

Vienna Austria

27 - 29 October 2004

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Introduction

The e-2004 eChallenges Conference takes place in the beautiful city of Vienna. This is the fourteenth in a series of Annual Conferences supported by the European Commission, which regularly attracts over 500 delegates from commercial, government and research organisations around the world.

The goal of the eChallenges Conference Series 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.

Conference Focus

eChallenges e-2004 will focus on topics in the area of Applied IST research addressing major societal and economic challenges, which is part of the European Commission's Information Society Technologies (IST) programme. The programme combines strategic keynote presentations, technical papers, business case studies, workshops and tutorials, an exhibition and social activities.

The conference provides a collegiate setting for presentations and discussions of innovative developments in e-business, e-government, eEurope 2005, knowledge work and skills, trust and security and work environments in the emerging digital economy. e-2004 provides an excellent networking environment to discuss problems and new ideas, share knowledge and obtain feedback from potential partners and users.

e-2004 will provide a forum to showcase the achievements of FP5, eEurope 2005 and Regional, National and International ICT related initiatives, and look forward to the future by focusing on the thematic priorities of FP6. The 'European Research Area' (ERA) and research priorities and trends for the future will also be discussed.

Thematic Priorities

The core thematic priorities for e-2004 are:

- eBusiness Future forms of organisations, Technology and Applications
- eGovernment Services to Citizens and Business, Organisational Transformation
- eWork New Working Environments
- eEurope 2005 and ICT take-up by SMEs
- International Collaboration on IST

Related themes include but are not restricted to:

- Ambient Intelligence at Work
- Broadband and Mobility applications and technologies
- Communication and networking technologies
- eDemocracy, eVoting, eParticipation
- GRID technologies and applications
- Knowledge management and technologies
- ICT Embedded Systems
- Interoperability and Standardisation
- Networked A/V systems and home platforms
- Trust & Confidence

Related topics for papers or sessions may include:

- ASP solutions markets, threats, opportunities
- Best Practice Models Lessons Learnt
- Digital Ecosystems for SMEs
- Digital Rights Management Applications
- eCommerce and eContracting
- eContent
- eInclusion and eStrategy
- eLearning and ICT Skills
- eMarketplaces and eProcurement
- Future Workplace Design
- Identity Management and Authentication
- Innovation & Technology Transfer
- Intelligent Manufacturing Systems (IMS)
- Legal and Regulatory Challenges for IST
- Measuring and Benchmarking
- Open Source Technologies and Applications
- Payment Systems
- Media and Entertainment
- Multimodal and Collaborative Working Environments
- Sectoral, Regional and International Developments
- Security and Privacy Enhancing Methods
- Services and applications for eWork
- Smart Card Technologies and Applications

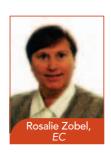
Plenary Session Speakers

Keynote speakers already include:

- Frans de Bruine, Director of the European Commission
- Julia Glidden, Accenture e-Democracy Services, UK
- Rosalie Zobel, Director of the European Commission







Submission of Abstracts

Extended abstracts are invited for e-2004. The conference language is English and abstracts should be for technical papers, business case studies or visionary papers within the scope of the conference. Extended abstracts of 800 - 1,200 words must be registered on the conference portal (www.eChallenges.org) by 29th February 2004.

Your abstract should provide a clear overview of your proposed paper using the following headings:

- Introduction Issues to be addressed
- Objectives of your paper
- Methodology Used
- Technology or Business Case Description
- Conclusions and Summary Recommendations

It should focus on a research topic on which either a case study, initial or final results can be published, not a general project description. Criteria for proposals for workshop or tutorial sessions are provided on www.eChallenges.org.

Papers or sessions can take the form of:

- Presentation of ICT related achievements
- Presentation of eEurope 2005 achievements
- Lessons learnt from business case studies
- Discussion of future oriented technologies
- Discussion of existing and emerging standards
- Discussion of ERA or future oriented issues
- Lessons learnt from regional and national programmes and initiatives
- Discussion of legal and contractual issues

It is a condition of submitting an abstract that (a) authors act on feedback and comments provided by the International Programme Committee (IPC) to

ensure high quality conference proceedings, (b) presenters act on feedback provided by their Session Chair to ensure high quality presentations, and (c) presenters register and pay the participant's fee by mid-July, before the papers are sent to the publisher.

