In this issue...

News from WorldSkills International

- Editorial
- JOCISF releases International Skills Festival for All 2007 report
- General Assembly 2008
- WorldSkills Youth Forum 2008 update
- WorldSkills Champions Exchange on the WorldSkills Portal

Countdown to WSC2009

- WorldSkills Calgary 2009 moving forward on plans for a multimedia advertising campaign and an integrated Competitor Village

Spotlight on WorldSkills Experts and Champions

- Spotlight on WorldSkills Experts and Champions
- Svein Magnus Gjønvik
- Brigitte Collins
- Konstantin Urlihh
- Michael Carvalho

Focus on: WorldSkills Champions Exchange

- Globetrotting with WorldSkills
- Postcard from Perth
- The Plumber from Down Under learns about skills… the Irish way

Stories from around the world

- Skills Turkey - official signing ceremony
- United Arab Emirates hosts the inaugural GCCSkills Competition in March 2008
- New Director for Skills Belgium
- UK and India sign pact on skills

Upcoming Events

- Upcoming WorldSkills Events

Newsletter archive

Subscribe to newsletter

Download as PDF
A big thank you to all of our Members that have provided us with amazing stories about their Best of Nation Champions. We are very pleased to share these with our Newsletter readers, and invite all WSI Members to send through any profiles/stories that you would like to share with the rest of the world.

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

**JOCISF releases International Skills Festival for All 2007 report**

The 39th WorldSkills Competition in Shizuoka, November 2007, was a great success and a fantastic experience for everyone involved.

The Japan Organising Committee for the International Skills Festival for All (JOCISF) have compiled information and feedback regarding the International Skills Festival for All 2007 (ISF) into their final report, covering aspects of both the WorldSkills Competition and the International Abilympics Competition.

The report covers the Opening and the Closing Ceremony and everything in between and around the event. Excursions, non-competition activities, infrastructure, media, you name it - it's in there.

If you want to read the whole report, please visit [www.worldskills.org](http://www.worldskills.org) and download the .pdf file. The official Competition video has also been made available for your viewing in our Press Room on the same website.

**General Assembly 2008**

The WorldSkills General Assembly (GA), to be held in beautiful Vienna, Austria in September this year promises to be a large, vibrant and productive event. Running concurrently with the GA will be the WorldSkills Leaders Forum (WSLF) and the WorldSkills Youth Forum (WSYF).

The GA meeting schedule will include the meetings of WorldSkills International's Technical and Strategy Committees (comprised of the Technical and Official Delegates respectively, representing each WorldSkills Member Country/Region), along with the WorldSkills International General Assembly at which WSI's Members will decide the host for the 42nd WorldSkills Competition in 2013. As the WorldSkills Competition is becoming an integral part of many countries/regions solution to skills shortages, the opportunity to host a WorldSkills Competition is highly sought after, and strongly contested. The bids are also becoming more extensive with greater promises of media engagement and environmental sustainability. It will be great to see which countries make it to the official bid process in Vienna and the contents of their bids. Good luck to all the bidding Member Countries/Regions.

The WorldSkills Leaders Forum will feature keynote addresses from leading voices in government, industry and education throughout Europe. For more information on the WSLF please visit: [www.worldskills2008.com](http://www.worldskills2008.com).

**WorldSkills Youth Forum 2008 update**

WorldSkills conducted its first ever WorldSkills Youth Forum (WSYF) for a select group of past Competitors in conjunction with the General Assembly (GA) and WorldSkills Leaders Forum in Melbourne, Australia from May 6-11, 2006.
The WSYF objectives are to actively encourage and support the growth of past Competitor alumni networks and associated youth activities within WorldSkills International and its Member organisations and to widen and deepen the effectiveness of WorldSkills International in line with its vision and mission.

In terms of engaging our Competitors within the WorldSkills movement, and providing a forum in which their voices may be effectively heard, celebrated, and acted upon, the WSYF is a key event in the WorldSkills International calendar. We encourage all WorldSkills Members to select and send past Competitors to represent the voice of your skilled youth in Vienna.

