Annual Report

2004
Executive Board

Tjerk (Jack) Dusseldorp – President (AU)
Marie-Thérèse Geffroy – Vice President Strategic Affairs (FR)
Liam Corcoran – Vice President Technical Affairs (IE)
Laurent Thibault – Vice President Special Affairs and Treasurer (CA)
Yoo Bae Kim – Vice Chairman Strategy Committee (KR)
Veijo Hintsanen – Vice Chairman Technical Committee (FI)
Timo Lankinen – Ex-officio (2005 host member)
Yoshika Okubo – Ex-officio (2007 host member)
David Hoey – Secretary General

Member Organisations & Delegates

Listed in the order they became members

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<th>Country/Region</th>
<th>Official Delegate</th>
<th>Technical Delegate</th>
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<tr>
<td>Portugal</td>
<td>Mr Félix Esménio</td>
<td>Mr António Caldeira</td>
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<td>France</td>
<td>Mrs Marie-Thérèse Geffroy</td>
<td>Mr Yvan Valentinuzzi</td>
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<td>Germany</td>
<td>Ms Barbara Fabian</td>
<td>Dr Christian Sperle</td>
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<td>Switzerland</td>
<td>Mrs Christine Davatz-Höchner</td>
<td>Mr Edwin Naef</td>
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<td>United Kingdom</td>
<td>Mr Chris Humphries</td>
<td>Dr Graeme Hall</td>
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<td>Ireland</td>
<td>Dr Carl Ø Dalaigh</td>
<td>Mr Liam Corcoran</td>
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<td>Luxembourg</td>
<td>Mr Aly Schröder</td>
<td>Mr François Ortolani</td>
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<td>Austria</td>
<td>Dr Peter Kranzlmayr</td>
<td>Mr Stefan Praschl</td>
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<td>Japan</td>
<td>Mr Yoshih Okubo</td>
<td>Dr Koichi Nishizawa</td>
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<td>Netherlands</td>
<td>Mr Loek Hermans</td>
<td>Mr Jos de Goy</td>
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<td>Korea</td>
<td>Mr Dong Hoon Lee</td>
<td>Mr Ui Seok Hong</td>
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<td>Principality of Liechtenstein</td>
<td>Mrs Ada Kranenberg</td>
<td>Mr Josef Nijsch</td>
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<td>Chinese Taipei</td>
<td>Mr Bob Puffett</td>
<td>Mr Wen Ping (Morgan) Chen</td>
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<td>United States of America</td>
<td>Prof José Manuel de Aguiar Martins</td>
<td>Mr Don Hatton</td>
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<td>Australia</td>
<td>Mr Marco Frick</td>
<td>Mr John Shiel</td>
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<td>Brazil</td>
<td>Mr Fong-Yu Kuo</td>
<td>Mr Roberto Monteiro Spada</td>
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<td>Macau</td>
<td>Mrs Ada Kranenberg</td>
<td>Mr Ling Biu Hung</td>
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<td>New Zealand</td>
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<td>Norway</td>
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<td>Mrs Elisabeth Lange</td>
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<td>South Africa</td>
<td>Mr Ivor Blumenthal</td>
<td>Mr André Vermeulen</td>
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<td>Malaysia</td>
<td>Mr Wan Seman bin Wan Ahmad</td>
<td>Mr Anwer Baig Bin Abd. Kader Baig</td>
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<td>Singapore</td>
<td>Dr Song Seng Law</td>
<td>Mr Guan Teck Heng</td>
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<td>Thailand</td>
<td>Ms Weena Pakawongse</td>
<td>Mr Santi Bumrungsukanokorn</td>
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<td>Philippines</td>
<td>Ms Alcestis Guiang</td>
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<td>Sweden</td>
<td>Mr Tommy Hellström</td>
<td>Mr Anders Plesner</td>
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<td>South Tyrol, Italy</td>
<td>Mr Herbert Fritz</td>
<td>Mr Josef Lanz</td>
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<td>Tunisia</td>
<td>Mrs Thordis Eriksen</td>
<td>Mr Fayçal Ammar</td>
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<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>Mr Irv Blumenthal</td>
<td>Dr Kin-Keung (Michael) Fung</td>
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<td>United Arab Emirates</td>
<td>Mr Wan Seman bin Wan Ahmad</td>
<td>Mr Yahya Mohamed Mahdi</td>
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<td>Belgium</td>
<td>Dr Song Seng Law</td>
<td>Mr Jean-Marie Méan</td>
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<td>Denmark</td>
<td>Ms Weena Pakawongse</td>
<td>Ms Pia Hegner</td>
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<td>Morocco</td>
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<td>Mrs Fatih Elalami</td>
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<td>Iran</td>
<td>Mr Tommy Hellström</td>
<td>Mr Parviz Imani</td>
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<td>Saudi Arabia</td>
<td>Mr Herbert Fritz</td>
<td>Dr Mohammed Alwayed</td>
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<td>Venezuela</td>
<td>Mrs Thordis Eriksen</td>
<td>Mr José Manuel Osorio</td>
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<td>Brunei Darussalam</td>
<td>Mr Irv Blumenthal</td>
<td>Mr Denis M. T. Ho</td>
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<td>Mr Mustaghfirin Amin</td>
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<td>Jamaica</td>
<td>Dr Song Seng Law</td>
<td>Mrs Grace Mclean</td>
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<td>Mexico</td>
<td>Ms Weena Pakawongse</td>
<td>Mr Genaro Guerra</td>
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<td>Spain</td>
<td>Ms Alcestis Guiang</td>
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WorldSkills

