

In this issue

- WorldSkills Youth Forum
- Press release from India
- Shizuoka 2007 update
- Luxemburg Skills Championships 2006
- ITE wins Singapore Quality Award
- WorldSkills meeting with Governor of Shizuoka
- Who will host WorldSkills 2011?

WorldSkills Youth Forum - Hello from Singapore



Viridis Liew receiving the Albert Vidal award at the closing ceremony of WorldSkills 2005 Helsinki.

Hello fellow Youth Forum participants.

My name is Viridis Liew and I am the Singaporean delegate for the 2006 WorldSkills Youth Forum in Melbourne.

Youths from all over the world participate in the biennial WorldSkills competition aiming to gain international recognition and to promote their skill areas so as to showcase their technical competency to the entire world.

Being one of the blessed few past competitors of WorldSkills, I believe that WorldSkills lives on the energy, enthusiasm, and vitality of youths all

over the world to not only participate in this exchange of skill competency but also to find new ways of showcasing and promoting skills in a global environment.

This Youth Forum provides an excellent platform for a discussion on different ideas and recommendations to improve WorldSkills as a whole for its participants past, present and future. A place where youths from all over the world can connect, put their minds together to find new ways of reaching out to future participants of the WorldSkills Competitions.

For every competitor, WorldSkills leaves behind an unforgettable experience of learning, friendship and most importantly a sense of belonging. A place where all competitors share not only common interest in skills but also a common goal; to show the World the importance of skills in the global economy.

Looking forward to the first Youth Forum in Melbourne, I am sure that it will be an exciting event where all past competitors come together once again,



this time to share their views and ideas on how to build on and improve the whole WorldSkills experience for all competitors and participants to come.

Regards
Viridis

The deadline for "Expressions of Interest" is Monday, 14 Nov 2005. Final registration will be 30 Jan 2006. For more information visit: www.worldskillsyouthforum.com



Press Release by Confederation of Indian Industry

BUILD SKILLS TO COMPETE GLOBALLY: MINISTER

India needs to upgrade its skills and bridge the gap between skills and technology in order to be able to compete globally and join WorldSkills, said Mr. Oscar Fernandes, Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation, at a meeting on "Can India afford not to be part of WorldSkills" organized by the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII) here today.

There is a gap between the skills and technology available in India. This can be bridged if the skills of its workforce are upgraded, said Mr. Fernandes, through raising the standards of

...continued



Mr. Oscar Fernandes, Minister of Statistics and Programme Implementation addressing the meeting.

engineering colleges, for instance, to the level of IITs and the Industrial Training Institutes. "If we have modern skills, we can produce the best," the Minister added.

In order to compete internationally, the Minister said, Indians needed the skills to present their products well. In addition, India needed to train rural artisans and craftsmen in the use of the latest technology in order to bolster their skills. "Show your skills or perish," he added.

In his address, Mr Tjerk Dusseldorp, President of WorldSkills, said membership of WorldSkills would pay dividends. It would help to align the education and training system with job requirements demanded by modern

manufacturing systems and the service sector. Each member's flow of benefits was proportional to the size of its national base of support and involvement, he said.

WorldSkills holds a competition every two years among member countries. Mr Dusseldorp said these are an effective way to promote employable skills and training and standards at the local level. Some activities have prompted companies to request help with in-house competitions for their employees.

Mr Sudhir Kapur, Member of the CII National Council, said the issue that needed to be addressed was the qualitative growth of the technical education and vocational training system. This would enable India to

meet the global challenges of an expected shortage of skilled manpower in the coming decades.

Mr. N. Srinivasan, Director General, CII, highlighted the six Cs for skills development. Change was inevitable and was the reality. The process of change was Complex. Competition was a global phenomenon and India had to face the challenges in order to go across borders. The next C was the Core strength, which were the people of India, who when properly trained, could become Champions. "We need to mould people through the provision of skills," he added.

