




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

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## News from WorldSkills International



### Editorial

By Christine Scoot

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.

In this issue we are introducing a new section that we call 'Spotlight on'. We start off with highlighting some of our very hard working Chief Experts, whose commitment to WorldSkills International deserves to be in the spotlight. We plan to continue this section and welcome Experts to submit their stories to us for future issues.

Of course, we cannot have such an Expert section without also focusing on our true reason for existing; the young Champions. We are looking forward to sharing the Champions' amazing stories with you and we welcome any profiles on Champions to be shared with the rest of the world.

The WSI Newsletter is gaining more readers with each issue we distribute. It is currently distributed directly to approximately 5315 people worldwide. We are aware that from our direct mailout of the Newsletter, there are many more indirect mailouts occurring. For example, recipients of the direct mailout forward it to their counterparts and colleagues but these are not included in our readership of 5315. We encourage all Members to forward the Newsletter or to provide us with your distribution list, to enable us to distribute the Newsletter to your contacts directly. Through the current subscribers, WSI reaches all 49 Member countries/regions and 76 non-Member countries/regions. The largest non-Member readerships are located in the Russian Federation, Pakistan, Ghana and Nigeria.

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



## What was the impact of the International Skills Festival for All 2007?

By The Japanese Organising Committee for the International Skills Festival For All

More than 41,000 students from primary, junior and senior high schools in Shizuoka and 23,000 students from Shizuoka prefecture had the opportunity to experience first hand knowledge in so many professional skills. It was a once-in-a-lifetime-opportunity for the students to find out about so many skills and trades in one location. The WorldSkills Competition improved the image of vocational training, skills and trades through committed Competitors and Experts.



The WorldSkills Competition in Shizuoka provided activities and exchange for international friendship, by making the Competitors Village a reality and by providing the unique 'One School One Country' program. WSC2007 was the most magnificent event ever held in Shizuoka, considering the time duration and the number of participants and visitors. Hotels and facilities in Shizuoka implemented Universal Design for accessible, comfortable and safe use by everyone.

The media encouraged the public awareness by highlighting the young Champions and their professional skills. National media (NHK) broadcasted the profile of the 39th WorldSkills Competition in a 60 minute Special TV program in December 2007 and another 90 minute live TV program on the 'Coming of Age Day', January 14 2008. It was an eye opener for the young public and it also reached out to business people. Shizuoka Prefecture and its surrounding cities have become well known in the whole world.

The final official evaluation of the WorldSkills Competition will be done at a JOCISF meeting this month.

For more information please contact: Mitsy Kawakami, JOCISF [m-kawakami@skillsfestival2007.or.jp](mailto:m-kawakami@skillsfestival2007.or.jp)



## WorldSkills partnership between Korea and India to disseminate high performance skill standards

By WorldSkills International

Representatives of WSI Members from Korea and India, along with representatives from Global Sponsor Partner SAMSUNG, and two WSI Executive Board members were hosted last month by the Confederation of Indian Industries in New Delhi.

The purpose of the meeting, chaired by WSI President Jack Dusseldorp, was to develop an innovative skills partnership to generate benefits not only for Korea and India, but also for the wider WSI membership, particularly in the Asian region.



The initiative responds to one of the goals in the WorldSkills Action *Students at a vocational institute visited by*



Plan, adopted in Shizuoka, to develop training and learning resources and support that help achieve WSI's mission to promote skills across the world. *the Korean delegation.*

Korea is one of WSI's longest standing Members with one of the strongest performance records. Many Korean champions further enhance their skill level by working for SAMSUNG. As a WSI global sponsor, SAMSUNG will support the partnership initiative through sharing the expertise of its medallist employees as well as covering on-line training development costs associated with the partnership. HRD Korea is also keen to share its skills competition 'know how' by providing access to its training programs and standards as well as management training for those individuals in India and other Asian countries who are responsible for organising skills competitions.

