



FITCE.BE

# newsletter

Issue 19, June 2004

## Editorial



The countdown for the congress in Ghent has started. The Paper Selection Committee, chaired by our colleague Marc Verbruggen has performed its task and was able to come up with a stimulating program composed of a selection out of almost 100 proposals and a number of invited keynote lectures. Thanks to the sponsors, the financial outlook is good. Semico, the professional congress organiser, is ready to handle the registrations which we hope will come in by the hundreds over the coming weeks. Be aware that the tariffs are particularly advantageous for early booking – before June 30. And since for most of you it will not be necessary to book a hotel, this is really the opportunity to come to a FITCE congress if you never have before. We count on your presence.

Before the congress, we have one more evening activity, on June 17, of which you have already been made aware by e-mail. The 'Crossroads Bank for Social Security' has been hailed as one of the most successful e-government projects and to hear the view on e-government from the manager of that institution should therefore be a rewarding experience.

Other topics for this newsletter: the General Assembly of March 6 in Lier and the end of the 2003-2004 cycle of lunch sessions.

Marc Lambert

## Membership Survey

### What do you think?

Very soon you will receive, by e-mail, a questionnaire through which we would like to learn what you think of FITCE Belgium and its activities. Please take a couple of minutes to respond. We are anxious to know how we can serve you better.



With the establishment of the technical programme, a major milestone was reached. The International Technical Committee met on March 5 to evaluate the proposals that were received in response to the call for papers. The latest Forum newsletter contains a report by Marc Verbruggen on this crucial meeting. In the ensuing weeks the program was worked out in detail and three publications were prepared that focus on the congress.

A marketing flyer was printed at more than 35.000 copies. It targets a wider public and will be distributed via Data News and friendly corporate magazines, and at selected events. The flyer must attract people to the congress and refers to the congress website for more details and registration.

A brochure that contains all details concerning the congress will be sent to all FITCE members and to many ICT managers in Europe. The registration form is included.

Finally, and you should have received this already, the Forum newsletter is almost exclusively dedicated to the congress and contains the most essential information and the registration form. If by any chance you did not receive the Forum yet, just contact our secretary (see contact information at the bottom of this page).

The congress website contains all the useful information and the registration form. The flyer and the brochure are available on the website as pdf files.

We hope that you will find the programme stimulating and count on your support through your presence at the congress. Making publicity for the event in your surroundings would be helpful and very much appreciated.

We would like to take the opportunity to thank the many partners who have accepted to support the congress and without whom it would indeed be very hard to organise anything at a level that we traditionally associate with FITCE.

## ETIS

### Related Organisation

[www.ETIS.org](http://www.ETIS.org)

Next ETIS conference

**Aligning IT & Corporate  
Goals in the Information  
Age**

**Stockholm, 10-11 June 2004**

There are a number of organisations with which FITCE entertains friendly relations because they share some of our goals or even occasionally team with us for the organisation of events. One such organisation is ETIS.

The mission of ETIS is to enable telecommunications service providers to improve their business performance by using information technology effectively. It offers a managed forum for the exchange of ideas and experiences on IT-related matters for providers, suppliers and users in the telecommunications industry and it facilitates co-operation between them.

ETIS was created by service providers in the period just before the liberalisation of the European telecom market and was initially called "ISTEL92" - an abbreviation for Information Systems for Telecommunications '92."

## Lunch Sessions on Hotspots



At the third and last in a series of lunch sessions on hotspots, on February 11, Mr. Jos Veijfeijken addressed a real-life application in **Campus community Hotspot: a case study**. His exposé on the Laptop Project at the Provinciale Hogeschool Limburg was very much appreciated. Mr. Veijfeijken is Project Coordinator & PR and Communication Manager at the school. As per the project, every student of the Hogeschool is equipped with a laptop which he/she can use to connect to the school's network through some 350 hotspot access points. The students are thus provided with an easy access to the wealth of information stored in the school's library and - of course - internet. But the communication goes of course both ways as students interact with faculty, deliver homework etc..



Professor Dr. Ir. Leo Van Biesen of the VUB will again do us the favour of producing a report containing the main points from this another successful series of lunch sessions. And of course, we are already musing over what should be the discussion topic of the next series. If you have a great idea, do not hesitate to contact [webmaster@fitce.be](mailto:webmaster@fitce.be).

## Coming Up Next

### Calendar

On June 17 we have our next evening session with Frank Robben, General Manager 'Crossroads Bank for Social Security' and Strategic Advisor at the Belgian Federal ICT Agency 'Fedict'. Mr Robben will speak on **E-Government : the approach of the Belgian federal administration**. This is not the first event on e-government that FITCE organises. Recently the 'Crossroads Bank for Social Security' was mentioned in the press as an 'example par excellence' of e-government in Belgium which otherwise does not score too high internationally on the subject. This is an opportunity to hear how it can be done right. Visit [www.fitce.be/pamphlet040617](http://www.fitce.be/pamphlet040617) for registration.

On September 8-11, of course we have the **congress in Ghent**, not to be missed.

The session on **Broadband developments in Wallonia** has been deferred to the fall. A session on **Interactive TV** is being envisaged for December 2004. And of course by then, the next series of lunch sessions will have begun as well.

# General Assembly



On Saturday March 6, some 40 FITCE Belgium members and partners gathered for the General Assembly in the city of Lier. After coffee with Lierse Vlaaiques, the group split in two for a guided tour of the town, the first item on the agenda. In spite of the bad weather, we enjoyed the atmosphere and the unique monuments that mark Lier.



Upon returning to the venue at 'Hof van Aragon', the members joined for the formal General Assembly introduced by our secretary Georges Devroey (picture 3). A large part of the meeting was dedicated to a review of the activities and the report by the auditors Egied Dekoster and Paul Devoldere who approved the treasurer's account. Three board members had come to the end of their term and were reelected: Luc Vanbecelaere (Cisco Systems), José Van Ooteghem (Belgacom) and Walter Van Hemeledonck (Siemens). Wim De Meyer (middle, picture 4) was elected as a new member in replacement of Johan Luystermans (Belgacom) who stepped down. Wim is Head of the Wireline Strategy and Development Division of Belgacom. For the next period, the auditors will be Egied Dekoster (Belgacom) and Serge Temmerman (SEBA Services). It was decided to keep the member fees at the same level as last year's (45/150/1000).



After the dry stuff, time had come for drinks and dinner. Accompanied by the stimulating music of a small orchestra, some of us inevitably ended up on the dance-floor.