WorldSkills is a not for profit membership association open to agencies or bodies which have a responsibility for promoting vocational education and training in their respective countries/regions. WorldSkills operates worldwide and is politically and denominationally neutral.

WorldSkills provides a unique means of exchange and comparison of world-class competency standards in the industrial trades and service sectors of the global economy. The continued growth of WorldSkills attests to the fact that traditional trade and craft skills, along with the newer technology multi-skilled vocations, make an essential contribution to the economic and social well being of peoples everywhere.

As a free standing, non-political organisation WorldSkills provides a cost effective means for international government and industry cooperation in achieving higher standards and status for vocational education and training on a worldwide basis.

Global Skills Village & Leaders Forum

WorldSkills has developed the non-competition activities of the organisation as an important part of WorldSkills’ mission to promote skills across the world. All the non-competition activities have been collected under the brand Global Skills Village which will operate alongside the competition.

An important part of the Global Skills Village is the WorldSkills Leaders Forum which is a 2-day conference and networking platform. Fast-changing technology and toughening global competition are major challenges for the stakeholders in TVET worldwide. The Leaders Forum offers the opportunity to share best practices and innovative thinking, promoting innovation, inspiration and networking towards the world-class industrial skills essential to the achievement of sustainable industrial development and economic growth.

The Competition

Over its 50 year history, WorldSkills (formerly known as the “Skill Olympics”) has come to symbolise the pinnacle of excellence in vocational training. Every two years hundreds of young skilled people, accompanied by their teachers and trainers, gather together from around the world to compete before the public in the skills of their various trades and test themselves against demanding international standards. They represent the best of their peers drawn from regional and national skill competitions held currently in 42 countries/regions.

The experience and results of all the competitions provide valuable feedback both to the individuals and the systems and enterprises in which they are being trained. For some it is recognition for outstanding achievement, while for others it provides the motivation and knowledge to aspire to higher standards. For the onlookers it is a revealing experience to see highly competent young tradespeople in action. The competitions are particularly effective in the context of providing positive career role models for school aged youngsters.
In considering the scope of WorldSkills activities in 2004, our friends and colleagues in Skills Finland deserve first mention as the weight of the logistical preparations for the 2005 international WorldSkills Competition event sits on their capable shoulders.

Chaired by Mrs Tuula Haatainen, Minister of Education and Science, the Helsinki 2005 Organising Committee comprises all key stakeholders concerned with skills formation in Finland.

In addition to organising the 2005 Competition, Skills Finland accepted two additional challenges which will add great value to WorldSkills, namely:

- developing the Global Skills Village (which now incorporates the Leaders Forum) as a way of facilitating greater dialogue and exchange among the thousands of delegates who will come to the 2005 Competition in Helsinki.
- developing the Competition Information System (CIS) software package which will improve the quality, transparency and management of marking and reporting the results of the Competition.

