In this issue...

News from WorldSkills International

- Editorial
- WorldSkills Youth Forum – we need your Champions!
- WorldSkills Champions impress the machine industry’s best
- WorldSkills Premiere Experience

Countdown to WSC2009

- WorldSkills Calgary 2009 – Special Supplement

Spotlight on WorldSkills Experts and Champions

- Spotlight on WorldSkills Experts and Champions
- René van den Heuvel
- Guillaume Suteau
- Victor Svensson
- Roland Pirhofer

Stories from WorldSkills Members

- Mexico holds first national competitions
- Icelandic National Youth Skills Competition 2008
- National Skills Week in Jamaica
- National Skills Competition in Luxembourg

Focus on: Autodesk - a Global Sponsor Partner

- Autodesk Committed to Improving Global Design Education

Upcoming Events

- Upcoming WorldSkills events

Editorial

By Christine Scoot, Marketing & Project Coordinator

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.

Members! – bring your Marketing, Promotional and Communications material to the General Assembly

In fulfilling a part of Action Plan Goal A1: “Increase the number of Members who are compliant with the WSI branding guidelines by 2009 to 75% and to 100% of Members by 2011. (e.g. depiction of the WSI brand on their websites and marketing materials)” we need your help. We ask that you bring samples of any promotional material that you have or are going to distribute in 2008/2009 to the WorldSkills General Assembly in Vienna. This will help us gain a greater overview of the compliance rating. An official mailing will be sent out as a reminder.

If you have any questions regarding this request please do not hesitate to contact me: christine.scoot@worldskills.org
Together we can raise the awareness and profile of the WorldSkills movement throughout the world.

**WorldSkills Youth Forum – we need your Champions!**

The WorldSkills Youth Forum (WSYF) is a chance for your past WorldSkills Champions to get their voice, and the voice of your collective WorldSkills alumni, heard within the WorldSkills organisation and a chance to develop the global network of WorldSkills Champions. We need the youth voice to bring freshness and innovation in to the WorldSkills movement, so Members – please don’t let your Champions miss the chance to be heard.

The deadline for registration is **July 24, 2008** and we still need to receive registrations from some of our Members. If you have any questions about the registration process please visit: [http://ibw4.m-services.at/worldskills2008/index_en.php?cont=youth_anmeldung_e](http://ibw4.m-services.at/worldskills2008/index_en.php?cont=youth_anmeldung_e).

The WSYF schedule has just been updated with further details about the various sessions, and the topics have also been made available. This will prove to be a fantastic and pivotal event, with plenty of scope for our young Champions to make a real contribution to the future of the WorldSkills movement. Please visit: [www.worldskillsyouthforum.com](http://www.worldskillsyouthforum.com).

We would also like to strongly encourage all Members to invite all of their past WorldSkills Champions to participate in our WorldSkills Champions’ discussion forum ([forum-wsyf.worldskills.org](http://forum-wsyf.worldskills.org)) where quite a few people have already started actively discussing thoughts and ideas on the future of the WorldSkills movement. Please note that this discussion forum is open to all WorldSkills Champions (past Competitors at WorldSkills International Competitions), not just to WorldSkills Youth Forum participants.

For any further information please contact Christine Scoot: christine.scoot@worldskills.org

**WorldSkills Champions impress the machine industry's best**

By Mikaeli Costello, WorldSkills Champions Exchange Coordinator

When WorldSkills International promised its Champions an exchange program that would open doors to first-class employers, the forward-thinking Human Resources department at Dynamate saw a unique opportunity. Lured by the chance for their staff to work with, and learn from, some of the world’s best skilled young people, Dynamate quickly extended an invitation to WorldSkills Champions into its manufacturing plants.

Home to 1200 staff, work at Dynamate is spread across three-plants; in Sweden’s North, West and just outside of Stockholm. At the core of the business are more than 500 maintenance machines, designed to perform corrective and preventative maintenance for leading truck manufacturer, Scania. These machines are under constant scrutiny to ensure stringent health and safety requirements are met and an efficient flow of production is maintained at all times. Such rigorous procedures have earned Dynamate a reputation for ‘one of the most comprehensive and well-structured maintenance strategies in the industry’.

As the crux of their business, Dynamate is very selective about who they put at the helm of operating this expensive and valuable machinery. So, you might ask, why is Dynamate so keen to invite foreign young people - whom they have not seen, nor met - to work with these machines?