Editors note: Other speakers were

- Mr David Hoey - Secretary General WorldSkills
- Dr Uma Tuli - Secretary General of the NAAI - National Abilympic Association of India and VP of the IAF - International Abilympics Federation
- Ms Sandy Walsh - Manager, Education Programs Asia Pacific for Cisco Systems
- Mr Atul Wassun - former Indian International cricketer) - provided a great perspective between sport and skills and competitions etc.
- Mr Richard Walker - President and CEO of WorldSkills Calgary 2009
- Mr V. Suresh Babu - Senior Manager, Training & Development - Mico/Bosch India (attended WSC2005 Helsinki)
- Mr Ogale B.G. - Senior Manager, Training & Safety Human Resource - TATA Motors (attended WSC2005 Helsinki)

Contributed by Confederation of Indian Industry - September 2005 New Delhi



ITE becomes the First Education Institution in Singapore to win the SQA

**Business Excellence Today,
Global Excellence Tomorrow.**

Uniquely ITE

Our Singapore member of WorldSkills, the Institute of Technical Education, (ITE)'s, name is up in lights. It has won the prestigious Singapore Quality Award (SQA) for attaining world-class standards of excellence in technical education. The **first** and **only** Education Institution to win the SQA, ITE is on track in its trail-blazing transformation of technical education.

"Since its establishment in 1992, ITE has transformed the Vocational and Technical Education System in Singapore. ITE is today a unique "one-of-its-kind" institution in the world,

befitting its status as a world-class technical education institution. ITE's unique full-time programmes, stemming from its Education Philosophy of "Hands-on, Minds-on, Hearts-on" learning, nurture all-rounded students. This philosophy has enabled ITE to be recognised both locally and internationally for the quality of its programmes, facilities, learning resources, graduates, and organisational practices," observed Professor Cham Tao Soon, Chairman of the SQA Governing Council.

Winning the SQA symbolises a milestone in ITE's journey towards excellence. "It means a national recognition of our transformation into a world-class post-secondary institution, focusing on vocational technical



The ITE Senior Management Team toasting ITE's recognition as a world-class institution for excellence in technical education.

education and skills. It also reaffirms our belief and success in creating a unique ITE Brand of College Education that is attractive to a quarter of Singapore's school cohort," said Dr Law Song Seng, Director and Chief Executive Officer, ITE.



Dr Law Song Seng, Director & CEO/ITE and Singapore's Official Delegate to WorldSkills, received the Singapore Quality Award from Mr Lim Hng Kiang, Singapore's Minister for Trade and Industry, at the Presentation of Business Excellence Awards 2005, in October 2005

Beyond the Best

Winning the SQA was the high point of ITE's business excellence journey. "When ITE was assessed by a large team of SQA Assessors, including an International Assessor from the

European Foundation for Quality Management, I witnessed a high level of passion and a strong ownership of the goal for organisational excellence by all levels of staff. Never have I seen such spirited synergy among staff," shared Ms Sabrina Loi, ITE's Divisional Director/Corporate Affairs.

We should focus on building the unique ITE brand by creating new competitive advantages for students, staff and industry," said Dr Law. Winning the SQA would be the springboard to thrust ITE into global excellence.

Beyond SQA, the next step and aspiration is for ITE to be A Global Leader in Technical Education, as mapped out in its latest roadmap, the **ITE Advantage**, ITE's new strategic roadmap for 2005-2009. "We now carry an even greater public responsibility to stay relevant, responsive and resilient.

About The Singapore Quality Award

The SQA marks the pinnacle of business excellence in Singapore.

Introduced in 1994, the Award is conferred upon the "best-of-the-best" in recognition of the attainment of world-class standards of business excellence. The conferment is based on an international premier business assessment of seven criteria in the SQA framework – Leadership, Planning, Information, People, Processes, Customers and Results. The SQA framework is aligned with excellence frameworks such as the USA Malcolm Baldrige Quality Award, the European Quality Award and the Australia Business Excellence Award.