At the 2003 WorldSkills Competition in St Gallen, our external Quality Auditor and our internal Quality Assurance Management System (QAMS) identified areas of excellence and also areas which needed attention and improvement.

Under the leadership of Liam Corcoran and Veijo Hintsanen, Chair and Deputy Chair of the WorldSkills Technical Committee, much detailed work took place during the year including:

- development and utilisation of web based technologies and resources to provide faster, clearer and easier access and management of all WorldSkills information and documentation
- revision of the Competition Rules, rewriting all Technical Descriptions, and quality assurance of all key technical documentation
- commissioning online discussion forums for all skills categories to allow communication, coordination and collaboration between technical experts around the world
- provision of training materials for all key management functions in the competition

It is a testimony to the dedication of the Technical Committee that so much has been achieved through the voluntary effort of member delegates, despite the sick leave absence of the former Secretary General throughout most of the year.

Connecting WorldSkills

Recognising that the WorldSkills movement is active worldwide and year round, our decision in 2003 and 2004 to invest in bringing the WorldSkills web portal up to best practice standards has paid off handsomely.

Overall utilisation of the website during the 12 month period ending in December 2004 increased by 76 percent. Most importantly, the number of pages viewed increased from 180,000 to 325,000 with visitors to the site coming from 102 countries.

Over 25,000 documents have been downloaded by members and visitors over the last 10 months; evidence of the greatly improved accessibility to WorldSkills documentation.
WorldSkills' Global Reach

While most of our effort remained focused on the preparations for Helsinki, there was hardly a month that went by without a local, national or international competition taking place somewhere in the world, such as the associated ASEAN Skills event hosted by Vietnam in Hanoi, in September 2004.

Each skills competition event, whether small or large, brings together the key elements that make up the WorldSkills movement. Key elements include:

- motivating and challenging young skilled people to succeed
- promoting skilled occupations as a first career choice
- benchmarking quality standards
- facilitating continuous improvement
- recognising and rewarding excellence
- sharing best practice
- partnering between education and industry

Behind each such skills event are the committed people who form the backbone of the participating vocational education and training systems. Among these people are the many technical experts and officials who will accompany the selected 700 youth skill champions from 39 of our members to the biennial WorldSkills Competition in Helsinki, which is the peak assembly point for us all.

Just like the world of mountain climbing, behind the few that make it to the top there are legions of supporters who make the ascent possible and who share in and are motivated by the success of the climb.

WorldSkills is no different, and we readily recognise and appreciate the tens of thousands of individuals across the world, teachers, employers, family members and sponsors, who make the ongoing series of local, national and international WorldSkills competitions possible.

Yet a continuing challenge for us all is to raise the public profile of our worldwide activities through more effective marketing and communications and media relations.

Growing our Membership

Over the year we were in discussions with several potential new members, of which Jamaica, Brunei, Indonesia, Mexico and Spain have been admitted in time for the 2005 Competition, raising our total to 42 members.

As Spain was the founding member of WorldSkills it will be a special moment to welcome them back in Helsinki.

We are increasingly confident that our target of expanding to 50 members by 2010 will be achieved.

Ensuring our Future

At our wonderfully hosted annual General Assembly meeting in Hong Kong in May 2004 we enthusiastically accepted Canada's bid to host the 2009 Competition in Calgary, as well as Australia's bid to host the 2006 General Assembly meeting in Melbourne, at which time we will decide on the location for the WorldSkills Competition in 2011.

Planning for Japan 2007 has also advanced during the year, and this Competition event will be the first occasion when the anticipated 800 competitors will be accommodated together in a "Competitors Village". We hope this will become a new standard for WorldSkills Competition events and ensure greater opportunities for our global youth to meet outside the confines of the Competition.