Following provisional acceptance of abstracts, authors are expected to act on initial feedback provided by the IPC prior to submitting a draft paper. Final papers, tutorial or workshop sessions are subject to editorial review and a quality check.

Publishing schedule for e-2004

The publishing schedule for e-2004 is as follows:

- Paper abstracts, workshop and tutorial proposals submitted by 29th February 2004
- Provisional acceptance by 31st March
- Draft papers submitted by 30th April
- Provisional acceptance of draft papers with IPC feedback provided by 31st May
- Final papers to be delivered electronically by 30th June for editorial review and quality check

Conference Proceedings

The e-2003 conference proceedings were published in CD-ROM format. IOS Press published an accompanying 2-volume book "Building the Knowledge Economy – Issues, Applications, Case Studies". Each delegate received a free copy of the book and conference proceedings at Registration.

The goal is to gradually develop the eChallenges portal and delegate showcase as a year-round networking and content resource for the international ICT community by publishing papers and presentations for access by registered delegates.



International Programme Committee

A distinguished Programme Committee has been formed to review and provide feedback on extended abstracts, papers and presentations and chair sessions.

The e-2004 Programme Committee includes

- Paul Cunningham, IIMC, Ireland (Chair)
- Pete Bramhall, Hewlett Packard Laboratories, UK
- Athanassios Chrissafis, European Commission, eGovernment
- Miriam Cunningham, IIMC, Ireland
- Kim Davis, Research Council of Norway
- Teresa De Martino, European Commission, eWork
- Peter Fatelnig, European Commission, eBusiness
- Prof. Joze Gricar, University of Maribor, Slovenia
- Dr Ingo Hussla, IZET, Germany
- Prof. Bernhard Katzy, CeTIM, Netherlands
- Flavia Marzano, Tangram, Italy
- Mícheál Ó Foghlú, TSSG, WIT, Ireland
- Jonathan Sage, IBM Business Consulting, Belgium
- Prof. Paul Schoensleben, ETH Zurich, Switzerland
- Dr Philip Seltsikas, University of Surrey, UK
- Prof. Dan Shunk, Arizona State University, U.S.
- Richard Stevens, Gruppo Formula, Italy
- Prof. Roger Wallis, Royal Institute of Technology, Sweden
- Peter Weiss, FZI, Germany

Organising Committee

- Silvana Muscella, METAWARE S.p.A, Italy
- Mireille Edin, Adera Service, France
- Miriam Cunningham, IIMC, Ireland







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Exhibition

An important aspect of this conference series has traditionally been the annual exhibition. It provides a forum to receive invaluable usability and market feedback from potential users and partners within the international IST community.

Participation in the exhibition provides an opportunity to enhance the networking opportunities at the conference by promoting your activities through a poster session, or providing a taste of the real thing through a live technology demonstration. This can be of an early stage prototype or feature a precommercial launch to a highly targeted and knowledgeable community.

For those involved in national, regional and European funded research, it provides a valuable dissemination opportunity to develop market awareness and make contacts for the future.

Proposals for demonstration stands and poster spaces will be evaluated on a first come, first served basis under the Exhibition Call, which will appear with the Advance Programme.

Sponsorship Opportunities

e-2004 offers a variety of Sponsorship Opportunities to enhance your organisation's image & standing with the international IST research community. Sponsors will be acknowledged on the conference portal www.eChallenges.org, at the conference Exhibition and in press releases, and will enjoy a variety of other benefits and promotional opportunities depending on the sponsorship level.

Major sponsors for e-2004 include the European Commission, while supporting sponsors include STM Ltd, Adera Service, Memondo Graphics & Qwentes. Sponsors for e-2003 included the European Commission, Municipality of Bologna, Hewlett-Packard Laboratories Europe and QUALCOMM Europe. Please contact the Conference Secretariat for further information on sponsorship opportunities for e-2004.

Social Activities

The social programme will include weekend excursions following the conference, and partners' programme, sponsored cocktails and gala reception during the conference. Special APEX fares should be available to delegates who stay to network and socialise over the weekend.