Contributed by -
ITE, Singapore.

Editor's Note:

The theme for the WorldSkills Leaders Forum in May 2006 is "Transforming the way young people acquire the technical, social and learning skills needed in the 21st century". We are pleased to announce that the ITE will provide a key note presentation at the Leaders Forum.



Shizuoka 2007 - update



The Preparation Office for the International Skills Festival in Shizuoka Prefecture is working together with companies, organizations and educational institutes to inform the residents of Japan about the Festival in 2007 and skill-related news, and to encourage the residents to participate in the Festival in various ways.

With the Festival 2 years ahead, we have started a newsletter, "The International Skills Festival 2007 Newsletter", for the people who will shoulder the industry in the future generation and are interested in skills.

In order to educate the students and business employees on the Festival, a "PR Video for the International Skills Festival 2007" was made, with images of the past WorldSkills, including the event held in Helsinki, Finland this year.

International Skills Festival 2007 Newsletter – Major points:

1. First issue was published on September 7, 2005
2. Each issue is planned to be published 3 times a month
3. Content will contain "What's New", Skill Related Topics and Events and Messages from local industries, volunteer groups, and readers
4. Distribution will be to municipals, companies, chambers of commerce, schools, local governments, and others.
5. Website of Shizuoka Prefecture will have a link to the newsletter
<http://www.pref.shizuoka.jp/syoukou/syo-2007/>



The PR Video for the International Skills Festival 2007 – Major points:

1. Video will be for companies and organizations providing support to the competitors and the Festival as well as for educational institutes promoting participation as volunteers and observers
2. Distribution of the video will be to 1,000 elementary and junior high schools in the prefecture, companies and organizations
3. Video will be screened at the general conferences of related organizations to advertise the Festival

Contributed by: Preparation Office of the WorldSkills Competition and the International Abilympics Shizuoka Prefectural Government

Luxemburg Skills Championships in 2006



The Luxemburg Skills Championships takes place in the CNFPC (Centre National de Formation Professionnelle Continue) in Esch Alzette

from 13 to 17 March 2006. It will have some skills that are open for participation by other European nations. LUXSKILL will advise WorldSkills members about this at a later date. We look very much forward to this event as

we see it as additional training for the 2007 WorldSkills Competition in Shizuoka (Japan).

Contributed by LUXSKILL A.s.b.l.
<http://www.luxskill.lu>

Mr Jack Dusseldorp (WorldSkills President) meets with Mr Ishikawa (Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture)



Mr Dusseldorp and Mr Ishikawa meeting in Shizuoka Prefecture.



Mr Dusseldorp and Mr Ishikawa discussing the International Skills Festival for All.



A successful meeting between WorldSkills and the Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture and Shizuoka Prefectural Government staff. (L-R) Masao Umeda, Jack Dusseldorp, Mr Ishikawa (Governor), David Hoey and Nobuaki Ohi.

On a recent visit to Japan a discussion between Mr Dusseldorp and Mr Ishikawa was transcribed for inclusion in to the 27th Issue of *My Shizuoka* a community newsletter distributed to all residents of the Shizuoka Prefecture.

Below is an extract from the article published in *My Shizuoka*.

Talk with Governor

Global Communication through Skills and Dreams - International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007

(Preface)

For the first time in history, the 39th WorldSkills Competition and the 7th International Abilitylympics will be simultaneously held as International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007 in Shizuoka. Although Japan has been proud of its skills in goods-making, it is now challenged with some issues, such as aging of skilled people, decreasing interests of the youth in skills, and less regards toward skills, especially when conveying the skills to younger generation. Therefore, the Festival in such time will be particularly significant as it allows people to realize the importance of skills. Jack Dusseldorp, president of WS, meets with Governor Ishikawa to share the ideas and expectations towards the Festival in 2007.