Our Japanese friends will be developing an overarching theme in 2007 of an “International Skills Festival for All” by conjointly hosting the WorldSkills Competition and the Abilympics.
Sponsor Partner Relations

WorldSkills’ Global Sponsor Partners share our vision of establishing a recognised global brand for skills excellence and opportunity for aspiring young professionals. It was exciting to welcome Cisco Systems as our third Founding Global Sponsor Partner along with Festo and Fluke, to assist us in achieving our organisational goals.

At the same time, our Finnish hosts have secured many sponsor companies to provide equipment and tools necessary for the Helsinki Competition.

The challenge we face within WorldSkills is to develop a marketing and sponsorship framework which better balances the rights and responsibilities between our international organisation and our members with the aim of enlarging the sponsorship potential of WorldSkills as a worldwide movement and not just a biennial competition event.

Appointment of Secretary General

In November 2004 we appointed David Hoey as our new Secretary General, ably supported by Sheila Ruigrok and Ellen Coppens. David had proven himself invaluable to WorldSkills as our part time Technical Coordinator and will now devote all of his considerable talents and energy to WorldSkills. His goal is to ensure the Secretariat provides first class service to our members and stakeholders.

Conclusion

On behalf of my fellow Executive Board members, I wish to thank the people in all parts of the world who make up the WorldSkills movement for their ongoing commitment and dedication to our mission.

We expect to see the evidence of the positive results of all our good work in 2004 clearly evidenced in Helsinki in May 2005.

Jack Dusseldorp
WorldSkills President

Mission

Mission

To promote, through the cooperative actions of Members, a worldwide awareness of the essential contribution that skills and high standards of competence make to the achievement of economic success and individual fulfilment.

Objectives

1. Market WorldSkills by drawing on the global efforts of Member organisations.
2. Position the WorldSkills Competition as the premier world event for skills recognition and advancement.
3. Develop a new modern identity and a flexible structure to support the global activities of WorldSkills.
4. Develop strategic partnerships with selected corporate, government and non-government organisations to further the aims of WorldSkills.
5. Disseminate information and share knowledge about skill standards and WorldSkills performance benchmarks, especially via the World Wide Web.
6. Facilitate networking among WorldSkills experts to develop new opportunities for skills development and innovation.
7. Encourage the transfer of skills, knowledge and cultural exchange between participants in WorldSkills and other young people across the world.

To achieve these objectives WorldSkills will:
- challenge young people, their teachers, trainers and employers to achieve world class standards of competence in commerce, services and industry, and to promote the status of vocational training
- conduct WorldSkills Competitions in alternate years
- promote the exchange of ideas and experience in vocational training through seminars, meetings and competitions
- disseminate information on world class standards of competence
- seek to motivate young people to pursue further education and training relevant to their careers
- facilitate communication and contacts between vocational training organisations around the world
- encourage the exchange of young professionals among the Members
Report

Prior to my appointment as Secretary General in November 2004 I had been working part-time for WorldSkills in a role of Technical Coordinator. Despite the challenge of being without a Secretary General from late January until early November due to prolonged sick leave of my predecessor, WorldSkills and the Secretariat continued to move forward and achieve many things. It is a tribute to the work done by the existing staff and the fantastic voluntary effort from the Executive Board and member delegates. It highlights the commitment and passion from delegates to the mission and goals of WorldSkills.

So 2004 was a year started with challenge but finished with opportunity and strength. I have great support from the secretariat staff, a very effective working relationship with the Executive Board and an excellent partnership relationship with the Helsinki Organising Committee.

Finland will host a magnificent event and competition. I would like to make special mention of our Finnish hosts for their professionalism and commitment to working with the WorldSkills organisation in hosting 2005. WorldSkills 2005 Helsinki will become the new blueprint for future hosting and cooperation with host members.

Many initiatives and improvements borne out of our Strategy and Technical Committees will be realised in Helsinki. We have already started the strengthening of relationships and support for Japan 2007 and Canada 2009 and will continue the improvement process.

Our goal at the Secretariat is simple: to provide first class service to our members and stakeholders and to provide the necessary management, leadership and support for the organisation to achieve its mission and objectives.

2004 was the start and foundation building of a world class, contemporary secretariat operation. 2005 will see the continuation of this along with a stronger focus on marketing and communication.

