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## Spain's return to WorldSkills welcomed by founding Secretary General's daughter



WorldSkills President, Jack Dusseldorp pictured with Paloma Albert, daughter of Francisco Albert Vidal in Madrid on the occasion of Spain's return to WorldSkills as a full member.

Paloma vividly recalled her father's passion for WorldSkills as its founding

Secretary General for 33 years and 7 years as President prior to his death in 1993. She wishes all WorldSkills members to know how pleased her family is that the WorldSkills award for the best overall performance in the Competition was named in honour of her father, and to now know that Spain will once again participate in WorldSkills.

When asked what her father regarded as the main role of WorldSkills, she replied that he believed its capacity to stimulate human relations across the world and give young people the chance to share their skills and culture were its key attributes. Even though

most of the participants didn't understand each others languages they were able to communicate through their skills and desire to share knowledge and learn from each other.



Mr Francisco Albert Vidal  
WorldSkills Secretary General (1950-1983),  
WorldSkills President (1984-1992)

## Japan's 43rd National Skills Competition

The 43rd National Skills Competition was successfully held in Yamaguchi Prefecture 28-31 October 2005, drawing a record number of competitors - 1,094 in 43 categories.



For the first time it was organized jointly with the 28th National Abilitylympics, as a rehearsal for the "International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007"

In the joint opening ceremony Ms. Rieko Zanma unveiled a newly designed logo of the International Skills Festival for All, Japan 2007, which had been created by a young student of design school.

During the competition, the International Skills Festival in 2007 was promoted by JOCISF at every competition site in Yamaguchi city.

The messengers of professional skills referred to as "Ambassadors for the

Skills" were invited to the event as well as young medalists from past national skills competitions. The young ambassadors expressed their dedication to introducing their excellent skills to the visitors.



Contributed by JOCISF 2007

## The Order Of The White Rose Of Finland For Svein Magnus Gjonvik from Norway



Norwegian chef Svein Magnus Gjonvik has been awarded The Order Of The White Rose Of Finland. The honoured chef visited Finland as a judge for food competitions several times. He has worked as a leader in the NKF judging seminar and was the Chief Expert in WorldSkills 2005 Competition Helsinki. The Finnish Chef Association also thank him for his work for the Finnish Culinary Team.

At the Finnish Evening, Finnish food was served by over two hundred Finnish chefs. Assistance was provided by a group of Nordic chefs, Gjonvik among them.

Contributed by Mr Martti Lehtinen (Expert - Cooking)

## Florence Labar - From Helsinki and onto Melbourne to represent Belgium



Florence Labar with WorldSkills President, Jack Dusseldorp

Participating in WorldSkills for the second time, Cepegra, the skills centre of the Belgian graphic industry, had to

choose a candidate and train him or her during a relatively short period of time.

Selected in October 2005 with four other young people coming from all around the French speaking region of Belgium, Florence Labar finally won the opportunity to compete for Belgium in Finland, thanks to her talent and motivation. With so little time available, the training was mainly aimed at technical mastery, leaving the creative part of the job to the graphic designer.

Training on almost every Saturday from November to April, she was prepared enough to face the difficult challenge of the four days of the demanding tests projects of the Competition.

All things considered, WorldSkills was a tremendous experience for Florence who came back home with a lot of new friends and contacts and with a medallion of excellence. And now

Florence is busily improving her English in order to participate in the Youth Forum in Melbourne Australia in May 2006 as well as gain some international work experience.

"I thought it would be a good opportunity for me to work a few weeks in Australia before the Forum. That's why I'll arrive there on the 1st of April. During that month, I'll stay with Jane Stokie, the graphic design expert in Helsinki. I'll work with her at the McPherson Media Group", said Florence.

The Helsinki Competition was also a big success for Cepegra with a wonderful result for the other competitor of the centre. In printing, a new trade presented for the first time, Jordan Poulain won the gold medal, finishing ahead of Germany and Switzerland.

*Contributed by Cepegra - Formations en arts graphiques*

## WorldSkills Youth Forum 2006 - Melbourne Australia



WorldSkills is organising a "Youth Forum" for a select group of past competitors not older than 26 years of age. The Youth Forum will be conducted in conjunction with the General Assembly and Leaders Forum in Melbourne, Australia from May 6-11, 2006.

Preparation for May event is well underway. With the venues and activities firmly secured, the development and delivery of the WorldSkills Youth Forum program is being shaped under the watchful eye of

Mikaeli Costello and Nick Yates, of the Dusseldorp Skills Forum and former MTC international competitor, Ben Irwin.



