



We welcome all WorldSkills Members to send in stories of events happening in their regions to [Michelle Bussey](#).

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## NEWS FROM WORLDSKILLS INTERNATIONAL

### Editorial

**By: Michelle Bussey, Marketing and Communications, WorldSkills International**

Welcome to the WorldSkills International Newsletter. The WorldSkills International Newsletter is one of the many informational and promotional tools that we use to inform Members, partners, volunteers and the general public about the latest activities and initiatives happening throughout the world as part of the WorldSkills movement.

As the number of WorldSkills Members continues to grow and the readership of this newsletter increases with every issue, we would like to offer more to our Members. By sending us your event dates and information we can promote this in the Newsletter and also on the WorldSkills International website. Send along the information about all your national/regional skills events to [michelle.bussey@worldskills.org](mailto:michelle.bussey@worldskills.org).

As the countdown to WorldSkills Shizuoka 2007 continues we will bring you the up-to-date breaking news from Japan. We also want to hear stories of your team preparing. Or if you have a team leader, expert or volunteer that would like to share their story, please send it to [michelle.bussey@worldskills.org](mailto:michelle.bussey@worldskills.org).

Together we can raise the awareness and profile of the WorldSkills movement throughout the world.



## WorldSkills International news

### WSI Secretariat has a new address

The WorldSkills International Secretariat has a new address. Please update all your contacts for the WorldSkills Secretariat to the following address and telephone/fax numbers.

**WorldSkills International**  
**Keizersgracht 62-64**  
**1015 CS Amsterdam**  
**The Netherlands**

**Tel: +31 23 531 1071**  
**Fax: +31 23 531 0816**



WSI Secretariat's new office



### WorldSkills Portal attracts record number of visitors

During the recent Strategy Committee meetings in Rotterdam, Netherlands, WorldSkills International launched the WorldSkills Portal ([www.worldskillsportal.com](http://www.worldskillsportal.com)). It was met with praise and delight as Members could see the possibilities for their own region to use this tool. Many Members gave valuable feedback to improve its functionality for the future. Countries/regions that weren't involved in the pilot expressed their intention to contribute content to the Portal. We invite all Members to send us content. We have templates specifically designed for ease of gathering and presenting the information. Please contact Michelle Bussey at [michelle.bussey@worldskills.org](mailto:michelle.bussey@worldskills.org) if you would like to put information from your country/region on the WorldSkills Portal.



WorldSkills Portal

Since the last issue of the WorldSkills International newsletter we have been tracking the website visits to the WorldSkills Portal. We have been amazed and delighted to see that over 5869 visitors from over 40 countries/regions have viewed the WorldSkills Portal in just over 3 weeks. We are continually working to improve the accessibility of the WorldSkills Portal, along with its look and feel. If you have already given us content for the Portal but have new information regarding a particular person, please send us updates at any time. Also if you would like to link stories to educational institutions that are mentioned please provide us with the website link and we will include it; this will help create a global network of linkages to vocational education and training institutes that train and/or support WorldSkills Competitors.

To increase the connectivity between the Portal and Members' websites, we have created a series of WorldSkills Portal "buttons" that can be added to Members' websites for quick access to the Portal.



## EuroSkills preview

In March 2007 in Rotterdam, the Netherlands, EuroSkills conducted a preview for the WSI Strategy Committee delegates and EuroSkills delegates of a fresh approach to their EuroSkills competition. WSI Members present were extremely impressed with the innovative way of conducting the competitions using team skills working together. For example, a group of skilled competitors worked together to design and build a house from start to finish. It demonstrates the actual work environment where the various skills have to work together and around each other to complete a task as opposed to working independently of each other.

For more information please visit: [www.euroskills2008.nl](http://www.euroskills2008.nl)



Jos de Goey, Managing Director, Skills Netherlands and Tjerk Dusseldorp, President, WorldSkills International raise a toast after launching the EuroSkills preview

## Members embracing the WS brand

More and more WorldSkills International Members are re-branding themselves to become strategically aligned with the WorldSkills movement branding. It has helped them to create more connectivity with the larger WorldSkills movement. The recent Members to change their branding are:

- France – now WorldSkills France
- Jamaica – now WorldSkills Jamaica
- India – now WorldSkills India

Please contact Michelle Bussey at [michelle.bussey@worldskills.org](mailto:michelle.bussey@worldskills.org) who can help with this initiative.



## Upcoming WorldSkills International (WSI) initiatives

### WorldSkills International banners for sale

WorldSkills International has designed three stand-up banners as part of our new marketing and communication initiatives. The banners debuted at the Strategy Committee Meeting in Rotterdam, Netherlands in March. WSI is now offering all the banners for purchase to our Members. We agree to manage the printing and shipping process as a cost recovery, therefore we will only be charging USD37.00 plus shipping for each banner.

If you are interested in purchasing any of the banners please contact Michelle Bussey at [michelle.bussey@worldskills.org](mailto:michelle.bussey@worldskills.org). In your email please state which banner(s) you would like, how many of each you would like, when you need them, and your shipping address.