‘Because they’re WorldSkills Champions.’
Despite being young and not speaking Sweden’s native tongue, WorldSkills Champions have all the characteristics that high-quality employers like Scania see as essential.

‘They’re bright, skilled, hardworking and keen to learn,’ says Karina Gjedsted, Human Resources Manager for Dynamate.

‘We see an opportunity with the WorldSkills Champions Exchange to have some of the very best skilled young people work with us, and it helps us reach a new pool of talent outside Swedish borders. These young people not only bring a high level of skill, they’ve got new perspectives and unique experiences that help us to grow and learn.’

Dynamate not only see the business value in engaging WorldSkills Champions at their plants, they’re also keen supporters of the personal development of young people.

‘It’s a win-win situation. We get great workers, but we’re also able to provide young people with an opportunity to travel, experience culture and live away from their homes,’ says Karina.

‘We see great value in global exposure, for both the young people and Dynamate. Our work spreads through the Netherlands, France, Argentina and Brazil, so it makes perfect sense to have a global spread in our employee base too’.

Dynamate is already working with two WorldSkills Champions, from Northern Ireland and Morocco, and are eagerly awaiting interest from other Champions.

‘We have found the WorldSkills Champions to be hard working, fast learners and most of all, they have great personalities. We look forward to working with more of them.’

For more information about Dynamate or the Champions Exchange contact mikaeli.costello@worldskills.org.

WorldSkills Premiere Experience

By Michelle Bussey, Communications and Marketing Director

The WorldSkills Premiere Experience (WSPE), designed specifically with industry, government, and education leaders in mind, is flexible and customizable to meet their needs and match their interests. It is held in conjunction with the WorldSkills Competition to enable participants to see first hand this unique event which showcases young skilled professionals from over 45 countries working and creating at the cutting edge of best practice in their chosen skill or trade. There are several components included in the WSPE to ensure that the participants get a well rounded program filled with networking, information and cultural exchanges.

The 2009 WorldSkills Premiere Experience (WSPE) is under development, and promises to include some key enhancements to the successful 2007 WorldSkills VIP Experience in Japan. The draft schedule has been created. The hotels have been chosen and the package details are being finalised. All this information will be available in early September 2008. If you are interested in participating, or are in contact with individuals or organisations who you feel would benefit from this fantastic opportunity to experience WorldSkills Calgary 2009, please email Michelle Bussey for more information: michelle.bussey@worldskills.org.

WorldSkills International is also looking for submission of proposals for the Global Skills Marketplace. These are 1 – 1.5 hour interactive, networking sessions for the participants of the WSPE. The proposed theme is “Sustainability”. If your organisation would like to conduct one of the Global Skills Marketplace sessions please send a proposal to Michelle Bussey: michelle.bussey@worldskills.org. The deadline for submissions is August 8th, 2008.
WorldSkills Calgary 2009 – Special Supplement

By WorldSkills Calgary 2009

WorldSkills Calgary 2009 together with the Calgary Herald has produced the first of four Special Newspaper Supplements.

The first Supplement was sent out on May 21st, prior to the start of the Canadian Skills Competition and coincided with the WorldSkills International Executive Board, Sustainability Taskforce and Global Sponsor Partners’ visit to Calgary in May.

This 12 page Supplement was filled with information on the 40th WorldSkills Competition, along with profiles on past WorldSkills Competitors. Over 150,000 copies of the Supplement were distributed, including copies direct to every high school student in Calgary.

A PDF copy of the Supplement has been posted to the WorldSkills International website: [www.worldskills.org](http://www.worldskills.org) or download it here: [Calgary Herald Supplement](#).
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.

René van den Heuvel
The Netherlands, Chief Expert, Graphic Design Technology

About yourself and your WorldSkills achievements
My name is René van den Heuvel and I am a graphic and new media designer.

I have been working within the media industry for 25 years and at the same time I have been teaching new media design at the Grafisch Lyceum Rotterdam. I also teach art history and therefore I am very interested in Animation and Film as well as in old and traditional art forms. I especially like architecture and sculpting.