Preparations for WSYF2008 are well under way. The theme for this year's Youth Forum is 'WorldSkills Champions on the World Stage' and all the topics relate directly back to the 6 overall Action Plan goals - Releasing the full WorldSkills potential, adopted by the GA in Shizuoka 2007. The Action Plan can be found on www.worldskills.org and the final topics will be released soon.

Skills Austria has done a great job in finding the best locations for the Champions. They will have opportunities to work in a creative environment surrounded by the beautiful gardens of the Springer Schloßl. The hotel is located just a 5 minute walk from the charming Schönbrunn Palace.

Skills Austria has activated registration for the WSYF on the GA2008 website and a detailed schedule will soon be made available.

We have set up a discussion forum dedicated to sharing ideas, suggestions and feedback between the WSYF delegates as well as other past Champions that are unable to come to Vienna. We also welcome participation from the delegates of the WSYF2006, to discuss with the WSYF2008 delegates. The outcomes and final report of the last WSYF. The forum is accessible at http://forum-wsyf.worldskills.org/.

We can’t wait to share more information with you. If you have additional questions please do not hesitate to contact me: christine.scoot@worldskills.org or visit www.worldskillsyouthforum.com where we will add frequent updates regarding the WSYF.

WorldSkills Champions Exchange on the WorldSkills Portal

With more WorldSkills Members joining the WorldSkills Portal, along with the fantastic success to date of our WorldSkills Champions Exchange Program, WSI has been working to enhance the connectivity between these Websites.

A section dedicated to the WorldSkills Champions Exchange (WSCE) program has been added to the Portal, focusing on the amazing stories of past Champions who have taken the opportunity to expand their skills in another country/region of their own choice. The look and feel of this new section of the WorldSkills Portal directly reflects the look and feel of the new WSCE website that will go live in just a few weeks.

You can read some of the stories in this month’s ‘Focus on’ section below or visit the WorldSkills Portal: www.worldskillsportal.com. If you wish to know more about the WSCE program, please contact Mikaeli Costello at mikaeli.costello@worldskills.org.
WorldSkills Calgary 2009 moving forward on plans for a multimedia advertising campaign and an integrated Competitor Village

Preparations for WorldSkills Calgary 2009 (WSC2009) preparation is well under way. With an aggressive advertising campaign started with multimedia avenues, people are already hearing about the event. WorldSkills Calgary 2009 plans on having television, print, internet and electronic advertising throughout local channels but will also provide internet, electronic and print advertising for the international audience. Copies of the television advertisements can be found in the video gallery on the website.

WorldSkills International recently went to Calgary to review and discuss preparations and accommodation for WSC2009. The Competitor Village promises to provide a fantastic environment for our Competitors, with outdoor fields, ice rinks, basketball courts, gymnasiums, libraries and convenience stores all at their doorstep. The local rapid transit system comes right to the Village and is about a 15 minute ride to the Competition site at the Calgary Stampede Grounds.

Stay tuned for more information on preparations for WSC2009.
Spotlight on WorldSkills Experts and Champions

In this section, entitled ‘Spotlight on’, we highlight fantastic people who have made an outstanding contribution to WorldSkills International. In this issue we focus on some of our very hard working Chief Experts and 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.

Svein Magnus Gjønvik

Norway, Chief Expert. Cooking

Position in home country/region
Executive Chef and owner of an educational Catering business (Academy) in Trondheim, Norway

About yourself and your WorldSkills achievements
I have been working as a chef since the middle of the 1970s, with experience both from hotel and restaurants as chef and executive chef. Also with Food & Beverage for a longer period. I have also had my own restaurant with local and international food for 10 years.

I'm active in the Norwegian Chefs association and have been President for this organisation for 4 years, and also Vice President of the Nordic Chefs Association for a period. At the moment I am the Local President here in Trondheim.

Today, I am running my own business with my lovely wife. This is a catering and educational business

I have been an Expert in the skill cooking 5 times, the last 3 as a Chief Expert. I have seen a big change in the skills system, and also a lot of good changes in our own skill.