Through one of the SAMSUNG associated companies, Credu - a provider of e-learning expertise and materials to companies and institutions around the world - a proposal was made to collaborate with Skills India to develop and pilot 2 or 3 high performance e-learning modules featuring Korean skill champions and piloting them in the Indian VET system to see whether they effectively transmit WSI performance standards in key manufacturing and service sector skills across different cultures.

India, with its highly developed IT skills and familiarity with e-learning systems, was seen to be an ideal testing ground to see whether "hands on" skills could be effectively enhanced utilising the latest IT interactive technology, along with face to face instruction, to a range of ability groups in a trial of some 1,000 students.

If the approach proves to be successful, it is proposed to expand the skills e-learning system for use by all members through the WSI website.

For its part, the Confederation of Indian Industry plans to establish a WorldSkills Learning Centre as a dissemination hub for skill standards with support from international and national sponsors. This will be the first such centre to be created under the WorldSkills banner anywhere in the world.

Speaking after the meeting, President Dusseldorp said,

*"The combination of an E-Learning Skills initiative backed by SAMSUNG, and the first WorldSkills Learning Centre to be set up here in India by CII will make a huge contribution to our shared goal to bring high skill performance standards to young people who currently don't have access to them. This partnership initiative underscores the value of WorldSkills as global network of individuals, agencies and companies committed to shared success in skills and prosperity."*



## Sparks are flying in Sweden for Nigel

By Mikaeli Costello, WorldSkills Champions Exchange Coordinator

Sweden and the United Kingdom might both form part of the European Community, but for 2003 WorldSkills Champion, Nigel Dunlop, life in Oskarshamn, nestled in Sweden's south, is a world apart from his hometown in Northern Ireland. For starters, he no longer jumps in his car and listens to the radio as he travels to work, instead he mounts his bicycle and pedals 10 minutes in near-freezing temperatures to begin his day as an Electrician at DynaMate.

DynaMate, owned by Swedish commercial truck and bus company, Scania, specialises in production and facilities maintenance for industrial customers in Sweden and is Oskarshamn's largest employer - boasting more than 2000 employees. It has a further two plants in the middle and northern parts of Sweden.



Nigel, a Mechatronics Champion, has a strong background in both electrical and mechanical engineering and has spent the last few years building on his engineering skills. Part of his compulsion to take part in the WorldSkills Champions Exchange program was to expand on his electrical skills, a challenge he's so committed to he's even been working overtime to learn as much as he possibly can during his six-month placement.



*'As I'm becoming more familiar with my new workplace, I'm wanting to learn more about the electrical aspects of skill and really take advantage of the opportunities at DynaMate. I've been going in on Saturdays to help out a colleague, so I can watch, learn from and assist him as much as possible.'*

During the past few months Nigel has been making the most of opportunities to integrate with locals in the small Swedish town. He's joined the company gym, started playing badminton and found himself a big fan of ice hockey, attending all of his local team's 'home' games.

And like any foreigner living in a new country, Nigel too has encountered his share of challenges.

*'I started a language course in December to help me with my Swedish, and as most of the machines technical descriptions are in Swedish, it's taken some time to get my head around things. It's certainly a challenge, but all my co-workers speak very good English and are always on-hand to help out when I need it.'*

And so, what's in store for Nigel at the end of his 6 month placement?

*'Knowing what a great opportunity I've been given here in Sweden, and now that I've taken the first step in my global career, I can't see myself returning back to Northern Ireland any time soon. I'm talking with DynaMate about extending my contract, perhaps working in another of their plants... or I might even try another country. Anything's possible at this stage.'*

For more information please about the WorldSkills Champions Exchange program, contact Mikaeli Costello: [mikaeli.costello@worldskills.org](mailto:mikaeli.costello@worldskills.org)



## 2007 VIP Experience review

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

Overall the 2007 VIP Experience was a great success. With just over 100 participants from 14 different countries/regions, the VIP Experience presented a great opportunity to network and share knowledge. On a survey that we distributed to the participants, the VIP Experience was rated very high, with lots of great feedback and suggestions for the 2009 VIP Experience. By far, the VIP tour of the actual Competition site was viewed as the most enjoyable aspect and something that we plan to extend in the future. 97% of survey respondents said that this experience has made them more inclined to be involved with WorldSkills in their own country/region.