Nick Yates

*"I'm looking forward to attending the WorldSkills Forum in Melbourne and working with other young people to develop some potential strategies for the future of the WorldSkills Competition," says*

With 35 delegates from 17 countries officially registered, the Youth Forum

adventure has been ignited as the group have been busy sharing their stories on the Youth Forum's blogspot.

*(To visit the Blogspot go to: <http://www.worldskillsyouthforum.blogspot.com>)*

This space will remain the pre-Youth Forum 'hub' where preliminary discussions for improving not only the WorldSkills Competition experience, but developing ideas on how WorldSkills can spread the skills message out to many more young people now and in the future, will take place before the group comes face-to-face in Melbourne.

*Contributed by WorldSkills Youth Forum*

## SkillsBelgium Conference-Debate - November 9, 2005

Belgium, like many countries faces a shortage of qualified young people in critical technical and vocational skills.

Although the country counts just over 10 million people, its structure is very complex (3 regions and 3 languages); five (5) ministers share the responsibilities for the Education and the Vocational training!

The objective of the meeting was to gather in one room at one time the 5 ministers, the general managers of all vocational organizations and the members of SkillsBelgium Board of

directors to hear first hand from Jack Dusseldorp, our President, as well as Marie-Thérèse Geffroy (FR), Klaas Roskam (NL) and Graeme Hall (UK), our close neighbors, their approach to the promotion of skills, the benefits and the partners involved.



During the debate, moderated in three languages with simultaneous translation by key personnel from the

Technological industry, an important question was raised: "Why organize competitions to promote skills?" The four members of the panel gave a convincing answer, some on the basis of in depth research, others through practical experience. The audience left the meeting convinced.

The meeting ended by the presentation to the Helsinki candidates and experts their Medallions for Excellence or Certificate of Participation.

*Contributed by SkillsBelgium*

## WorldSkills Leaders Forum 2006 - Melbourne Australia



This year the WorldSkills Leaders Forum will be held in Melbourne, Australia on

Sunday 7 May. Melbourne is a sophisticated city nestled in the compact state of Victoria, providing easy access to an incredible variety of things to see, do and experience year round.

The theme for the forum is "Transforming the way young people acquire the technical, social and learning skills needed in the 21st century."

Presentations will be delivered by the following speakers:

- Dr Song Seng Law - ITE (Institute of Technical Education – Singapore)
- Timo Lankinen - Ministry of Education, Finland
- General Mehta - Confederation of Indian Industry
- Bruce Mackenzie - Holmesglen Institute of TAFE, Australia



6-10 May 2006. Delegates to the GA2006 will have the opportunity to experience the WorldSkills Australia National Competition finals – an estimated 40 skill categories under one roof.

## EuroSkills launched

The first European wide "EuroSkills" Competition will be held in Rotterdam in 2008.

The announcement was made to all Education Ministers of the EU Community by Mr Jan Figel, EU Commissioner for Education and Ms Maria Van der Hoeven, Minister of Education in the Netherlands.

EuroSkills will be held as a regional competition of WorldSkills International. It is seen as providing a much needed "step up" for countries which have still to join WorldSkills, as well as helping to address issues central to the European agenda on education and training.



*Commissioner Jan Figel' - Member of the European Commission, responsible for Education, Training, Culture and Multilingualism'*

Commissioner Figel and Minister Van der Hoeven saw EuroSkills as providing a unique means of improving the status of VET and to reward the quality and excellence of Europe's best trainees and graduates.

From 2007 onwards, the EU Leonardo da Vinci strand of the new Integrated Lifelong Learning program should enable financial support for cooperation projects between countries working in groups to organise national skills competitions and preparing for participation in EuroSkills.

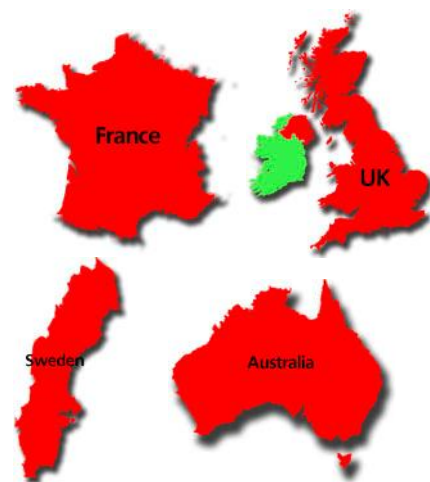
## WorldSkills 2011

Submissions have been received from 4 Members to host WorldSkills 2011 Competition.



Delegates from the WorldSkills Executive Board have visited the proposed venues and investigated each Member's capacity to hold the event. All submissions have been excellent.

