljana, Slovenia to share experiences, lessons learnt and challenges for the future.

Technical case study and policy presentations will be complemented by the rich plenary presentations by this year's keynote speakers there who include: Mr Jure Zupan (Minister of Higher Education, Science & Technology, Slovenia), Mr Noriyuki Yonemura (Counsellor, Fuji Xerox, Japan), Mr Mark Frequin (Ministerie van Economische Zaken, Netherlands), Mr Ingo Juraske (VP, Hewlett-Packard Europe), Mr Todd Ramsey, (General Manager, IBM), Mr Joao da Silva and Ms Rosalie Zobel, both Directors of DG Information Society of the European Commission.

Celebrating its fifteenth anniversary this year e-2005's objective is to stimulate rapid take-up of Research & Technology Development (RTD) results by European Industry, and SMEs in particular. **eChallenges** aims to provide a forum to share RTD success stories and lessons learnt from Information and Communications Technology (ICT) related Regional, National European & Internationally funded research.

e-2005 has attracted sponsorship from the European Commission, Ministry of Higher Education, Science and Technology Slovenia, Hewlett-Packard Europe and IBM looking forward to FP7 and international co-operation.

The **e2005 Competitive Call for exhibitors** is now open with priority given to those proposing to demonstrate innovative technology. A separate call will be open to Slovenian organisations wishing to be showcased in the Slovenian ICT pavilion.

Delegates who manage to book before the **31<sup>st</sup> July** will receive a 20% discount off the registration fee. Adria Airways and Czech Airlines will offer e-2005 delegates special discounts on available fares to Slovenia. Visit the web portal for further information on this, as well as the opportunity to register online and access all relevant information on the event, its thematic priorities, detailed programme and logistics.

### **Highlights at e-2005**

This year, efforts will concentrate on introducing **Framework Programme 7 (FP7)** to e-2005 delegates, the EU's chief instrument for funding scientific research and technological development (2007 – 2013). FP7 is a key element in realising the Lisbon agenda for growth and competitiveness. Learn more at e-2005 about the four objectives and programmes and the research themes of FP7 (Cooperation, People, Ideas & Capacities).

In addition, a number of specifically focused on **International Co-operation** have also been organised at e-2005 to maximise visibility.

Special Delegate Rates are available to New EU Member States, Candidate Countries, and Developing Countries to encourage greater participation.

Further information is available on the conference portal  
<http://www.echallenges.org/2005/default.asp?page=reg-start>