Dr. Ji Oh Song, Executive Vice President/Senior Advisor for Samsung Electronics Co. Ltd., gave a wonderful keynote presentation on "New Technology Transforms Skilled Work" during the WorldSkills Leaders Forum. The audience was captivated and engaged throughout the entire time. To view a copy of Dr. Song's presentation please visit: [www.worldskillsleadersforum.com](http://www.worldskillsleadersforum.com)



The Global Skills Seminars were also a huge success. The four seminars ran twice and both times they were well attended. The four topics were: "Why Competitions? The need, the support, the legacy"; "The Youth Experience"; "Raising the bar in Competitions in 2009, 2011, and beyond"; and, "State of the art methods to promote the image of skills". Many Global Sponsor Partners graciously gave their time to help lead the seminars or to engage the participants in the audience. The feedback from this event was very positive, the VIPs were able to network and learn a great deal about initiatives happening throughout the world. We are looking forward to planning for the 2009 VIP Experience and making it even better.

We look forward to launching details of the Calgary 2009 VIP Experience at the General Assembly in Vienna in September. In the interim, we encourage you to consider key stakeholders in your country/region who would benefit from participating. We found that for 2007 many key people were unable to attend as their time is in such high demand, and their diaries were full before they received their invitations. Although the key program details are not yet set, it is not too early to be letting them know the key dates : September 1-6, 2009.





For more information about the VIP Experience 2009 please visit: [www.worldskills.org](http://www.worldskills.org) or contact Michelle Bussey: [michelle.bussey@worldskills.org](mailto:michelle.bussey@worldskills.org)







## The Government of Canada supports the 40th WorldSkills Competition in Calgary 2009

By Service Canada - News release

On March 7, the Honorable Monte Solberg, Minister of Human Resources and Social Development, announced the funding of \$13.4 million for the 40th WorldSkills Competition in Calgary, Canada.

*"The Government of Canada is committed to creating the best educated, most skilled, and most flexible work force in the world," said Minister Solberg. "Our partnership with WorldSkills Calgary 2009 will showcase the talents of Canada's young skilled work force. It will also ensure that young Canadians consider opportunities in the skilled trades and technologies, and will encourage more businesses that depend on skilled workers to invest in Canada."*

*"We are committed to staging the best ever WorldSkills Competition," said Richard Walker, President and Chief Executive Officer of WorldSkills Calgary 2009. "The significant support from the Government of Canada is integral to hosting this event."*

The Government of Canada is committing \$13.4 million to this project through its Youth Awareness initiative. Youth Awareness activities, which are delivered by employers, employer associations, and organisations, respond to the changing needs of the labour market and encourage communities to recognise youth as an important part of the work force.

This project reflects the Government of Canada's commitment to creating a strong economy for all Canadians.

### Youth Awareness

Youth Awareness is an initiative, funded under the Employment Insurance (EI) program that complements the Government of Canada's Youth Employment Strategy. Youth Awareness projects are delivered at the national, regional, and local levels. Youth Awareness provides financial assistance for projects designed to address labour-market issues that face communities, which can be used to develop and implement human-resource strategies to meet employers' current and future human-resource needs.



Minister Solberg & Richard Walker with the Calgary 2009 mascots, Tug & Tess



### Spotlight on WorldSkills Experts & Champions

Welcome to the newest addition to the WorldSkills International Newsletter. In this section, entitled 'Spotlight on', we highlight fantastic people who have made an outstanding contribution to WorldSkills International. In this first edition, we focus on some of our very hard working Chief Experts and young WorldSkills Champions.

If you wish to nominate someone for their outstanding contribution in supporting WorldSkills International and raising the awareness of skills, or have a great story about a past Champion, please send a description to [christine.scoot@worldskills.org](mailto:christine.scoot@worldskills.org).



#### Dário Pinto

**Portugal, Chief Expert, Mechanical Engineering CADD**

I'm a Coordinator and trainer in CENFIM - Training Centre of Metal Mechanics area in Porto, Portugal.

