

In this issue

- **WorldSkills meets Japan re Shizuoka 2007**
- **Skills Masters - NL national Competition**
- **Back to WorldSkills' roots: Spain applying for membership**
- **Only 61 days to go!!**
- **WorldSkills meets with Mexico's Official Delegate in Germany**
- **Competition Rules - different languages**
- **Global Skills Village - excellent forum for networking and exchanging experiences and innovations**
- **Don't miss this opportunity: Learn new strategies and methods at the WorldSkills Leaders Forum!**
- **Didacta 2005 - Festo team wins German national competition**
- **Events March**

WorldSkills meets Japan re Shizuoka 2007

Mr Shinichi Ozawa and Mr Kenji Tanaka from JAVADA (Japan Vocational Ability Development Association) met with Mr Jack Dusseldorp, President of WorldSkills, and Mr David Hoey, Secretary General of WorldSkills, recently to finalise the Memorandum of Understanding between Japan and WorldSkills for the 2007 Competition. The Organising Committee for the 2007 Competition will be formed on the 1st April. JAVADA is the member organisation of WorldSkills and they have already done a lot of work in preparing for 2007 and presented an update at their meeting. The Japanese will be developing an overarching theme in 2007 of an "international festival of skill for all" by conjointly hosting the WorldSkills Competition and the Abilympics.



Pictured from left to right Mr Kenji Tanaka, Mr Shinichi Ozawa from JAVADA (Japan Vocational Ability Development Association), Mr Jack Dusseldorp, President of WorldSkills, and Mr David Hoey, Secretary General of WorldSkills

Skills Masters - NL national Competition

"Skills Masters" the Dutch national Skills Competition took place on 3-5 March in Rotterdam and attracted around 14,000 visitors. Competitors competed in 23 skills. Two remarkable skills which are not held at the international level are Blacksmith (where competitors had to work with real horses) and Management Assistant (team trade where the management assistant has to work in co-operation with an ICT controller). Interactive activities gave visitors a good impression of the different skills by letting them experience the skill in real life. Visitors were challenged to try a skill themselves if they thought they could do it better than the competitors. Slogans like 'Learn some Skills', 'I've got some Skills', 'Show me some Skills', 'What are my Skills' were used in the media campaign. Technical Delegate Jos de Goey explains: 'The concept is based on seeing, doing and informing. With the skills competitions we aim to inspire youngsters. When their attention is raised, we challenge them to try the skill. Finally we inform them about vocational education and job possibilities'



Back to WorldSkills' roots: Spain applying for membership

After a long time of correspondence and the support of our Portuguese member, Spain, first member country and where WorldSkills was born, has now officially applied for Associate Membership. The application has been ratified by the Executive Board and will be approved by the General Assembly in May 2005.

Are you in contact with a non member country who is interested in joining WorldSkills then please let us know. For information on how to become a WorldSkills member, [please click here](#).

Only 56 days to go!!

Only 56 days to go until the greatest show on earth! Well, that's what we think anyway.

The 38th WorldSkills Competition is now in the countdown period. On 25 May 700 competitors from 39 countries will come together in Helsinki to compete in 39 skill categories. Skills Finland and WorldSkills are working furiously to ensure the best Competition ever. And around the world, 700 skilled youth are training furiously – preparing and focussing on the upcoming competition.

Over 150,000 people will visit the Competition over the 4 days. Thousands of industry, vocational training and education specialists, and government officials from around the world will also visit Helsinki to observe the competition and be involved in WorldSkills Leaders Forum and visit the Global Skills Village and make the most of the networking opportunities available. More news on the WorldSkills Leaders Form and Global Village in this newsletter.

Interested in attending? Contact Sheila Ruigrok at sheila.ruigrok@worldskills.org for more information or Riitta Pystynen at riitta.pystynen@event-travel.fi for accommodation and package details.



Pictured from left to right Dr. Niehaus, Managing Director of Festo Didactic Germany, Mr. Efren Castillo Sarabia, General Director of the General Direction of Training Centres for the Job "Dirección General de Centros de Formación para el Trabajo", DGCFE and Mr. Liam Corcoran, WorldSkills Chairman of the Technical Committee

WorldSkills meets with Mexico's Official Delegate in Germany

Mexico will be one of our new members of WorldSkills in 2005. WorldSkills Chairman of the Technical Committee, Liam Corcoran (Ireland), met with the nominated Official Delegate for Mexico, Mr. Efren Castillo Sarabia (General Director of the General Direction of Training Centres for the Job "Dirección General de Centros de Formación para el Trabajo", DGCFE) during the Didacta 2005 event in Germany.