My first Competition in Montreal, Canada in 1999 was a very open competition with regards to the marking system in the way the competition was held. Today we have blind marking, more objective marking and also a more updated team among the Experts.

We still have challenges, and have possible improvements to make. The quality of the Competitors has also reached much higher standards and this is also a challenge for the experts - to reach the correct level of marking.

When and how did you become involved with WorldSkills?
Our Hotel and Restaurant organisation asked me to take part in the Competition in Montreal, Canada in 1999 - and I'm still going ...

How would you describe WorldSkills in a few words?
This setting is one of the most perfect ways to show the world the craftsmanship and skills. We can show the public that making things by hand and with the brain is a perfect combination!

Anything that you want to add?
Let's keep on with this work, let us cooperate and make the future even more perfect for our young people that will become the chiefs and leaders after us!
Brigitte Collins

Australia, Chief Expert, Restaurant Service

Position in home country:
Acting Head Teacher, Food, Beverage & Event Management
Ryde College of TAFE (Sydney NSW Australia)

When and how did you become involved with WorldSkills?
In 1996 - I became involved with WorldSkills at a College level, writing, convening and judging. In 1999 I became involved with the Sydney Regional Hospitality Committee and in 2000 was invited by WorldSkills Australia to co-write the Regional and National competitions. As a co-writer of the competitions, I was invited to be the Chief Expert in the 2001 Nationals and have continued in that position.

I was fortunate to be invited by TAFENSW to observe the 36th WorldSkills Competition in Korea, 2001 and two years later I was asked to take on the Australian Expert's role in Restaurant Service. As Expert for Australia in St Gallen in 2003 and Helsinki in 2005, I was thrilled to have my Competitors achieve silver and bronze medals respectively, and had the privilege of being elected Chief Expert for my category for Shizuoka in 2007 and re-elected for Calgary in 2009.

How would you describe WorldSkills in a few words?
WorldSkills is a very large family that gets together for a reunion with new family members every two years. Every Member is equally passionate about sharing their knowledge and skills and growing personally and professionally from this experience.

Anything that you want to add?
My WorldSkills involvement gives me access to Regional, National and International standards, this in turn assures me that what we are teaching in the classroom is relevant and up to date with Industry practices.

Konstantin Urlihh

Estonia, Competitor, Cooking, Best of Nation 2007

"I am responsible and hardworking, I like teamwork and enjoy working in a challenging and fast-paced environment with people from different cultural backgrounds. From the early days at the cookery school, I realised a strong passion for creating food. Hard work, constantly seeking new ways to create and experiment in order to transform food from simple necessity to pleasurable fine art!" says Konstantin.

Konstantin attended Kohtla-Jarve Secondary Highschool from 1992 - 2004. At the Tallinn School of Service he studied to become a chef from 2004 - 2006. During the learning process he participated in several competitions and received good ranks - "Best young cook in Estonia" 2005 - 1st place, Contest among cookery schools in Estonia, 2006 - 2nd place, "Goldspoon" competition (held at Tallinn School of Service), 2005 - 4th place. Last year, 2007, when the Estonian team participated in the WorldSkills Competition in Japan, Konstantin received the best result for a Competitor of the Estonian Team, earning him the Best of Nation title.

From August 2005 he has been working in a Gourmet Restaurant "Õ". This restaurant is famous and in 2007, "Õ" was given a great honour to serve a luxurious dinner for the Japanese Emperor during his visit to Estonia.

"Because I have a good understanding of local traditions, I am truly longing to explore the best variety of other cuisines worldwide. Participating in the WorldSkills Champions Exchange
program should be the next important step to achieve this goal. I believe working and socialising with international youth and leading professionals will be of great importance, not only for my professional career, but also for widening my mind and learning new cultures and languages”.