When and how did you become involved with WorldSkills?
The first time I heard of WorldSkills was in 1989, during my first year of education. Our school won a Gold medal for Graphic Design in Birmingham. 2 years later (in Amsterdam) our candidate won a Silver medal in the same category. During this Competition I was involved as a shop master. Then after a long period without any involvement, I was invited to participate as an Expert in Graphic Design at the 36th WorldSkills Competition in Seoul, Korea in 2001. Our candidate achieved a 7th place. I was elected as Deputy Chief Expert for the Competition in St. Gallen, Switzerland 2003. I assisted the Chief Expert Jane Stokie (Australia) with great pleasure and our candidate succeeded in reaching an 8th place. I was elected as Chief Expert for the Competition in Helsinki, Finland 2005 and our candidate was very successful in reaching a 3rd place. Again I was elected as Chief Expert for Shizuoka, Japan 2007 where our candidate managed to reach 18th place out of 23 Competitors.

I have already started the preparations as Chief Expert for the 40th WorldSkills Competition in Calgary, Canada next September.

During all the years many things have changed: communication and preparation for Competitions have improved with the help of the Internet and the WorldSkills discussion forums. It is quite a thrill and I am already looking forward to the upcoming Competition.

How would you describe WorldSkills in a few words?
WorldSkills has many aspects for me: to see young people competing against each other and showing pride about their skills and achievements is one of the very rewarding aspects for me.

And for myself: throughout the years I have been meeting a very special group of designers and other professionals from all parts of the world who I would like to call my friends. Even with all the cultural differences involved, time after time it is of great pleasure for me to be involved in organising and experiencing this great event!

Anything that you want to add?
I am looking forward to the 2009 WorldSkills Competition in Calgary, meeting everybody again, not only from my own skill but also from all the other skills and all the people from WorldSkills International who have always done a great job in putting together a very special experience for young skilled people.
Guillaume Suteau
France, Chief Expert, Plastering

Position in France:
Manager of the Higher Institute of Plastering (structure of les Compagnons du Devoir)

About yourself and your WorldSkills Achievement
I started to learn plastering in September 1994 as an apprentice, and the first
colleague I had was a Competitor at the WorldSkills Competition in
Amsterdam 3 years before. I can say that I was always interested in this
great experience.

I travelled as a journeyman for 9 years, to perfect myself mostly in France but
also in Hungary, Austria and a little bit in South Tyrol.

I won the national competition in 1999 and had the chance to go to the
WorldSkills Competition in Montreal, Canada. I won a silver medal and
 gained a desire to travel and meet people from other countries.

In 2001, I was one of the trainers of the French Competitor.

When and How did you become involved with WSI?
The Plastering skill in WSI had troubles in 2005: there weren’t enough countries and the competition in our trade
was cancelled. France organised a demonstration to show a new vision of this skill. This demonstration worked
and Japan decided to organise the competition as a “Host Member Skill” in 2007.

After this important step, WorldSkills France asked me to take on the Expert role in July 2006 and I hope for a
few years more. Because the presentation’s origin in Helsinki 2005 was French, I was invited to be Chief Expert
in 2007 and was elected for Calgary 2009 as well.

I feel the opportunity to be at this level is a privilege.

How would you describe WSI in a few words?
Amazing, incredible, etc… When we arrive at a WSI event, even if we don’t know anybody, we can be sure that
everybody is there with the same goals and we will be integrated very quickly in a group in spite of our
differences!

Anything that you want to add?
I would like to promote my skill: in a period when we need to save energy to protect our earth, we need
plasterers in the building industry. Plasterers build, separate, isolate and decorate living spaces. They work
inside and outside. The efficiency of a building depends also on their knowledge!

Victor Svensson
Sweden, Competitor, Industrial control, 4th place & Best of Nation

I have always been interested in electrical matters, and started off early with
rebuilding all kinds of devices, from my dad’s stereo to my own electrical
toys.

I first went to a technical college for three years to become an Automation
Electrician in Kristianstad, Sweden. Then after that, I went to college to
widen my education level a little bit further.

After I won the Swedish championship I started to practice at my old school,
Österångsgymnasiet Kristianstad most weekends and in all the spare time I
could find along with the Swedish Competitors for Mechatronics.

I currently work at Ångpanneförening as an Automation Engineer.
The experiences that I gained before, during and after the time in Japan is to me an everlasting memory that I will always have in the back of my mind.

Roland Pirhofer

South Tyrol/Italy, Competitor, Metal roofing, Gold medal winner & Best of Nation

Tranquility breeds strength.

After the vocational school at Bressanone (South Tyrol/Italy), Roland Pirhofer went through apprenticeship as a metal roofer at the company Günther Husnelder. “My strongest points at work are working autonomously, cleanly and accurately”, says the 21-year-old Roland, “if I have set myself a target, I'm trying to achieve it step by step”. This is his formula for success.

