



**THE OMNI-NET PROJECT NEWSLETTER**

**ISSUE no.2  
FEBRUARY  
2007**

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## WELCOME NOTE

### Welcome to the second OMNI-NET newsletter!

The overarching goal of the OMNI-NET project is to provide EU national and regional stakeholders with analyses, methodologies, best practices, joint projects and policy recommendations to facilitate the necessary evolution of clusters in transverse and convergent technologies.

This second issue of the OMNI-NET newsletter provides information on the ongoing project activities (meeting of the partners), concrete results (visits and exchange of information with 3 external clusters) and focuses on one of our partners: SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE.

During the last months, the partners have started working on a very important phase of the project, which is the identification of joint projects and strategies for future development.

By fostering links between all cluster players, OMNI-NET will generate new European research and innovation projects and business opportunities.

We wish you a fruitful and pleasant reading experience!

### The OMNI-NET project partners

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The project is co-financed by the European Commission in the context of the 6th framework programme - Entrepreneurial innovation - Networking the players.

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OPTO  
MICRO  
NANO  
INNOVATIVE  
NETWORK  
EXPLOITING  
TRANSVERSALITY

## PROJECT LIFE

## JENA

### MEETING IN JENA 11-12 DECEMBER 2006

The 15 OMNI-NET partners met in Jena for the second project conference, organised by OptoNet, one of the German clusters in the field of optical technology, and Opticsvalley, the French project coordinator.

On the first day, the partners presented the progress of the last six months on the workpackages concerning the exchange of knowledge and best practice with ten external clusters interviewed and/or visited in Germany, Austria, UK, Luxembourg and Slovakia.

Two parallel working sessions were then organised on the methodology issues of the project (How to create a cluster for a region? Development strategies, financing of a cluster...), and on the dissemination and exploitation of the results and experience gained in OMNI-NET.

On the second day of the conference, workpackage 3 on joint projects and strategies was officially launched. Its main objective is to get the clusters members to network, so they can set up new collaborative research and development projects.

A brainstorming session identified topics of interest to be further discussed. See article below for more details on workpackage 3.

At the end of the meeting, the participants had the opportunity to visit the Fraunhofer Institute for Applied Optics and Precision Engineering. Research and development at Fraunhofer IOF focuses on optical systems technology with a view to continually improving the control of light from generation via guiding and manipulation up to its application.

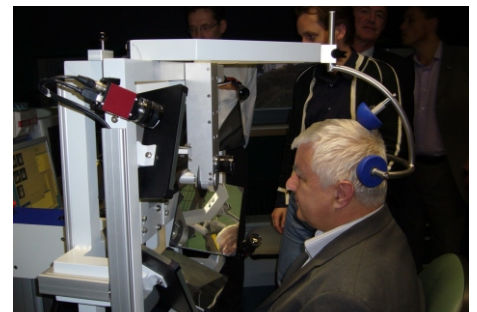
The Fraunhofer IOF is the competent partner to the local, national and international industries and a contractor to the public sector in the field of optics and photonics.

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The next project conference will be held in Edinburgh in May 2007, coordinated by Scottish Enterprise.



CONFERENCE



G-SCAN, MOBILE 3-D MEASUREMENT SYSTEM



SEE FURTHER

<http://www.iof.fhg.de>

## PROJECT RESULTS

### FIRST PROJECT RESULTS

Within the framework of workpackage 2, "Exchange of knowledge and best practices", three external clusters from different sectors have been visited.

In general, these clusters are relatively recent ones (less than 5 years), and they have been created from a "bottom-up" approach corresponding to the needs of the industry.

1. LUXINNOVATION is the National Agency for Innovation and Research and the first-stop shop for research and innovation in Luxembourg. Fiona Gerente, project coordinator at OpticsValley, visited Ian Cresswell, adviser at LUXINNOVATION, on 3rd November 2006. Founded in 1984, the agency became an Economic Interest Grouping (EIG) in 1998, composed of 6 private and public-sector partners in Luxembourg.

Its customised services are provided free of charge by multidisciplinary advisers to offer strategic information on all aspects of innovation and R&D, as well as customised support, partnering and follow up.

In close collaboration with FEDIL, the Luxembourg employers' association, LUXINNOVATION runs three clusters with 90 enterprises :



Luxinnovation is involved in the Interreg "Cross-border aerospace co-operation" project launched in 2003.



To foster synergies in the field of surface finishing and coating, several Luxembourg-based companies launched the "Surface treatment and new materials" (SurfMat) cluster.



The InfoCom cluster aims to foster cooperation and initiate specific projects in the telecommunications sector.



THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE BUILDING  
LUXINNOVATION OFFICES



FIONA GERENTE MET IAN CRESSWELL  
(LUXINNOVATION)

SEE FURTHER

<http://www.luxinnovation.lu>

## PROJECT RESULTS

### 2. AUTOMOTIVE CLUSTER VIENNA REGION

The ACVR is the network for innovative enterprises and trend-setting technologies. The medium and long-term goals of ACVR are the increase of the innovation level and of the creation of value of the enterprises in the Vienna region.