Michael Carvalho

South Africa, Competitor, Graphic Design, Medallion for Excellence & Best of Nation 2007

After leaving High School I decided to go to college and attended Central Johannesburg College for two years where I earned my Nation Intermediate and National Senior Certificates in Arts. After college I went to work for a year at a Computer company as a technician, I then decided I needed to further my education. I decided to merge my two biggest interests; Computers and the Arts into a career in Graphic Design. It didn't take me long to find the right college, Boston Media House. After three years of hard work and dedication I earned my diploma at the top of my class and won the right to represent my country at the WorldSkills Competition in Japan 2007 in the Graphic Design skill. In each and every year of my studies at Boston I have earned myself several distinctions, and in my final year I earned the title of one of Boston's best achievers of 2007.

My Experience in Japan was by far the most rewarding and memorable experience of my life. I went into the competition with only a few weeks worth of preparation, and not knowing what to expect. What I left with was not only new friends, but a whole new look on the design industry and a heightened respect for my profession. I learned the value of my place in society thanks to the Competition. I hope that South Africa as a nation can learn to appreciate the effort, passion and time that goes into every piece of work creative people produce. I believe that South Africa has the talent to compete internationally, and I look forward to seeing how well we do in the next WorldSkills Competition.
Focus on: WorldSkills Champions Exchange

Globetrotting with WorldSkills

By Mikaeli Costello, WorldSkills Champions Exchange Coordinator

Just five months after the WorldSkills Competition and our Competitors are getting restless. Ignited by the fire of WorldSkills, they want to spread their wings. Their destination? Anywhere. These WorldSkills Champions want to see the world.

This month we hear the stories of four WorldSkills Champions who have taken the next step in their WorldSkills adventure. They're seeing new places, learning new things, enhancing their skills and spreading the message that 'WorldSkills Champions are global skills professionals' along the way.

Postcard from Perth

WorldSkills Hairdressing Champions, Sanni Syd and Janna Hellsten, both from Finland, are 2 months into their exchange experience in Western Australia.

Janna is working alongside Australia's Hairdressing Expert, Tony Faranda, at his salon in Central Perth, whilst Sanni is at a nearby salon, House of Ernest.

The girls are in Australia for 12 months. The first six months of which will be spent in Perth, before Sanni and Janna make their way to Sydney for part-two of their Champions Exchange adventure.

"Hi WorldSkills,

Greetings from the Sun!

We’d like to have written sooner... but things have been a little busy. Everything is very fine! The sun is shining and the people are very friendly - we love Australia and Perth!

Work in the salon is great. We have a few clients each day and take Sundays and Mondays off to explore the sights.

Learning English has been fun - sometimes a little difficult - but it gets easier every day :). Our clients enjoy helping us practice our English while we style their hair.

After we finish our exchange here in Perth, we might go to Sydney and do another one! Working and living there would be a nice experience too. Sydney is much bigger and busier than Perth, so we're looking forward to discover another part of Australia. Tony Faranda and the people here are happy to help with arranging this too. We are very lucky!"

The Plumber from Down Under learns about skills… the Irish way

Andrew Whalan, Australian Plumbing Champion has just completed the first month of his WorldSkills Champions Exchange experience in Dublin, Ireland. Working with a network of plumbers across Ireland, he's spending 12 months learning new plumbing techniques. During the course of his exchange, Andrew will rotate between four companies, organised by WorldSkills Champions Exchange Connector and Chief Expert for Plumbing, John Smartt.
“I chose to take part in the Champions Exchange to further develop and improve my skills and knowledge of plumbing by working with people from other countries, using new materials, and learning about different products on the market,” Andrew said.

His first post is with Dublin based plumbing contractors Haughton & Young, specialists in Plumbing and Heating, Environmental Service and Mechanical and Electrical contracts. Here Andrew will learn the antipodean way of installing plumbing services for both domestic and commercial purposes, including everything from hydronic heating to fire service and gas systems - quite different to his experiences ‘Down Under’.

Andrew is joined in Dublin by his Australian girlfriend Lauren, who used her restaurant service skills and WorldSkills connections to pick up work in a local Café.

Before the pair kick-started their work life in Ireland, they took time to embark on a road-trip exploring the green hills and seaside towns of country Ireland. They’ve kissed the Blarney stone, climbed the highest mountain on Valencia Ireland and paid a visit to Muckross House.