After winning the national competition in 2006 his boss wanted him to compete in Metal Roofing at the 39th WorldSkills Competition in Shizuoka, Japan 2007. There he got the gold medal and also achieved the Best of Nation title.
Mexico holds first national competitions

By WorldSkills International

The very first national skills competitions in Mexico held on May 28-31 were a great success. The competitions, held in various venues in Mexico City, included a wide range of skills from Jewellery to Mechatronics and Electrical Wiring.

Mrs. Genny Gongora, the Official Delegate (OD) to WorldSkills International (WSI) who has been the enthusiastic initiator of Mexico’s Membership in WSI, remarked that the competitions branded as “WorldSkills Mexico 2008” generated a lot of enthusiasm and publicity about skills training.

Bernardo Cisneros, Director General of Vocational Training Centres, said he was pleased with the high quality of this first national competition.

WSI Treasurer Laurent Thibault, along with OD Peter Spencer of WorldSkills New Zealand, and Chihab Sentissi OD of Morocco attended as international guests, and participated in the skills conference held in conjunction with the competitions.

Mr. Thibault helped present medals at the closing ceremonies and said he was delighted with Mexico’s plan to have a full team of 21 competitors at the 40th WorldSkills Competition in Calgary, Canada 2009.

Icelandic National Youth Skills Competition 2008

By SkillsIceland

Reykjavík, Iceland

The Icelandic National Youth Skills Competition was held on April 18-19, 2008. This was the fourth National Youth Skills Competition held in Iceland. This year’s competition saw several significant changes, including organisational changes, new skill categories and a longer competition. The competition received considerable media attention and attendance was very good.

The competition was launched by the Icelandic minister of industry, Mr. Össur Skarphéðinsson, who remarked on the importance of raising the profile of vocational education in Iceland and the important role of the national skills competition in that regard. Nearly 60 contestants competed in thirteen skill categories (ten in previous competitions).

The competition ran for two days instead of one day in previous years. This allowed for more elaborate test projects and a more thorough judging process. The stakes were higher for contestants this year, since Iceland has now become a full Member of both WorldSkills International (WSI) and the European Skills Promotion Organisation (ESPO), which organises the EuroSkills Competition. Winners in several skill categories will now prepare for the challenge of competing in these international competitions.
In the future, the Icelandic National Youth Skills Competition will be held biennially instead of annually. This will allow organisers to better plan the event to prepare Competitors for the prospect of taking part in larger international competitions. The competition is expected to continue to grow in the coming years. Several trade organisations have expressed an interest in taking part in future competitions and the organisers already foresee the addition of at least three new skill categories in the next competition to be held in the spring of 2010.

For more information please contact: Mr. Tryggvi Thayer, Project Manager, Idnmennt SES – SkillsIceland. Tel: +354 562 3370, Email: tryggvi@idnu.is Website: www.skillsiceland.is

National Skills Week in Jamaica

By WorldSkills Jamaica

The week April 20-25 was dubbed National Skills Week by WorldSkills Jamaica, and what a week it was. It started on a spiritual footing with a church service at the New Testament Church of God in Mandeville on April 20, 2008. The young pastor who incidentally is a graduate of HEART/NTA delivered a powerful sermon which not only inspired the entire congregation present, but set an excellent tone for the week ahead.

The week culminated on April 24-25 2008 with the National Skills Competition being held under the theme “Celebrate Skills, Discover your Potential.” The competition which is the third annual staging, saw over five hundred competitors from eighty-two institutions across Jamaica showcasing their skills in 47 skill areas. In addition there were three hundred experts and two hundred volunteers facilitating the successful staging of this WorldSkills Jamaica signature event.

The competition was prefaced on April 23, 2008 with a gala opening ceremony at the National Indoor Centre in Kingston. The Governor General of Jamaica, The Hon. Sir Kenneth Hall, who was the official patron of the event, declared the competition opened to over five thousand people in the audience. In his presentation, the Governor General applauded the WorldSkills Jamaica team for hosting the third National Skills Competition and encouraged those present to play their role in placing Vocational Skills on the National agenda.

Several other dignitaries were in attendance at the Opening Ceremony including Ministers of Government, representatives from WorldSkills Calgary 2009, Trinidad, Caricom, industry partners, members of the Board of HEART Trust NTA and key stakeholders in education and training. The ceremony had a combination of thought provoking speeches and excellent entertainment from some of Jamaica’s top entertainers.