The objective of ACVR is to network the existing expertise in the Vienna region and to initiate innovative projects. The strength of the Vienna region lies in the cross section technologies: not only the classical automobile subcontractors but also **electronics** and **telematics** subcontractors as well as various **service providers**, research, development and educational facilities are ACVR partners. The thematic combination of means of transport and traffic routes are the focus of the network activities.

The ACVR is a common initiative of the regions Vienna and Lower Austria.

Parent organisations of the Vienna Region Beteiligungsmanagement GmbH (VRB GmbH) are Eco Plus, the Lower Austrian Regional Development Agency, as well as the Vienna Business Agency (VBA).

ACVR is a division of the VRB GmbH and has been operational since November 2001.

ACVR provides several services to its business members:

- \* **Economic missions**
- \* **Fair visits**
- \* **Marketing services**
- \* **Specialised meetings**
- \* **Cooperation services**



ACVR BUILDING



FIONA GERENTE MET PETER KUEN, THE CLUSTER MANAGER OF ACVR

SEE FURTHER

<http://www.acvr.at>

## PROJECT RESULTS

### 3. PHOTONICS CLUSTER UK

Photonics Cluster UK is a business network dedicated to supporting the optoelectronics industry in the UK. The overall aim of PCUK in partnership with others is to establish a dynamic hub of activity within an integrated supply chain of researchers, suppliers, manufacturers and sales distributors.

Photonics is a key enabling technology that combines the features of optics and electronics. Photonics or optoelectronics, has spawned advances such as lasers, fibre optics, advanced telecommunications, displays, digital cameras and the digital video disk (DVD).

This commercially focused hub seeks to secure increased profitability of the sector and enhanced knowledge and wealth to the individual members and wider UK optoelectronics community.

#### Services provided by the cluster

PCUK brings to its membership network expertise in the development of photonics related industry convergence events within target areas of automotive, aerospace, medical healthcare, lighting and high precision engineering.

A novel feature of PCUK activities is its ability to provide access to facilities for industry sectors down stream of technology innovation. This interaction can be undertaken at facilities with expertise and demonstration equipment in the areas of 3 D scanning, laser micro machining and processing, photometric analysis, metrology and surface measurement, high speed photography using lasers, optical communication component test and measurement equipment.



GLEN BARROWLAN, FIONA GERENTE AND NINA BLACKMORE

#### SEE FURTHER

<http://www.photonicscluster-uk.org>

## UPCOMING: TECHNICAL COOPERATION

### WP3

#### LAUNCH OF WORK PACKAGE 3

The OMNI-NET partners are now entering a very concrete and strategic phase of the project with the work package 3 on joint projects and strategies.

The key objectives are to identify technologies on which the cluster's members can cooperate, and to provide opportunities for them to meet up and support their matchmaking.

Between April and June 2007, 18 local seminars will be organised on jointly selected technologies by the 6 clusters of the project.

These seminars will lead to the organisation of 3 European conventions in September 2007 in three selected fields gathering the cluster's members.

The local seminars will cover the following thematic fields:

- **Wireless sensor networks**
    - Sensors
    - Transmission of data
  - **Photonics components**
    - Micro-optic systems
    - Optical fibres
    - Laser technologies
  - **Organic electronics**
  - **Nanomaterials**
  - **Personal health systems and monitoring**
    - Diagnosis
    - Biosystems
-

## LOCAL SEMINARS TIMETABLE

OCTOBER 2006	NOVEMBER 2006	FEBRUARY 2007
<p><b>20 October 2006</b>  <b>Photonics BW</b>            Transmission of data,            Micro-optic systems,            Optical fibres</p> <p><b>Stuttgart</b></p>	<p><b>09 November 2006</b>  <b>Photonics BW</b>            Sensors, Laser technologies,            Terahertz-Technology  <b>Freiburg</b></p> <p><b>23-24 November 2006</b>  <b>OptoNet</b>            Laser technologies  <b>Jena</b></p> <p><b>24 November 2006</b>  <b>Optence</b>            OMNI-NET and FP7  <b>Neu-Anspach</b></p> <p><b>25 November 2006</b>  <b>Photonics BW</b>            Laser technologies, Diagnosis,            Biosystems  <b>Stuttgart</b></p>	<p><b>08 February 2007</b>  <b>TeVe</b>            Nanomaterials  <b>Espoo</b></p> <p><b>09 February 2007</b>  <b>Optence</b>            Laser technologies  <b>Darmstadt</b></p>
MARCH 2007	APRIL 2007	MAY 2007
<p><b>14 March 2007</b>  <b>TeVe</b>            Wireless sensor networks,            Photonics components,            Organic electronics</p> <p><b>Espoo</b></p>	<p><b>03 April 2007</b>  <b>OpticsValley</b>            Wireless sensor networks  <b>Paris</b></p> <p><b>26 April 2007</b>  <b>OpticsValley</b>            Laser technologies  <b>Paris</b></p> <p><b>26 April 2007</b>  <b>Optence</b>            Identifying common projects  <b>Mainz</b></p> <p><b>April 2007</b>  <b>OptoNet</b>            Optical fibres  <b>Jena</b></p>	<p><b>May 2007</b>  <b>OptoNet</b>            Sensors</p> <p><b>Jena</b></p>
JUNE 2007	JULY 2007	
<p><b>05 June 2007</b>  <b>OpticsValley</b>            Wireless sensor networks</p> <p><b>Paris</b></p>	<p><b>July 2007</b>  <b>TeVe</b>            Personal health systems and            monitoring  <b>Espoo</b></p>	

## SPOT ON...

### SCOTTISH ENTERPRISE

Scottish Enterprise is Scotland's main economic development agency, funded by the Scottish Executive. Its mission is to help the people and businesses of Scotland succeed. In doing so, Scottish Enterprise aims to build a world-class economy.