So, what do they think of life in Ireland?

“We’re settling in now, but it’s certainly a little colder than Australia is this time of year’. ‘We’ve seen some great sites, and are enjoying the Irish humour and hospitality - it really is a beautiful country”.

Andrew and Lauren in Dublin.
Skills Turkey - official signing ceremony

By Skills Turkey

Turkey, with a 70 million population and growing industry, has established "Skills Turkey". Gazi University and the Ministry of National Education signed an agreement on March 25, 2008. Gazi University is one the largest Government (state) universities, providing both academic and vocational qualification in Turkey. The agreement was signed by the Rector of Gazi University, Prof. Dr. Kadri Yamac and the Undersecretary of the Ministry of National Education, Muammer Yasar Ozgul.

Many public, government and private organisations joined the signing ceremony on March 25, 2008 at Gazi University. Most of the speakers at the signing ceremony indicated that Turkey is now on the way to prove Turkish skills to Europe and worldwide. Participation in WorldSkills and EuroSkills will also help Turkey to assess Turkish skills internationally and develop more skills which will help Turkish National Vocational Qualifications. Five directorates from the Ministry of National Education are directly involved with Skills Turkey. Also Gazi University supervises Skills Turkey directly from the Rector and the Vice Rector offices. This administration proves that Skills Turkey is becoming a very important development for Turkey.

Ugur Erkush - Training Consultant and Chief Advisor, Gazi University has been communicating with WorldSkills for many years. Turkey has been interested in joining WorldSkills since 1988, and the establishment of Skills Turkey marks another significant step in this process.

In October 2007 Turkey held a National EuroSkills Seminar.

Also, for the first time, Turkey sent official delegates to a WorldSkills Competition in Shizuoka, Japan in 2007, and during this time met with WSI President Jack Dusseldorp and Secretary General David Hoey. Jack Dusseldorp also presented Turkish delegates to the WorldSkills International General Assembly in Japan.

The temporary Web site for "Skills Turkey" is http://ktogm.meb.gov.tr/skills.asp
Please also see the Ministry of National Education web site below: www.meb.gov.tr or the Gazi University web site: www.gazi.edu.tr or contact: Ugur Erkush: Direct Tel: + 90 312 3627615, Gazi University: +90 312 2131214, E-mail: junterion@superonline.com

United Arab Emirates hosts the inaugural GCCSkills Competition in March 2008

By Emirates Skills

The Cooperative Council of the Arab States of the Gulf, referred to as the Gulf Cooperative Countries (GCC) is comprised by six states - Sultanate of Oman, United Arab Emirates, State of Qatar, Kingdom of Saudi Arabia, Kingdom of Bahrain and State of Kuwait.

The 1st Regional Competition (GCCSkills) was held in Al-Ain City in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates (AE) from 17 to 19 March 2008.

"Skill" is a new terminology in this Region and there is no awareness among the population on its importance to the society and economic development of a country. Even though AE and SA are Members of WorldSkills International and with our participation in the WSC, we still find it difficult to get institutions involved in supporting and
promoting skills whether in their own institutions or outside.

The 1st GCCSkills Competition has broken the ice layer, laid down a foundation, created a platform on which various GCC countries come together to discuss, evaluate and up-grade their vocational skills and vocational training and create a necessary awareness campaign to meet our Regional needs. Our aim is to involve all parties that will play an important role and contribute in this project - the Government, business, educational institutions and organisations, employer and employee organisations and centres of knowledge.