Banner 1: WSI Competition Areas  
Banner 2: WSI Members  
Banner 3: WSC2007



## Competition site progress, building for the future

By: Marketing Department, JOCISF

The site of the 39th WorldSkills Competition is located on the hill in Kadoike, Numazu city overlooking Mt. Fuji. Shizuoka Prefecture and Numazu City have been working together to build the site and are preparing to make it appropriate for the international event.

As of March 2007, one two-story building (approximately 9,400m<sup>2</sup>) and two other steel constructions (approximately 9,700 m<sup>2</sup>) have been completed. The two-story building will be used as a vocational technical school after the WSC is over. This will be a place where young people forging the future will be able to learn the skills after the Competition.

The planting of trees and grass sods around the site is almost complete and it is starting to look more and more like a world-class site. Pavilion tents (approximately 38,000 m<sup>2</sup>), promenades, steps and slopes will be built soon and fitting-out the inside of the buildings, putting up signs and site decoration will be started in the near future as well.

For more information please visit:

[www.skillsfestival2007.or.jp/competitionsite/](http://www.skillsfestival2007.or.jp/competitionsite/) and view the live web camera.



## STORIES FROM WORLDSKILLS MEMBERS



### Team Sweden for WorldSkills Competition in Japan 2007

By: Youth Skills Sweden

#### First step!

Swedish Skills Championships, established 2004, now take place every second year. The championships are qualifiers for the WorldSkills Competition. Swedish Skills Championships were held in Göteborg, May 17-20 2006, and 360 young people participated in more than 40 skills. This resulted in a Swedish team for Japan consisting of 32 competitors in 29 skills - the biggest Swedish team ever! The next Swedish Skills Championships will be held in Jönköping in May 2008, qualifying for Calgary 2009.

#### Second step!

To prepare the Swedish competitors in the best way possible, Youth Skills Sweden organises three meetings with experts, competitors and team leaders. These meetings take place in March, June and September 2007. These meetings concentrate on teambuilding activities, practical information, media training and information from our sponsors. During the autumn of 2007 a press tour will be arranged with meetings all over the country.

#### Third step - the Competition!

In 1995 the first Swedish national team was formed. It was time to challenge the rest of the world who had been competing since the 50's. This team consisted of 9 young people competing in 9 skills - today the number has increased considerably! (see above). In Helsinki, Sweden was awarded six medals - one gold (Industrial Control), four silver (Transport Technology, Floristry, Telecommunication and Forest Machinery) and one bronze (Metal Roofing). In Japan our goal is to be among the top 10 countries.



Team Sweden for WSC2007



Map showing where the 2007 Team Sweden competitors live.

For more information please visit: [www.youthskillssweden.com](http://www.youthskillssweden.com)





## Portugal National Skills Competition

**By: António Caldeira, Instituto do Emprego e Formação Profissional**

In Portugal, the National Skills Competition (11-16 of March 2007) was inaugurated with a parade through the streets of the city of Portalegre. All competitors, members of the jury and guests invited to the opening ceremony participated in this parade. The reason behind all this festivities was to make the event known to the local population, while simultaneously whetting their appetite for a future visit. Thirty one occupations were represented where, for the first time, five of them were targeted at disabled people. During the four days of competition, several recreational and promotional events were created with the aim of increasing the impact on visitors and on the media.

The National Skills Competition set aside an area of approximately 200 m<sup>2</sup> to provide information of the vocational education and training offered in Portugal and the European Union, as well as another area where visitors could try their hand at some of the tasks of the various occupations represented. Meetings were also held with the social partners and 'Business Day' was created. Given that Portalegre is an inland city, the more-than-7000 visitors largely exceeded expectations. Moreover, the event took on clearly national contours due to the massive presence of the media, namely those from all of the national television networks, including the cable stations.

Similar to the Opening Ceremony, the Closing Ceremony of the National Skills Competition – Portalegre 2007, took place in a festive environment, presided over by the Secretary of State of Employment and Vocational Training. It was the culmination of a week in which the Portuguese were given the opportunity to come into contact with the 160 top professionals from the various skills represented in the competition and where they became conscious of the need for lifelong learning and the strategic importance of the qualification of human resources for national development.

The next step is to select 14 young people with suitable characteristics to represent Portugal in the 39th WorldSkills Competition – Shizuoka 2007, where they will compete in a highly demanding environment, on both a technical and behavioural level.

For more information please visit: [portal.iefp.pt](http://portal.iefp.pt)



*Portugese National Competition: opening parade*



*Portugese National Competition*



*Portugese National Competition: 'try-a-trade'*



*Portugese National Competition: Closing Ceremonies*



## SaudiSkills, the second National Competition, Riyadh, Saudi Arabia, 2007

Under the supervision of the General Organization of Technical Education and Vocational Training (GOTEVOT), the SaudiSkills Competition will be held this year in April, 2007 in Riyadh. The competitors will compete in five different trades: IT/PC network support, web design, graphic design technology, IT/software applications and automobile technology. The winners in this competition will receive professional training to represent Saudi Arabia in Shizuoka 2007.