The key priorities are to provide a range of high-quality services to:

- help new businesses get underway
- support and develop existing businesses
- help people gain the knowledge and skills they need
- help Scottish businesses develop a strong presence in the global economy

Scottish Enterprise was established by Act of Parliament on 1 April 1991 when the Enterprise and New Towns (Scotland) Act 1990 came into force. The Act merged the former Scottish Development Agency and the functions of the Training Agency in Scotland. Technically, the enterprise is known as an "Executive Non-Departmental Public Body". This means that it is a public body but not a government department or part of one.

The agency has its headquarters at Atlantic Quay in Glasgow. It also has 12 local offices (local enterprise companies) across the country. It covers the southern half of Scotland, from the Grampians right down to the Borders and has approximately 2,500 employees.

Scottish Enterprise has combined its activities to support the microelectronics and optoelectronics industries with a combined strategy. Today the Microelectronics and Optoelectronics cluster includes 360 companies, 380 principal academics, 150 research groups and 14 centres for technology transfer.

A number of major markets have been identified on the basis of their size and growth potential:

- \* Automotive
- \* Renewables
- \* Communications
- \* Medical Devices
- \* Defence & Security

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Scottish Enterprise

#### Members

Companies	360
Principal academics	380
Research groups	150
14 centres for technology transfer	14

#### Technologies

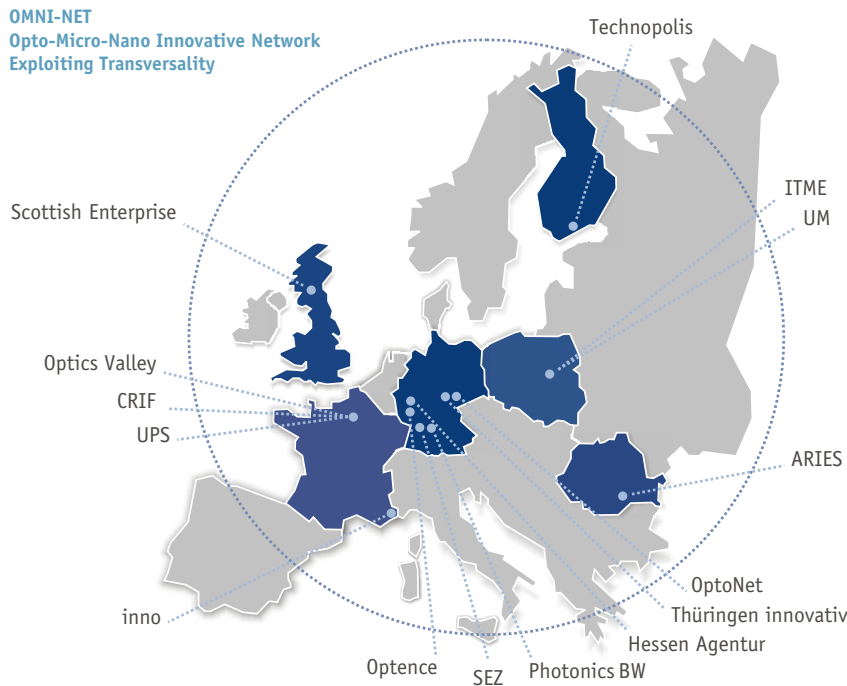
Microsystems Technology; Displays; Lasers; Imaging and Sensing; Reconfigurable Computing; Digital & Analogue Design; Optical Communications & Information Handling

#### CONTACT

[www.scottish-enterprise.com](http://www.scottish-enterprise.com)

**PARTNERS**

15



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**COUNTRY**

Optics Valley	FRANCE
Conseil Régional Ile-de-France (CRIF)	FRANCE
University of Paris XI (UPS)	FRANCE
inno TSD	FRANCE
Optence e.V.	GERMANY
Hessen Agentur GmbH	GERMANY
OptoNet e.V.	GERMANY
Thüringen innovativ	GERMANY
Photonics BW e.V.	GERMANY
Steinbeis-Europa Zentrum (SEZ)	GERMANY
Scottish Enterprise - Microelectronics and Optoelectronics Cluster	UNITED KINGDOM
Technopolis Ventures Ltd. Finnish microelectronics cluster	FINLAND
Romanian Association for Electronic and Software Industry (ARIES)	ROMANIA
Urząd Marszałkowski, Mazovia regional authority (UM)	POLAND
Polish Optoelectronics Consortium (ITME)	POLAND