The 1st GCCSkills Competition had 5 out of 6 GCC countries participating, (State of Qatar could not participate). It was a three day competition in seven selected vocational skills. It also consisted of:

- Seven Demonstration Skills and three "Benchmarking" skills.
- Professional development for GCC experts and Team Leaders
- Symposium for VIP from Gulf States
- Two Different Forums for both Industrial & Educational Institution Leaders and College & University Students
- GCC Skill Village and Exhibition

The participating Gulf States put all their effort in support of this competition and rendered all possible help to assure its success. It goes without saying that the success of this event could not have been possible had it not been for the sincere support and guidance we received from WSI, the different Member Countries/Regions and finally this was only possible due to the personal interest and generous support of H.H. Sheikh Mohammed Bin Zayed Al-Nahyan, Crown Prince of Abu Dhabi, Deputy Supreme Commander of the Armed Forces. He has now instructed the Institutes of Applied Technology and Emirates Skills to take all necessary steps needed to raise standards of our vocational students and pay ongoing attention to competitions, vocational training in all their facets and set out strategy that ensures a reach and impact that aims to be ongoing which enables meet the WSI standards.

The end beneficiary was not only AE but all other Gulf countries. Emirates Skills is very thankful to all those who stood with us to see to the success of this event.

To this success, Emirates Skills will play a leading role to coordinate and bring the Gulf States parties together. By combining forces, the opportunity for achieving individual, national and regional objectives in the presentation and promotion of skills and vocational education is much greater.

New Director for Skills Belgium

By Skills Belgium

Dominique Nothomb a communication and direct marketing specialist, has been appointed Director of SkillsBelgium. With her 15 years of professional experience, four of them in service as the main operator of vocational training in French speaking Belgium, Dominique is expected to boost the promotion of the technical professions at SkillsBelgium.

In addition to the initial mission that has been carried out for 10 years by SkillsBelgium - the participation of young Belgian professionals in international competitions - Dominique has been entrusted with the development of a vast horizontal marketing project in French speaking Belgium. Co-funded by the European Social Fund, this innovative communication program is taking place in partnership with local authorities, the main training operators as well as education networks, professional sectors and businesses. The SkillsBelgium team, now composed of three people, will soon be reinforced by the recruitment of three new members of staff.

Amongst the first results of the project launched in August 2007, there has been important media coverage of the WorldSkills Competition, and the introduction of the StarTechs, the two characters that will incarnate the promotion of the technical professions. In 2008 and 2009, other actions will be undertaken, such as a multi-blog website for teenagers, the organisation of "youth contact days", of "skills discovery days" and diverse media
UK and India sign pact on skills

By UK Skills

A Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UK Skills and WorldSkills India was signed in New Delhi on January 19, during UK Prime Minister Gordon Brown's summit with India. The MOU was signed by General Mehta, Director General of the Confederation of Indian Industry (CII), which manages WorldSkills India, and Simon Bartley, Chief Executive of UK Skills. UK Secretary of State for Business, Enterprise and Regulatory Reform, the Rt Hon John Hutton MP, and Indian Minister of Commerce and Industry, Mr Kamal Nath, witnessed the signing.

WorldSkills India formally joined the WorldSkills International family in 2007. UK Skills and its principal sponsor City & Guilds have had dealings with General Mehta and colleagues at the CII since his appointment as Director General of CII in May 2006, when they met in Melbourne, where the UK team bid to host WorldSkills 2011.

This friendly and positive relationship provided the foundation for WorldSkills India and UK Skills to sign the MOU to enhance cooperation in vocational skills. The two bodies will mutually support and share experiences on the development of their national skills teams and participation at WorldSkills competitions. Insight into UK Skills' experiences in hosting WorldSkills London 2011 will assist WorldSkills India towards its stated aim of hosting a future WorldSkills competition.

The agreement also ensures both UK and Indian Competitors and Technical Experts can benefit from exchanges, including participation in each other's national competitions.

Simon Bartley said "This agreement is particularly appropriate given the UK's extraordinarily involved past and our continued strong links with India, as well as the active role organisations like City & Guilds have had in the field of skills development in India."
## Upcoming Events