This meeting was organised to discuss Mexico's application for full membership. Mr. Efren Castillo Sarabia came to the meeting very well prepared, having a good knowledge of WorldSkills procedures and the Competition Rules. During the course of the meeting a fruitful discussion was held on the organisation and structure of the WorldSkills competitions. Mr Efren Castillo Sarabia was most complimentary to the WorldSkills and Skills Finland websites. The nominated Technical Delegate, Mr. Cesar Quevedo Inzunza (Technical Director for Training Centres for the Job) will participate as a shadow Jury President to assist in Mechatronics in May. The General Directorate for Training Centres for the Job is part of the Education and Technological Research Subsecretariat (SEIT) of the Public Ministry of Education (SEP) in Mexico.

Liam Corcoran thanked Dr Niehaus, Managing Director of Festo Didactic in Germany for Festo's help and support in facilitating Mexico's membership. It is expected that Mexico will have competitors represented in four skills at the upcoming WorldSkills Competition in May. Both Mr. Efren Castillo Sarabia and Liam Corcoran expressed their gratitude to the Skills Finland organisation for facilitating the participation of the Mexican competitors at this late stage.

On behalf of the members of WorldSkills, Liam Corcoran promised the Mexican Official every support and assistance, so that the Helsinki Competition will be a major learning experience for all participants from Mexico.

Competition Rules - different languages

The WorldSkills Competition Rules are now also available in Portuguese on the WorldSkills website. Our Brazilian member has provided us with a translation of this document. If you have the Competition Rules available in your own language and you would like us to add this document to the website, then please send it to David Hoey david.hoey@worldskills.org.

Global Skills Village - excellent forum for networking and exchanging experiences and innovations

The Global Skills Village offers you an excellent forum for networking and exchanging experiences and innovations in the field of Vocational Education and Training. This Village brings together all stakeholders in vocational training: teachers and trainers, training providers, employers, social partnership organisations and governments to exchange information, knowledge and experiences, to build up new networks, to present good practices and to learn from one another. The Village will be open for the four days of the Competition (26-29 May) providing guests with an opportunity to browse and discuss with exhibitors and select and attend presentations and workshops in their specific areas of interest from the speaking and stage programs. Entertaining and informative, educational and rewarding! Don't miss it! More details available from www.globalskillsvillage.com.

Don't miss this opportunity: Learn new strategies and methods at the WorldSkills Leaders Forum!

After its inauguration in Seoul 2001, its successful follow up in St. Gallen 2003 and in conjunction with the 38th WorldSkills Competition, we are hosting the Helsinki 2005 WorldSkills Leaders Forum in the Helsinki Fair Center on 25-26 May 2005. This function gives you and your network an excellent opportunity to learn new strategies and methods and to build partnerships and networks focussing on specific aspects of TVET.

Interested to participate in this event?

Please contact Sheila Ruigrok at sheila.ruigrok@worldskills.org for information and registration.

Interested to recommend key participants from your country to this event?

If you would like to recommend participants or key note speakers from your country/network for this event, please inform Sheila Ruigrok at sheila.ruigrok@worldskills.org as soon as possible so your contacts can be included to the invitee list. Please include the contact details of your recommended participants (name, address details, phone number and email address, organisation, position). Interesting participants for this event are your Minister of Education and the Minister of Labour, Directors and General Managers of organisations which are related to Vocational Education and Training and people from the economy sector who are important for bridging Economy and Vocational Education and Training. More details available from www.worldskillsleadersforum.com.

Didacta 2005 - Festo team wins German national competition

Festo's Mechatronics team has won the German national competition which recently took place at the Didacta 2005, the Stuttgart Trade Fair for Education and Training. As the largest trade fair for education and training in Europe, Didacta has become a forum for the industry. With around 70,000 visitors and approximately 600 exhibitors, it is the leading event in the education and training sectors. It is a highly effective public platform and a starting-point for all experts and people with an interest in education and training.

Twenty teams from companies (e.g. Daimler-Chrysler, VW, Siemens and Bosch), schools and two guest teams from overseas (United Kingdom and Mexico) competed in the Mechatronics competition. Competitors were given the task to assemble, commission and troubleshoot real mechatronic systems. One of the tasks involved the Modular Production System (MPS) distribution station from Festo Didactic's modular concept – this system will also be used in the WorldSkills Competition. Another station which was unknown to the participants until the competition contained the newest vacuum technique from Festo's component system.

Stefan Kostka and Andreas Veil, apprentices from Festo, proved themselves as the best of their nation in Mechatronics. Both competed for two and a half days to win and be guaranteed of a place at the International WorldSkills Competition in May in Helsinki where they will be representing Germany in Mechatronics. 28 teams from all over the world will compete to win the world title in Mechatronics.

Events March

29 - 31 March

Kingston, Jamaica

[Jamaica Skills Competition](#)

Articles for next issue

The next issue will be published in April 2005. Please send your articles and photos to sheila.ruigrok@worldskills.org by 11 April.

Proudly supported by
WorldSkills Founding Global
Sponsor Partners