The enthusiasm demonstrated by the Competitors, Experts and volunteers at the Opening Ceremony was also evident on the competition days. The competition which was held on April 24-25 2008 took place at the National Arena in Kingston. Over twenty thousand people visited the competition over the two days of competition. The fact that so many people turned up is one of the success indicators of the National Skills Competition.

Thousands of students from several institutions across Jamaica viewed the competition. They were all exposed to the different career options that exist within vocational training. They were allowed the opportunity to “try a skill” and sign up for training programmes within HEART/NTA.

On the evening of April 25, 2008 the Prime Minister, the Hon. Bruce Golding, gave the keynote address to a packed National Indoor Centre at the Closing Ceremony. In his address he emphasised the significant contribution skills make to National Development.

The closing ceremony was filled with excitement as excellence was celebrated. The top Competitors were
issued with their medals. Vincent Barnett, a Competitor in IT PC Support, got the highest score overall. The evening ended on a high with a symbolic handing over of flags. The WorldSkills Calgary flag was handed to Mr. Guy Mallabone from WorldSkills Calgary 2009 to wave in front of the audience. Mr. Kevin Mullings proudly waved the flag for the 2010 WorldSkills General Assembly which is to be held in Kingston, Jamaica and Mr. Simon Bartley waved the flag for WorldSkills London 2011. The three gentlemen received thunderous applause from the audience. Mr. Bartley and Mr. Mallabone also received certificates of WorldSkills Jamaica’s commitment to the sustainability of WorldSkills International. The presentations were made by Mr. Donald Foster, the Executive Director of HEART/Trust NTA.

For more information visit: www.worldskillsjamaica.com

National Skills Competition in Luxembourg

By Centre National de Formation Professionnelle Continue

From 16 to 19 April 2008 the National Centre for Continuous Vocational Training in Esch-sur-Alzette was the venue for the 5th National Skills Competition “Luxskill” and the “Worklife” event.

The events were organised under the aegis of the Ministry for Education and Vocational Training, the Ministry for Labour and Employment, the Ministry for the Middle Classes, Tourism and Housing, the Ministry of Public Works and the Ministry for Agriculture, Viticulture and Rural Development.

The main aims of these initiatives include strengthening links between schools and the world of work, illustrating the breadth of the range of trades available and the techniques involved for the benefit of secondary school pupils and their parents, promoting skilled trades and showcasing the talents of young craftsmen and women whilst preparing them for the competitions at both the European level (EuroSkills) and international level (WorldSkills).

When the competition was first held in the year 2000, with nine skilled trades on show. Subsequent events have been so successful that the number of trades has increased every time, reaching 17 in 2008. Eighty-nine young craftsmen and women pitted their skills against each other. The test projects were similar to those used at the international competition and lasted a total of 22 hours.

Olympiade des métiers nationales

Du 16 au 19 avril 2008 ont eu lieu au Centre national de formation professionnelle continue à Esch-sur-Alzette la 5e édition des concours nationaux des Métiers « Luxskill » ainsi que la manifestation « Worklife ».


Rapprocher le monde scolaire et le monde professionnel, montrer aux élèves et à leurs parents la diversité et la
technicité des différents métiers, favoriser la promotion des métiers, mettre en évidence les talents des jeunes artisans tout en les préparant au mieux pour les championnats européens (Euroskills) et les championnats mondiaux (WorldSkills) des métiers qui se déroulent alternativement tous les deux ans, tels sont les buts principaux de cette organisation.

La première édition en 2000 a vu la participation de neuf corps de métiers. Au fil des années, suite aux grands succès qu’ont rencontrés les différentes éditions, le nombre des métiers participants a augmenté continuellement pour voir en 2008 la présence de 17 corps de métiers. Quatre vingt neuf jeunes artisans se sont inscrits pour se mesurer entre eux. Les projets à réaliser s’aligneront à ceux des championnats mondiaux et s’étendront sur 22 heures de travail.
Autodesk Committed to Improving Global Design Education

By Autodesk, Inc.

