



FITCE.BE

newsletter

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Editorial



We shall all have the opportunity soon to have a first rate experience of how it feels to be a Berliner. President Kennedy took his inspiration from the Wall and Brandenburger Tor but we shall have more extraordinary landmarks to get inspiration by, less infamous for sure but probably just as famous in the near future. World-renowned architects like Liebknecht and Pei as well as many others have been transforming the German capital; time therefore for a visit. Start planning now to attend this year's main event, the congress.

Before the congress, we still have one prestigious event for you. None less than Eric Van Heesvelde will bring us up-to-date regarding the changes in Belgian Telecom Law and the status and organisation of our national regulator BIPT-IBPT of which Mr Van Heesvelde is Chairman of the Board. We expect to see you in great numbers on June 5 for this event which FITCE Belgium organises together with Agoria.

Ghent 43rd Congress



European Telecommunications

First we take Berlin, then we take Ghent. One congress is not even started and the next one is already being feverishly prepared. An important milestone was reached when on March 27, Agoria was host to a meeting intended to launch the partnership program for the congress of 2004 in Ghent. Many telecom companies were invited and were given a presentation on FITCE itself and the yearly congresses. The various partnership packages were explained and were well received. In the meantime, we noted several commitments, including for - maximum support - platinum package. We thank FITCE Luxembourg for their support and contribution to these first successes.

Activities in the Fall season

Next to the congress of 2004 in Ghent, we are of course also thinking about the activities for the fall, after the congress in Berlin. Naturally, there will be another series of lunch sessions - subject to be determined - and evening presentations. One evening session has been set for September 30. Duco Sickinghe, CEO of Telenet, will be our first speaker of the new season. Please note the date in your calendar.

If you have suggestions for future activities, do not hesitate to contact webmaster@fitce.be.

Berlin 42nd Congress

European Telecommunications



Here is how Guntram Kraus, president of FITCE Germany, welcomes us at the 42nd FITCE congress (September 4-6).

"We are delighted to welcome you all to the 42nd European Telecommunications Congress 2003 in Berlin. This Congress will bring you up to date with the latest mobile communications innovations and broadband business trends in Europe's telecommunications markets. We would like all of you to join us in sharing our first experiences of the new UMTS era.

Take part, learn about new business models and strengthen the network that binds our members together across European boundaries. Welcome to Berlin in 2003!

Guntram Kraus,
FITCE Group Germany"

This invitation as well as all practical information regarding the programme, hotel accommodation, travel etc. can be found at <http://www.fitce.org/cong03/intro03.htm>. As you will read on those pages, payment for the congress has to go to the treasurer of the FITCE association that you are a member of. For us, this is Gérard De Catelle, using our bank account at KBC: 415-5109121-49. Also, please make sure to copy Gérard on your registration to the Berlin organisation: gdecatelle@fitce.be. Hotel reservation and payment is through other channels as indicated on the congress website.

The Belgian contribution to the congress is again outstanding. Three presentations will be given by compatriots:

Broadband Wireless Communication in Vehicles

Ingrid Moerman, Ghent University

Evaluation of a DWDM-Upgraded Passive Optical Network (PON) for FTTBusiness

Caroline Dessauvages, Alcatel Research & Innovation

Evolution or Revolution—Which Flavour of IP Telephony is good for You?

Bart Frison, Damovo Belgium NV/SA

And the session on **Business Opportunities with Wireless LANs** will be chaired by Marc Verbruggen, member of the FITCE Belgium board.

As usual, at the occasion of the congress, FITCE Belgium will offer a reception for all Belgian participants. This will likely be on Friday, September 5. An invitation will be handed out at the congress.



The electronic communication market in Belgium state of play

Evening Lecture

On June 5, **FITCE Belgium and Agoria** organise another evening session. Mr Eric Van Heesvelde will speak about "The electronic communication market in Belgium - state of play". For anyone with an interest in Belgian Telecom law, this is an event not to be missed.

The concrete and effective implementation at national level of the decisions taken at the European level within the framework of the Lisbon Strategy, first launched in March of 2000, requires each member state to implement the new telecommunication package into national law by 24/07/2003.

Mr Eric Van Heesvelde will elaborate:

- on the new structures/organisations envisioned by the government, including federal and regional responsibility split, and
- on the timeline and status of the new law and all related aspects e.g. definition of relevant product and service markets, assessment of significant market power, status of Unbundling of the Local Loop, etc.

For practical details and registration please visit <http://www.fitce.be/pamphlet030605.htm>

Unified Communication Services

Evening Lecture



On March 25, Mr Gery Pollet, Managing Partner Aquanta Networks, gave an evening lecture on Unified Communication Services, the integration of the different communication streams: voice, fax, SMS, email. CISCO graciously hosted the meeting.

In this new world the user has total control over his communications via the web, allowing him to initiate and receive calls/faxes on existing telephone lines or PABXs. Via this same interface the user is able to store and forward all fax, voicemail and SMS messages and monitor communication cost.

After the presentation, Mr Pollet gave a live demo of Calligator, Aquanta's implementation of Unified Communication Services.

The evening closed with a reception during which the audience and speaker continued the lively discussion on this exciting new service, its technology and legal aspects.

Lunch Sessions on Navigation, building block for new communication services



With a presentation by Johan Vos, Director New Technology at ACUNIA, on April 9, we concluded the 2002/2003 series of lunch sessions organised together with Sitel. This series' subject "**Navigation, building block for new telecom services**" attracted less attendants than the previous seasons' sessions but perhaps this was rather due to the difficult times we are living in telecom. The quality of the presentations was excellent as was the food. We got a good grasp of what navigation/localisation means for future telecom services and how it works. It was exciting to learn that young Belgian companies (Septentrio and Acunia) are very active in this field.

Like he did for the previous season's lunch sessions on UMTS, Professor Leo Van Biesen will write a synthesis of all sessions on navigation/localisation.

You can visit <http://www.fitce.be> for more pictures.



New members of the Board

In the extra General Assembly of March 24, three new members were voted into the board:

Etienne Blomme, Executive Vice-President, Telenet

Johan Luystermans, Network Innovation & Strategy Director, Belgacom

Thomas Reynaert, Director of European Affairs, Nortel Networks

We warmly welcome these three gentlemen who are undoubtedly a great gain to our association.

All three members that came to the end of their mandate were re-elected

The board is thus effectively expanding by three to a total of 14. To

contact any person of the board, visit <http://www.fitce.be/contacts>.