### Upcoming WorldSkills Events

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

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date:</th>
<th>Event:</th>
<th>Website/Contact:</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Apr. 11-Dec. 18, 2008</td>
<td>Switzerland-wide, National Skills Competitions - Switzerland</td>
<td><a href="http://swisscompetence.ch/">http://swisscompetence.ch/</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 15-17, 2008</td>
<td>National Competition - Jönköping, Sweden</td>
<td><a href="http://www.youthskillssweden.com">www.youthskillssweden.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 25-28, 2008</td>
<td>Canadian Skills Competition - Calgary, Alberta</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skillscanada.com">www.skillscanada.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 29-30, 2008</td>
<td>SkillBuild Competition, Nuts Corner, Northern Ireland</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>May 30-Jun. 1, 2008</td>
<td>IMPACT Muang Thong Thani - near Bangkok, Thailand</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun. 10-16, 2008</td>
<td>Brazilian National Competition - Blumenau, Santa Catarina, Brazil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun. 23-25, 2008</td>
<td>44th annual National Leadership and Skills Conference (NLSC) - Kansas City, USA</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skillsusa.org">www.skillsusa.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun. 23-29, 2008</td>
<td>National Skills Competition - Makasar, Indonesia</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jun. 25-30, 2008</td>
<td>Brazilian national competition - Curitiba, Paraná, Brazil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Jul. 23-28, 2008</td>
<td>Brazilian National Competition - Porto Alegre, Rio Grande do Sul, Brazil</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 7-11, 2008</td>
<td>WorldSkills Youth Forum - Vienna, Austria</td>
<td><a href="http://www.worldskills.org">www.worldskills.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 8-12, 2008</td>
<td>General Assembly &amp; Leaders Forum - Vienna, Austria</td>
<td><a href="http://www.worldskills.org">www.worldskills.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sept. 18-20, 2008</td>
<td>EuroSkills Competition - Rotterdam, Netherlands</td>
<td><a href="http://www.euroskills.info">www.euroskills.info</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 18-21, 2008</td>
<td>National Competition - WelTec (Polytechnic), Wellington, New Zealand</td>
<td><a href="http://www.worldskills.org.nz">www.worldskills.org.nz</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 25-30, 2008</td>
<td>National Competition - Korea</td>
<td><a href="http://www.hrdkorea.or.kr">www.hrdkorea.or.kr</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 14-16, 2008</td>
<td>National Competition - Stavanger, Norway</td>
<td><a href="http://www.worldskills.no">www.worldskills.no</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Website</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>----------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 31-Nov. 3, 2008</td>
<td>National Competition, Japan</td>
<td><a href="http://www.javada.or.jp">www.javada.or.jp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 3, 2008</td>
<td>Skilled Trades Day Canada - Across Canada</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skillscanada.com">www.skillscanada.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 15-16, 2008</td>
<td>Guangzhou/ Hong Kong/ Macau Youth Skills Competition</td>
<td><a href="http://www.ite.edu.sg/wss/index.html">youthskills.vtc.edu.hk</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>February 2009</td>
<td>Skills on the Hill 2009 - Ottawa, Ontario</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skillscanada.com">www.skillscanada.com</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feb. 5-9, 2009</td>
<td>National finals for the Northern region Pas de Calais - Lille, France</td>
<td><a href="http://www.worldskills-france.org">www.worldskills-france.org</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 5-9, 2009</td>
<td>Skills Masters, National Competitions - Rotterdam, the Netherlands</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skillsmasters.nl">www.skillsmasters.nl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 5-9, 2009</td>
<td>Skills Talents, National Competitions - Rotterdam, the Netherlands</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skillstalents.nl">www.skillstalents.nl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 11-13, 2009</td>
<td>National Competition - Santarém, Portugal</td>
<td><a href="http://194.65.119.130/profissoes/Historia.aspx">http://194.65.119.130/profissoes/Historia.aspx</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 20-23, 2009</td>
<td>Skills Grand Prix, Japan</td>
<td><a href="http://www.javada.or.jp">www.javada.or.jp</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 27-29, 2009</td>
<td>National Competition - Brussels, Belgium</td>
<td><a href="http://www.skillsbelgium.be">www.skillsbelgium.be</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 7-12, 2010</td>
<td>4th National Competition - Kingston, Jamaica</td>
<td><a href="http://www.worldskillsjamaica.org">www.worldskillsjamaica.org</a></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Proudly supported by WorldSkills Global Sponsor Partners:

www.worldskills.org