With the documented shortage of engineers, architects, designers, and skilled talent in the trades and technical fields in both established and rapidly emerging economies, Autodesk is committed to preparing the next generation of design professionals and technologists. Autodesk has steadily increased its support for education and training programs, and partnerships with educational institutions and nonprofits that benefit educators and students at all levels around the world from North America to Europe, throughout Asia Pacific, and developing countries such as Russia, India and China. The company supports this global teaching and learning community with free and easy access to superior design software, project- and event-based curriculum and training resources, through the Student Engineering and Design Community, which now boasts more than 300,000 registered students and educators worldwide.

"An increasingly competitive world demands the talents of the world’s best and brightest, and Autodesk is more dedicated than ever to inspiring and preparing the next generation of designers and technologists in engineering, architecture, media & entertainment, and related fields," said Paul Mailhot, Senior Director, Worldwide Education Program, Autodesk. "In order to compete in tomorrow’s global workplace, today’s students must be fluent in the technologies and processes used by professionals in the real world. Whether it’s designing green buildings, fuel-efficient cars, sustainable communities, or clean power generation – design is everywhere and has an impact on each of us every day. Through our education programs, Autodesk encourages and supports young people to learn about the high impact of innovative design, and be able to collaborate effectively across disciplines, time zones, and cultures."

It is in this context that Autodesk joined WorldSkills International to celebrate the achievements of young people in trades and technologies, and the sense of contribution to the future of our world that accompanies success in the fields of science, technology, engineering and math. Autodesk was proud to support skills competition and related activities at the 2007 WorldSkills Competition in Japan and is honored to continue our support for the 2009 WorldSkills Competition in Calgary, Canada.

Autodesk also continues to establish partnerships with the world’s leading education institutions to develop Centers of Excellence (COEs) and training facilities worldwide in emerging countries such as Brazil, China, Korea, and Russia. These centers provide faculty and students with digital design tools, multi-disciplinary and project-based curriculum, training, and the state-of-the-art facilities necessary to explore and thrive with new design challenges.

Autodesk has also partnered with non-profit organizations to provide funding, software and resources to educate and inspire students through project-based classroom instruction and exciting, real-world engineering and design challenges. These efforts include:

- Academic Certification for students
- Expanded support of robotics initiatives through FIRST Robotics and VEX Robotics (Innovation First)
- Project Lead the Way
- The Autodesk Student Design Challenge

Knowing that today’s students face challenges that didn’t exist 30 years ago, Autodesk is committed to preparing them to anticipate the world they will face and equip them with the knowledge, tools, and work-related skills necessary to address the challenges and opportunities of the next 30 years. Autodesk will continue to expand its support of existing and new programs and partnerships to ensure a bright future for the next generation of engineering and design leaders. For more information about Autodesk’s education initiatives, please visit www.autodesk.com/education.

Autodesk and AutoCAD are registered trademarks or trademarks of Autodesk, Inc., in the USA and/or other countries.
### 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>swisscompetence.ch/</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sep. 7-11, 2008</td>
<td>WorldSkills Youth Forum - Vienna, Austria</td>
<td><a href="http://www.worldskillsyouthforum.com">www.worldskillsyouthforum.com</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>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. 1-6, 2008</td>
<td>National Skills Competition - Tainan area, Chinese Taipei</td>
<td></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>End Oct. 2008</td>
<td>Local Youth Skills Competition - Hong Kong</td>
<td>youthskills.vtc.edu.hk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 31-Nov.3, 2008</td>
<td>National Competition, Japan</td>
<td></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. 10-19, 2008</td>
<td>7th ASEAN Skills Competition - Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia</td>
<td><a href="http://www.kkr.gov.my">www.kkr.gov.my</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 15-16, 2008</td>
<td>Youth Skills Competition (GHMYSC2008) - Guangzhou/ Hong Kong/ Macau</td>
<td>youthskills.vtc.edu.hk</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Nov. 27-29, 2008</td>
<td>National Competition, Bolzano, South Tyrol/Italy</td>
<td><a href="http://www.worldskills.it">www.worldskills.it</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.skilltalents.nl">www.skilltalents.nl</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Date</td>
<td>Event Description</td>
<td>Location</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>---------------</td>
<td>--------------------------------------------------------</td>
<td>------------------------</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 11-13, 2009</td>
<td>National Competition - Santarém, Portugal</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 20-23, 2009</td>
<td>Skills Grand Prix, Japan</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mar. 27-29, 2009</td>
<td>National Competition - Brussels, Belgium</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Oct. 7-12, 2010</td>
<td>4th National Competition - Kingston, Jamaica</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>