I'm responsible for the training and coordination of classes for people up to 25 years of age. I also train professionals in the Industrial CADD area in Portugal and outside the country, particularly in Angola.

I started my involvement with WorldSkills in 2003 in St Gallen, Switzerland, as an Expert. I was also in Helsinki, Finland in 2005 as an Expert where I was elected as Chief Expert for the 39<sup>th</sup> WorldSkills Competition in Japan. I have just been re-elected as Chief Expert for WorldSkills Calgary 2009, Canada.

WorldSkills is an incredible Competition. Where else can you find anything similar, with 850 Competitors, champions of their own country/region - all in the same place during 4 days?

WorldSkills helped me to improve our training system. Now our students are much better professionals, thanks to WorldSkills. Today, I have friends all over the world and those friends are the best specialists in their own country. WorldSkills has helped me to create a very important network of knowledge.

WorldSkills is a friendly and healthy Competition and I'm proud to be a part of it.



#### Jozée Dulude

**Canada, Chief expert, Ladies Dressmaking**

Since 1991, I have been working for the "School Commission of Montreal", at "L'École des Métiers des Faubourgs de Montréal". I am also associated with "L'Institut Supérieur Mode-Beauté" in the fashion department,

As a mother of a 4 year old son, I still always find time for my passion which is to share my skills, knowledge and passion for my trade. This is probably the reason why I first got involved in WorldSkills, since that allows me to teach, exchange and share my knowledge directly and train someone to be the very best and to go beyond the limits to reach their goals.

My strengths are certainly and without any doubts my courage, my determination, my need and will to succeed in everything and to follow my ambitions through.

I have been involved with Skills Compétences Canada as an Expert since 1998, and as a Chief Expert for WorldSkills since 2003, for the WorldSkills Competition in St-Gallen, Helsinki in 2005, Shizuoka in 2007 and I was just re-elected for Calgary 2009.

I feel very privileged to be able to be in contact with the best Experts in the world and share knowledge.

Throughout the years the team of Experts and I have developed an unbelievable partnership and despite our differences in language, culture and tradition, we have learned to value and to cherish our differences.

My involvement in WorldSkills completely changed my life. It has given me a more true sense of my life and my career. But especially and above all, the Competition gives equal opportunities to certain persons that might not feel like they are with the "elite" at first. That gives hope to a young generation that is sometimes searching for a goal, an idea and a direction to follow in life. It puts back a spark in the eyes of young people and changes the destinies of many.



## Esben Therkildsen

**Denmark, Competitor, Bricklaying, Bronze medal winner & Best of Nation 2007**

Esben went through apprenticeship as a bricklayer for four years alternating between the technical college in Jutland, Denmark and his father's enterprise.

Esben has always been interested in building, so alongside his apprenticeship he designed and built his own house in his spare time and did everything except the plumbing and electricity. He financed everything by ending his DJ career and selling all of his DJ equipment.



The day after he passed his final test he started his own bricklaying company. After winning the National competition in 2006 he participated in the Irish Skills Competition and he also won the Nordic championship in bricklaying. He also went to Australia as preparation for Japan because in Australia they use the same kind of materials as in Japan.

Esben is now studying to become a Building constructor, an architect's right hand, in Aarhus, Denmark for the next 3 ½ years.

*He says 'I am seriously thinking about becoming a teacher because after participating in all the skills competitions I would really like to pass on experience and knowledge about the finer details of bricklaying to other young people'.*



## Miia Sironen

**Finland, Competitor, Restaurant Service, Gold Medal Winner, Best of Nation 2007**

Miia received a wait staff qualification from the Jyväskylä Vocational Institute in 2004 and she has worked at several top restaurants and bars since then. Miia has international experience as well, as she has done internships in Spain and Cyprus. Miia also has gotten experience from competitions she has participated in over the past four years. Miia was prepared for the competition by practising the multiple restaurant tasks with her coach every week. Miia likes restaurant work a lot and she intends to continue working in the sector also in the future.