(Dialogue)

(Gov) This is your 2nd visit to Shizuoka, after the first visit in May, 2004. Have you found anything new about Shizuoka?

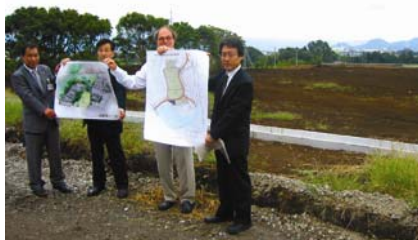
(JD) It was only to say hello to many people the first time but this time, I am able to gather useful information and to deepen our understanding of the excellent preparation procedure. There's one thing that hasn't changed though. I haven't seen Mt. Fuji!

(Gov) They say that Mt. Fuji is another figure of Goddess, a wife of God that created Japan and that she feels shy and disappears when she sees a handsome man like you. But I think you will be able to meet her when the Festival is held in 2007. By the way, is there anything new in the Festival 2007 in Shizuoka?

(JD) In the past WorldSkills focused primarily on skills in manufacturing, building and the crafts but the recent trend is an increase of competition categories related to IT and services. For example, beauticians participated for the first time this year in Helsinki which was very appealing to many people. Also, our young competitors used to be shy in the past but now they are very sociable and the media is happy about it as it's the young peoples' stories which help to explain the importance of skills. So we are thinking of holding a youth forum, inviting the past medalists to the Festival of Shizuoka to talk about the importance of skills in public, as well as a forum for vocational training leaders to discuss the big issues. I would like to deepen the relationship with Shizuoka to realize these additional events in 2007.

(Gov) I share the same idea. More people will be interested when there are various events along with the competition itself. Have there been any changes with the competition or the judging criteria?

(JD) The tradition of WorldSkills has been individual competitors within a particular category working alone to perform set tasks, but with modern technology there is a requirement for more teamwork in the workplace and so we have new competitions like, MTC (Manufacturing Team Challenge), where young skilled workers work together to come up with a solution to a particular problem, and this has been regarded highly by the young people and spectators alike. When I visited Numazu, a venue of the Festival in 2007, I asked the Mayor what some of the problems are in his community for which the young skill champions may be able to develop suitable solutions. His answer was somewhat related to the 2007 Issue* and he said "With the aging of the community there were concerns about improving emergency services for older people in a time of disaster like an earthquake". He then asked me if it is possible to develop devices or a system for older people to help move them more quickly and safely. Also, if there is a good idea to reinforce old houses, that are easy



Numazu City, Shizuoka Prefecture – the construction and development of the site of the 39th WorldSkills Competition is on schedule. The above photo shows (L-R) Uematsu Hidetoshi, Kenji Tanaka, Jack Dusseldorp and Shinichi Ozawa standing with the plans and sketches in front of the site.



From this....



....to this.



Another successful meeting between WorldSkills and the Vice Governor of Shizuoka Prefecture Mr Suzuki (far left).

and inexpensive and I told him, "There are young skilled workers who can suggest wonderful ideas" How about offering a Governor's Award for ideas that can solve actual problems in the Festival 2007?

(Gov) That's an interesting idea. Designs easy to use for older people is actually related to the idea of Universal Design, which we insisted on having in the basic concept of the Festival, and resulted in having the International Abilitylympics held simultaneously with WorldSkills Competition. This will be the first Festival that holds two competitions at the same time.

(JD) I admire your effort to realize the International Abilitylympics and the concept of Universal Design at the Festival 2007. I think the idea of Universal Design will be globally accepted. I am personally very happy that we can realize what we have wanted to do at a place like Shizuoka, a local city, which offers people a place to live and work at the same time.

(Gov) I am expecting that the opening of the Festival at a local city will influence other areas in the world. As most of your past Competitions have been held in capital cities I am proud that Shizuoka Festival will be significant in the history of WorldSkills Competition. The International Abilitylympics has a shorter history of 8 years, but its importance in improving skills of disabled people and promoting their social independence has been emphasized, and the simultaneous opening with the WorldSkills Competition is exactly what we have been looking for.