So we await the result of the voting at the upcoming General Assembly.



Who will be successful?

- France (Nantes)
- United Kingdom (London)
- Sweden (Göteborg)
- Australia (Melbourne)

## Canadian media promotion of skills creates impact



Members may recall the presentation given by Canada in Helsinki about their promotion campaign for skilled trades. Examples of the high quality ads used in the program were viewed and judged very attractive. If you are interested in a report measuring the impact of the ad campaign, please visit the following web site:

[http://www.careersintrades.ca/reports/pdf/Perception\\_Study\\_Highlights.pdf](http://www.careersintrades.ca/reports/pdf/Perception_Study_Highlights.pdf)

You can see more details of the whole promotion campaign and the trades in general by logging on to the home page of the project

<http://www.careersintrades.ca/>

*Contributed by Skills/Compétences Canada*

## 35th Chinese Taipei Skills Competition – held 19-24 October 2005

The 35th Chinese Taipei Skills Competition was held across 5 sites in Tainan bringing together 1,646 competitors in 42 skill categories.

The skill categories covered 6 major skill groups and included new skill categories of Robotics, Bakery, Manufacturing Team Challenge and Mould Making. Fitting, Press Tool Making and Instrument Making were merged into Polymechanics/Automation.



Mr. Lin, Feng-Bin, Vice Chairman of the Committee of WorldSkills, Mr. Chen Jun-Lu, Secretary General of the Committee, Mr. Yan, Chun-Zuo, Deputy Magistrate of Tainan County, and Dr. Xie, Zhong-Wu, Director General of Tainan Vocational Training Centre, jointly hosted the awards and closing ceremonies of the Competition.

For the new skill of Robotics the host organisation invited three professors to develop the “Nanxun No.1” security robot, which can detect an intruder, fire, gas leakage and controls appliances.



Judging the Confectionery

The competitors had to accomplish the assigned work within 22 hours, spread over the three days of the Competition. It not only tested their skills, but also challenged their physical strength.



The night before the Competition, the competitors relaxed to an evening of live entertainment provided by the host organisation.

Skills competitions have had tremendous recognition and support from Vocational High Schools, Vocational Training Centres, business

units, relevant professional organisations and other industries. It has increased public awareness of vocational skills and skills training and increased the technician’s social status. It also established correct professional philosophy, prompted current economic development and upgraded the skills level in industries.



As a whole, it has made substantial contribution to our society. Almost all of the participants of the past Skills Competitions are now working in industries, teaching in vocational training centers or schools, and have great achievements in the field of their profession which of course contributes to our economic development

Contributed by EVTA

### What’s on – meetings and events in March and April

<b>06-14 Mar</b>	Brazil National Competition
<b>09-11 Mar</b>	The Netherlands Skills Masters, Dutch National Competition
<b>17-19 Mar</b>	Denmark Car Painting Competition.
<b>19 Mar</b>	New Zealand, Northland regional competition
<b>20-21 Mar</b>	Denmark, Young Bakers Competition.
<b>25 Mar</b>	New Zealand, Wellington regional competition
<b>25 Mar</b>	New Zealand, NZ Defence competition
<b>Mar</b>	Iran National Competitions held in March
<b>Mar</b>	Belgium National Competitions
<b>Mar/Apr</b>	United Arab Emirates, National Competitions held in March and April
<b>8 Apr</b>	NZ, Auckland regional competition
<b>8 Apr</b>	NZ, Canterbury regional competition
<b>22 Apr</b>	Denmark, National Transport Competition.
<b>Apr</b>	UK, UK Skills are conducting competitions in over 70 skills from April to July
<b>Apr</b>	US, SkillsUSA are conducting 80 separate skill events during 2006

### Mark Rutte and Michaëlla Krajicek open the second Skills Masters (The Netherlands)

This national event will take place from 9 until 11 March in ‘Ahoy’ Rotterdam. The Secretary of State Mr. Mark Rutte and international tennis player Michaëlla Krajicek will jointly open the second edition of “Skills Masters”.

After the informal opening, Mark Rutte and Michaëlla Krajicek will visit the event and will be challenged to participate in one of the “try a Trade” programs at Skills Masters. This way, they can experience the knowledge and skills that are necessary to practice a particular profession. Visitors to “Skills Masters” can



be acquainted with all aspects of professions, education and employment. This “Skills Masters” offers a wide variety of activities: many National Skills Competitions, “Try a Trade” programs, career expo, labour market and a broad side program with performances of various artists.

More information: [www.skillsmasters.nl](http://www.skillsmasters.nl).

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