David Hoey
Secretary General

Finance 2004

Revenue €574,410*
- 76% Member Fees
- 11% Sponsorship
- 4% Hosting
- 1% Interest
- 8% Other

Expenditure €591,098*
- 37% Staff
- 15% Competition
- 12% Organisation
- 10% Communication
- 9.5% Unforseen
- 8% Office
- 3% Transportation
- 3% Professional
- 25% Capital

* Due to accrual accounting 2004 showed a deficit however there was a budgetary surplus of €4340.
Strategy

To help achieve the 7 major objectives (refer page 6) that WorldSkills defined, the organisation set about a review and eventually a re-build its website. For an organisation that has global members the internet became the obvious focus as the vehicle to help achieve these objectives. The strategy was to develop a website that

- provided clear and complete information about the organisation and its mission, objectives, history, future, members, delegates etc
- would become a portal for the global public looking for information on skills, competitions, trades, etc
- would provide members with faster, clearer and easier access and management of all WorldSkills information and documentation
- would allow members to ‘meet’ online and allow communication, coordination and collaboration on projects and skill development
- was scalable in terms of language, content, technologies utilised etc

As a result, WorldSkills has a very successful website that is managed by a top end Content Management System.

Content

The website contains:

- complete information about WorldSkills: its mission, members, history, Executive Board, contact details, how to join
- websites from past Competitions and results from past Competitions
- complete information for the upcoming WorldSkills 2005 Competition in Helsinki
- information about Global Skills Village and WorldSkills Leaders Forum
- Sponsor Partner information
- Calendar and links for WorldSkills and member organisations
- Members Area with access and management of information and documentation

Some statistics:

In 2004 the site had 325,000 page views which was a 76 percent increase over 2003. Visitors have come from 102 different countries. 25,000 documents were downloaded from the site in the last 10 months of 2004 (member and non-member downloads).

The Future

WorldSkills will continue to develop its website with some important goals for 2005. There are some key projects that will focus on developing the ‘front end’ of the site. These will further develop the marketing and promotion of skills by the provision of resources and information on each of the skills and profiles on past competitors. There are also some projects that will focus on document and translation management to provide better and more efficient management of our intellectual property.
St Gallen 2003

Everyone who participates in WorldSkills is a winner! At each WorldSkills Competition there are some outstanding efforts. Web Design is now an official skill and the increase of the internet as a major medium for communications, management and marketing has ensured high registrations for the competition.

The 2003 WorldSkills Competition in St Gallen saw a brilliant young Korean competitor take the gold medal. Her winning design was adopted by the WorldSkills organisation when it launched its new site in July 2003. Below is a profile of this past competitor and her involvement in WorldSkills.

Web Design Gold

Kim Sun Kyong was interviewed by WorldSkills and an edited version of the transcript appears below.

Name: Sun Kyoun, Kim (Ms)
Country: Korea
Education: Daejeon Electronic Highschool (March 2000 to March 2003)
Trade qualification: None
Other qualifications: Electronic apparatus craftsman
Current WorldSkills involvement: I am presently not working with the WorldSkills. However, I am very pleased and proud to know that the homepage that I made is being a small contribution to the official WorldSkills homepage production. I would like to further develop my skills and maybe in the next few years I may be working with the WorldSkills Organization as one of the world’s skilled professionalists.

Why did you choose your trade/profession? When I was in highschool there was a time when everything was confusing about what I wanted to do and what my dream was especially in choosing my profession. At the same time a Web-Design Club was formed in our highschool which I joined. The fact fascinated me that people could share information within the internet through the medium called homepage. And, learning more about it made me even more interested and I began to dream that someday I wanted to be the best web designer in the world. I started participating in various national competitions which eventually lead to the WorldSkills Competition.

What have you gained by being a competitor at WorldSkills? Most of all, I have gained confidence through the WorldSkills Competitions. To tell the truth, before the competitions I was not sure if I was going to make it through the tough competition and win a medal. The biggest award that the competition has given me as a reward for my efforts is the self confidence that I can accomplish something if I try hard enough. And, most of all I had the opportunity to fight and win in the struggle against myself.