## Prime Minister congratulates UK's Skills Champions

By UK Skills

Prime Minister Gordon Brown held a reception at Downing Street on January 8, to honour the 22 talented young people who represented the United Kingdom (UK) at the WorldSkills Competition in Japan, 2007, the largest and most prestigious skills competition in the world, and to look forward to 2011, when the UK will host the Competition.



*The Prime Minister shaking hands with Gary Tuddenham who won the gold medal in cabinetmaking.*

The Prime Minister, who was joined by Secretary of State for Innovation, Universities and Skills John Denham and Minister for Skills David Lammy, met with all 22 team members, alongside apprentices from Westminster Kingsway college, who provided the catering for the event. Employers in attendance included Ian Knapper Stonemasons Ltd, employer of George Plant (Stonemasonry), Claridge's Hotel, employer of Graham Squire (Cooking) and The Edward Barnsley Workshop, employer of gold medal winner Gary Tuddenham (Cabinet Making).



**The Prime Minister said:** *"I was delighted to meet the participants from WorldSkills 2007 last night. Ensuring that the UK has a skilled workforce is fundamentally important to our future economic growth and recognising and developing talent is a vital part of that. What these young people have achieved with their commitment and determination to do well is outstanding, and it has placed them as superb role models. I pass on my heartfelt congratulations to the whole team for all of their efforts and wish them every success for the future."*

**Secretary of State for Innovation, Universities and Skills, John Denham said:** *"The inspiring results achieved by the UK competitors prove that we have the talent in this country to take on the best in the world. Every team member has played an important role in building pride in British skills and in showing what we are capable of when we unlock the skills and talent of our young people. I believe that skills will be the foundation on which we build more successful companies and a healthier society. I want every employer to make a full commitment to vocational and skills based training, unlocking the potential of their employees to contribute to our local, national and international competitiveness."*

**Skills Minister David Lammy said:** *"I congratulate the UK team and pay tribute to their achievement. I hope their success motivates employers and staff in every sector to follow suit by investing in their own skills development, enabling us to do even better when we host the 2011 Competition. The government is committed to providing skills advice and training to suit the needs of every company, so there is no excuse for not engaging with the challenge."*

**Chris Humphries, Chairman of UK Skills said:** *"Since the team were selected almost a year ago, we have watched them grow in confidence and skill. They are an inspiration to everyone, they have given up their spare time, worked incredibly hard and can now proudly say that they have competed against the best of the best of the World "*

For more information, please contact: Kathryn Crookenden - UK Skills 0207 612 9261 or [kathryn.crookenden@ukskills.org.uk](mailto:kathryn.crookenden@ukskills.org.uk)



## Skills Masters win for best business-to-consumer event

By Skills Netherlands

During the award ceremony of the Dutch National Annual Expo Award, held on December 11, 2007, in the Beatrix theatre, Utrecht, the Netherlands, "Skills Masters", including Arbeidsmarkt, was chosen as best event of 2007 in the category "Business-to-consumer".

This is wonderful confirmation for an event that has proved to be an orientation event for adolescents and young job seekers with a vocational background. Skills Masters is organised by Skills Netherlands and Ahoy Rotterdam.

This award is given to projects which demonstrate that the medium of live communication is a successful integral part of the complete marketing mix. The Dutch national acknowledged Skills Masters as the most successful fair and event concept and the most successful fair participation.

Skills Masters was awarded because of the unique concept, developed for a target group that is difficult to reach, and that adds high value to the event, says the jury report. Also sector organisation Centrum voor Live Communication confirms that Skills Masters offers its visitors the ultimate skills experience of 2007 on a vocational level.

For Skills Netherlands and its partners, winning this award means a confirmation that the path chosen for Skills Masters in 2005, was the right one. It is also an acknowledgement of the efforts made by sector organisations, knowledge centres and sponsors for promotion of vocational education and craftsmanship. Skills Netherlands and Ahoy Rotterdam would like to thank all organisations involved in the past editions of Skills Masters for their trust and dedication.