For more information please visit: [www.nccc.edu.sa/marathon.htm](http://www.nccc.edu.sa/marathon.htm).





## Introducing Draka - New Global Sponsor Partner

Draka has joined with WorldSkills International as a Global Sponsor Partner. Draka – a key participant in the electrical industry and premier producer of cabling in the European market - are looking to enhance their profile and brand image worldwide and see their partnership with WorldSkills International as a key element of this global initiative.

Draka's corporate values of service, quality, innovation, knowledge and reliability fit very well with the values of WorldSkills International which include excellence, collaboration and exchange, and brighter futures for young people in trades and technologies.

This partnership, in accordance to the Global Sponsor Partner philosophy, is mutually beneficial. For Draka, WorldSkills International provides an effective means to directly reach the young people and their teachers and trainers either in vocational schools or on the job apprenticeship programs in many of its customer countries. For WorldSkills International, Draka provides an effective means of directly reaching many of the people in the electrical industry world-wide who are not necessarily involved in vocational education and training but who would be both interested in and supportive of WorldSkills International's mission and objectives.

We welcome Draka's support and partnership and we look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship in achieving our respective goals and objectives.

For more information: [www.draka.com](http://www.draka.com)



*Draka Comteq Optical Fibre's factories, research and development facilities and sales offices are located all over the world. The group has six facilities manufacturing optical fibres located in: Netherlands, France, U.S.A., China, Japan and Brazil.*



## Introducing Fluke Networks - New Global Sponsor Partner

Fluke Networks has joined with WorldSkills International as a Global Sponsor Partner. Fluke Networks provides innovative solutions for the testing, monitoring and analysis of enterprise and telecommunications networks and the installation and certification of the fibre and copper forming the foundation for those networks. The company's line of Network SuperVision™ solutions provide network installers, owners, and maintainers with superior vision, combining speed, accuracy and ease of use to ensure maximum network performance and the fast resolution of problems.

Fluke Networks' solutions range from cable testing products to broadband data services equipment and Ethernet and IP monitoring and analysis software and hardware.

"Our partnership with WorldSkills International allows Fluke Networks to help support, train and develop the workforce of tomorrow," said Paul Caragher, Fluke Networks President. "The young people demonstrating their skills at this year's competitions will be the ones entering the workplace in the very near future. This type of real-world vocational training benefits everyone."

WorldSkills International recognizes and thanks Fluke Networks for their support of local and national events in past years, and look forward to the company's involvement on a global scale. We welcome Fluke Network's support and partnership and we look forward to a mutually beneficial relationship in achieving our respective goals and objectives.

For more information please visit: [www.flukenetworks.com](http://www.flukenetworks.com)



*Fluke Networks offers solutions for Enterprise Performance Management, the delivery of application, VoIP and network performance management in a converged network environment.*

## Upcoming WorldSkills events

Do you have events that you want to see here? Send them to [michelle.bussey@worldskills.org](mailto:michelle.bussey@worldskills.org) by the first of every month.

Date:	Event:	Website/Contact:
Apr. – Oct. 2007	UK-wide Competitions – United Kingdom	<a href="http://www.skillschallengecompetitions.org.uk">www.skillschallengecompetitions.org.uk</a>
May 2007	National Skills Competition – Ireland	<a href="http://www.education.ie">www.education.ie</a>
June 6 - 9, 2007	13th Canadian Skills Competition – Saskatoon, SK, Canada	<a href="http://www.skillscanada.com">www.skillscanada.com</a>
June 25 - 29, 2007	43rd annual National Leadership & Skills Conference - USA	<a href="http://www.skillsusa.org/events/nlsc.shtml">www.skillsusa.org/events/nlsc.shtml</a>
August 2007	Olimpíada do Conhecimento Goiás - Goiânia-Goiás, Brazil	<a href="http://www.senai.br">www.senai.br</a>
Nov. 14 - 21, 2007	39th WorldSkills Competition – Shizuoka, Japan	<a href="http://www.worldskills2007.com">www.worldskills2007.com</a>
Apr. 2008	National Competition – Jamaica	<a href="http://www.heart-nta.org">www.heart-nta.org</a>
April 16 – 19, 2008	National Skills Competition (Preselection for WSC2009) - Luxembourg	<a href="http://www.luxskills.lu">www.luxskills.lu</a>
Sep. 8 – 12, 2008	General Assembly & Leaders Forum – Vienna, Austria	<a href="http://www.worldskills.org">www.worldskills.org</a>
Sept 18 - 20, 2008	EuroSkills Competition – Rotterdam, NL	<a href="http://www.euroskills2008.nl">www.euroskills2008.nl</a>
Sep. 2 - 5, 2009	40th WorldSkills Competition – Calgary, Alberta, Canada	<a href="http://www.worldskills2009.com">www.worldskills2009.com</a>
Oct. 6 - 9, 2011	41st WorldSkills Competition – London, England, United Kingdom	<a href="http://www.worldskills2011.com">www.worldskills2011.com</a>



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