(JD) Exactly. Also in Shizuoka for the first time, there will be a Competitors' Village for 800 competitors. In the past, there was not enough communication among the youth from many different countries as they were spread across many hotels, but the Competitors' Village in 2007 will allow them to communicate with each other even for a short period of time, which is really wonderful!

(Gov) Shizuoka Prefecture is one of the leading prefectures in manufacturing, with a product value of shipment ranked 3rd in the nation. With the development of technology, some people think technology is more important than human skills, but I think technology is far behind human skills because human skills are the basis of technology. In order to develop and improve such important skills, it is necessary to give children opportunities to see skills and to invite younger people into the world of skills. However, younger people are less interested in skills, while they are more interested in technology. This is a challenge along with the 2007 Issues, which we need to face seriously. The Festival, which will also be held in 2007, will be a stimulant for the youth in Japan. Could you tell me how the youth in your homeland, Australia or in any other country feel about skills and what are required to realize a skill-respected society?

(JD) Australia is principally an importer of manufactured goods and an exporter of raw materials especially to China and Japan. Therefore our youth are less likely to either see or participate in the skills needed to produce finished goods. Skills that are visible for the youth in Australia relate to sports. That's why we win many medals at Olympics! Although it is not easy to put a high value on industrial skills in many countries, it is important for all youth to learn life-related work skills to become professional, and so be able to live independently. In fact, the number of countries participating in the WorldSkills Competition is increasing every year, and more people are becoming conscious of the importance of conveying the skills to the next generation. I am sure the Festival 2007 will be successful and its success is also very significant in that participants take back the message of the Festival to their own countries.

(Gov) There are some items in the competition which Japanese workers are not particularly good at, such as restaurant service, gardening, or cooking. However, skills in those items are rapidly improving due to the change of life style in Japan. It will be very encouraging for Japanese youth to meet international people with high skills.



Tokinosumika Competitors Village

(JD) We (from Australia) had the first female medalist in restaurant services a few years ago. She won the Silver medal. I am hoping that the WorldSkills Competition will facilitate more women to improve their skills in new areas. And I expect the Shizuoka Skills Festival for All to be an amazing show with many attractive events so that more people will become interested in skills.

(Gov) It will be a big chance for Shizuoka to communicate globally because we will have close to 3000 people from more than 50 countries. It will allow us to tell the world what we have in Shizuoka and for us to review the area. And it is also important in terms of local development.

Thank you for your invaluable comments and advice.

**2007 Issue: Baby boomers who were born in between 1947 and 1949 will start retiring in 2007. As those baby boomers account for about 14% of the total labour force in Japan, there is a concern that many skilled workers will retire without younger workers taking over their positions.*

Who will host WorldSkills 2011?



WorldSkills has received 4 Expressions of Interest for hosting the 2011 WorldSkills Competition - the EOIs were received from France (Nantes), Australia (Melbourne), United Kingdom (London) and Sweden (Göteborg).

As per WorldSkills procedures, an Executive Board review team will be visiting all 4 members before January to discuss their Expression of Interest and ensure that the essential criteria are met. This EB review team will present and discuss their visits to these members with the full Executive Board in mid-January. The Executive Board will then invite all members who have fulfilled the essential criteria to proceed with a formal bid to host the competition.

The final decision on who will host WorldSkills Competition 2011 will be decided by secret ballot by the members at the May 2006 General Assembly in Melbourne, Australia.

This is an exciting time where the bidding members promote and lobby all WorldSkills members with the reasons why they should be voted to host the WorldSkills Competition (similar to the recent Olympics bid selection for hosting the 2012 Games).

Proudly supported by
WorldSkills Founding Global
Sponsor Partners