For more information about Skills Masters 2008 please contact Ingrid van der Heiden: [vanderheiden@skills-netherlands.nl](mailto:vanderheiden@skills-netherlands.nl) or check [www.skillsmasters.nl](http://www.skillsmasters.nl).





### WorldSkills International Strategic Objectives

By WorldSkills International

WorldSkills International is currently addressing a number of key strategic initiatives, as outlined in our review of the "WorldSkills Champions on the World Stage" action plan in the previous edition of this newsletter. The key points of this plan are also outlined in our document "Action Plan - 2008-2011 - Releasing the Full WorldSkills Potential" which can be downloaded as a .pdf file via our website [www.worldskills.org](http://www.worldskills.org).

Within these initiatives, WorldSkills International will continue to actively engage our stakeholders from around the world with several key networking and knowledge sharing events in addition to our Competitions. In this edition, we focus on these.



### WorldSkills Leaders Forum

The WorldSkills Leaders Forum is an annual global event on the most topical themes - based on input from our Delegates and Members. Presented in partnership with our Global Sponsor Partners, the WorldSkills Leaders Forum itself serves as an annual kick-start for the networking process, striving to harness and develop the power of WorldSkills International's global network to meet the needs of industry and commerce and those who train them - to the mutual benefit of all involved.

We very much look forward to the 2008 WorldSkills Leaders Forum, which will be held in conjunction with our WorldSkills General Assembly in Vienna and it promises to be the best yet.



### WorldSkills VIP Experience

The WorldSkills VIP Experience is a programme designed to present the WorldSkills Competition experience - and the WorldSkills Movement - to key Government, Industry and Educational decisionmakers from around the world. For the VIP Experience participants it represents an opportunity to network and share knowledge with their counterparts from around the World; and from our Members' perspective it represents a fantastic way to win the hearts, minds and support of key decisionmakers in their country/region. As outlined in the WorldSkills News Section above, key VIP Experience 2009 program information will be released at the WorldSkills General Assembly in Vienna, but in the interim we encourage all WSI Members to identify key stakeholders in your country/region who would benefit from participating, and advise them to keep September 1-6, 2009 free in their diaries.



*The Vice Governor of Shizuoka welcoming the VIPs to the WorldSkills Leaders Forum*



### WorldSkills Youth Forum

The WorldSkills Youth Forum relates directly to our key strategic initiative of "engaging youth". The youth are not only our *raison d'être* - they are our future. The WorldSkills Youth Forum is a vital opportunity for us to hear, celebrate and act upon the thoughts and suggestions of our past Champions. The last WorldSkills Youth Forum, which was held in Melbourne in May 2006, presented a very well-received report to the WorldSkills movement entitled "Just the Beginning". We trust that the next WorldSkills Youth Forum will build upon this fine foundation, and invite all WorldSkills Members to select and send WorldSkills Champions to act



as their youth ambassadors in Vienna this September.



## **Building strong partnerships**

WorldSkills International is also actively working with our Members in building strong innovative regional skills partnerships, to benefit Members - particularly new Members - in knowledge sharing, skills training development, marketing and both local and regional competition development. As outlined in the WorldSkills News section above, Representatives of WSI Members from Korea and India, along with representatives from Global Sponsor Partner SAMSUNG, and two WSI Executive Board members were hosted in February by the Confederation of Indian Industries in New Delhi to forge such a strategic partnership, which promises to provide wide-ranging benefits across the Asia region.

Also, this month sees several members of the WorldSkills International Secretariat Competition Information Systems team, along with representatives from many Member organisations involved in assisting with the GCC Skills Regional Competition in the United Arab Emirates.



## **Sustainability**

We continue to focus both on the WSI Sustainability Taskforce, being chaired by Tommy Hellström, Official Delegate, Sweden, and also on our Environmental Sustainability program, which will be a key element of the WorldSkills Calgary 2009 Competition.

We also note that several of our Members are already embracing Environmental Sustainability, with particular mention to WorldSkills Australia, who will focus heavily on this at their national competition in July this year.