During the preparation period I was able to enjoy the process because this was what I had chosen to do and always found interesting. But, in times when things didn’t turn out I had difficult times and at times like that I felt a big burden and lost confidence in myself. But everytime I faced difficulties I tried to think that I was not competing with candidates from other countries but with myself. I didn’t want to be a loser in a fight with myself. During the preparation period I desperately needed to learn a way to win the struggle against myself and a way to do my best for my dreams. Now that the competitions are over, I am no longer the shy person I was and can be more confident in what I do. The WorldSkills Competitions has given me joy that I will never experience again and has also given me a sense of great pride in myself.
In May 2005, Finland will host the 38th WorldSkills Competition - the first time that the WorldSkills Competition has been hosted in the Nordic Countries. The event will take place in the Helsinki Fair Centre, which provides excellent facilities. The competition is the most extensive event ever organised in Helsinki Fair Centre.

Attached to the WorldSkills Competition are many other events, such as Global Skills Village, WorldSkills Leaders’ Forum and the International Symposium of Youth and Work Culture 2005.

Finland is arranging a unique and unforgettable experience for competitors and visitors that aims to have a long-term effect on Finnish vocational education and the economy.

Their strength in organising the event has been a broad and motivated network of thousands of skilled and enthusiastic people from all over Finland. Dozens of vocational institutions, polytechnics and upper secondary schools are participating in arranging the competition skills, the opening and closing ceremonies as well as the other additional events.

www.worldskills2005.com

Japan has an overarching theme of “International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007” and will conjointly host the 39th WorldSkills Competition and the 7th International Abilympics. Japan will accommodate all competitors in a Competitors Village thereby creating greater opportunities for our youth to interact away from the Competition.

Planning for Shizuoka 2007 is well underway and the Japanese Organising Committee has been involved in some of the preparations leading up to Helsinki and will send a comprehensive observer team to Helsinki to learn.

The WorldSkills Competition will be held in Namazu city in the eastern Shizuoka Prefecture. Shizuoka Prefecture is one of the centers for travel and tourism and is located in the approximate center of Japan, facing the Pacific to the south. To the north, the prefecture is bordered by mountains such as Mt Fuji and those of the Japan Alps. Shizuoka’s mountains and rivers, plains and coastline, hot springs and lakes fill the prefecture with constantly changing natural beauty. Shizuoka is also one of the great industrial areas in Japan. Manufacturing industries such as cars, motorbikes, musical instruments, plastic models and paper products are very active in Shizuoka Prefecture.

www.worldskills2007.com
Nestled in the rolling foothills of the majestic Canadian Rockies, Calgary and area presents a contrasting picture of modern cityscape set against wide-open landscapes and snow-capped mountains.

Located minutes from diverse outdoor sporting activities such as golfing, hiking, mountain biking, kayaking, canoeing, and horseback riding, opportunities to enjoy outdoor adventure is unsurpassed.

Bringing the international competition to Canadian soil is an excellent opportunity for young people to witness the many talents and skills required for trade and technology careers. Calgary looks forward to promoting the event and bringing young Canadians a better understanding of the opportunities available in skilled trades and technologies careers.

Calgary enjoyed a high level of public, private and community support to secure their bid. In addition to public and private support, Calgary is home to many dedicated volunteers who will work with skill and passion to make the event a success.

Preparation is already well under way and WorldSkills Calgary 2009 has already met with WorldSkills board members and will be in Helsinki as observers.

www.worldskills2009.com

Global Sponsor Partners

We share the WorldSkills mission of generating interest among young people world-wide in the skilled trades. We have always recognised that WorldSkills has enormous potential beyond the biennial competition. That’s why Festo, Fluke, Cisco Systems and WorldSkills joined forces to launch the WorldSkills Leaders Forum as a means to create powerful networks of stake-holders in vocational education and training. The result is a true win-win situation which benefits young people, national economies, and the interests of the Sponsor Partners. Together, we are developing a highly skilled, well prepared workforce.

Sylvia Allen
Senior Director for Corporate Responsibility_Cisco Systems

Jim Lico
President_Fluke Corporation

Dr Theodor Niehaus
Managing Director_Festo Didactic
WorldSkills Secretariat

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