## Upcoming WorldSkills Events

If you have events that you want to see here, send them to [ellen.coppens@worldskills.org](mailto:ellen.coppens@worldskills.org) by the first of every month.

Date:	Event:	Website/Contact:
Mar. 17-19, 2008	GCCSkills Competition - United Arab Emirates	<a href="http://www.gccskills.org">www.gccskills.org</a>
Apr. 2008	National Competition - Jamaica	<a href="http://www.worldskillsjamaica.org">www.worldskillsjamaica.org</a>
Apr. 16-19, 2008	5 <sup>th</sup> National Skills Competition (Preselection for WSC2009) - Esch sur Alzette, Luxemburg	<a href="http://www.luxskill.lu">www.luxskill.lu</a>
Apr. 16-19, 2008	National Skills Competitions - Espoo, Finland	<a href="http://www.skillsfinland.com">www.skillsfinland.com</a>
Apr. 18-19, 2008	National Skills Competition - Iceland	<a href="http://www.idnu.is">www.idnu.is</a>
May 15-17, 2008	National Competition - Jönköping, Sweden	<a href="http://www.youthskillssweden.com">www.youthskillssweden.com</a>
May 25-28, 2008	Canadian Skills Competition - Calgary, Alberta	<a href="http://www.skillscanada.com">www.skillscanada.com</a>
May 29-30, 2008	SkillsBuild Competition, Nutts Corner, Northern Ireland	
Jun. - Sep. 2008	National Skills Competition - Hong Kong	<a href="http://youthskills.vtc.edu.hk">youthskills.vtc.edu.hk</a>
Jun. 23-25, 2008	44 <sup>th</sup> annual National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) - Kansas City, USA	<a href="http://www.skillsusa.org">www.skillsusa.org</a>
Jul. 11-13, 2008	WorldSkills Australia National Skills Competition - Sydney, Australia	<a href="http://www.worldskills.org.au">www.worldskills.org.au</a>
Sep. 7-11, 2008	WorldSkills Youth Forum - Vienna, Austria	<a href="http://www.worldskills.org">www.worldskills.org</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, Netherlands	<a href="http://www.euroskills.info">www.euroskills.info</a>
Sep. 18-21, 2008	National Competition - Wellington, New Zealand	<a href="http://www.worldskills.org.nz">www.worldskills.org.nz</a>
Sep. 25-30, 2008	National Competition - Korea	<a href="http://www.hrdkorea.or.kr">www.hrdkorea.or.kr</a>
Oct. 14-16 2008	National Competition - Stavanger, Norway	<a href="http://www.worldskills.no">www.worldskills.no</a>
End Oct. 2008	Local Youth Skills Competition - Hong Kong	<a href="http://youthskills.vtc.edu.hk">youthskills.vtc.edu.hk</a>
Nov. 12-18, 2008	7 <sup>th</sup> ASEAN Skills Competition - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia	
Nov. 15-16, 2008	Guangzhou/ Hong Kong/ Macau Youth Skills Competition	<a href="http://youthskills.vtc.edu.hk">youthskills.vtc.edu.hk</a>
Feb. 5-9, 2009	National finals for the Northern region Pas de Calais - Lille, France	<a href="http://www.worldskills-france.org">www.worldskills-france.org</a>
Sep. 1-6, 2009	40 <sup>th</sup> WorldSkills Competition - Calgary, Alberta, Canada	<a href="http://www.worldskills2009.com">www.worldskills2009.com</a>
Oct. 7-12, 2010	WSI General Assembly, Leaders Forum & Youth Forum - Kingston, Jamaica	<a href="http://www.worldskills.org">www.worldskills.org</a>
Oct. 7-12, 2010	4 <sup>th</sup> National Competition - Kingston, Jamaica	<a href="http://www.worldskillsjamaica.org">www.worldskillsjamaica.org</a>
Oct. 5-10, 2011	41 <sup>st</sup> WorldSkills Competition - London, England, UK	<a href="http://www.worldskills2011.com">www.worldskills2011.com</a>





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