



Project: I3E-Promoting Innovation in the Industrial Informatics and Embedded Systems Sectors through Networking

Workpackage 5: Networking

Activity 5.2.: I3E Workshops

Responsible partner: ecoplus & OEAW

**Report on the I3E Workshop / Conference “I3E Hightech DAYS”
In Vienna & Wiener Neustadt on May 23rd & 24th, 2011**

Wiener Neustadt, June 21st, 2011

1. INTRODUCTION

The workshop on presentation of the current results of the project “I3E-Promoting Innovation in the Industrial Informatics and Embedded Systems Sectors through Networking” was organised as a standalone event not taking place in the course of some other event or conference.

2. DATE & PLACE

May 23rd, 2011 – Austrian Academy of Sciences, Theater Hall & Aula,
Dr. Ignaz Seipel-Platz 2, 1010 Vienna

May 24th, 2011 – TFZ Wiener Neustadt,
Viktor-Kaplan-Straße 2, 2700 Wiener Neustadt and Site Visits according to the Agenda

3. PARTICIPANTS

There were 62 participants of the I3E Workshop, a big portion of attendees came from Slovenia. The workshop participants can be divided into three major groups:

- the participants from public research and academia institutions dealing with technology transfer of their research results,
- the stakeholders from different public agencies, technology parks, centres of excellence, technology centres, consultants, capital providers(venture capital, agencies, angels) and
- audience from the industry.

4. I3E WORKSHOP AGENDA

Available to download on the I3E Portal

5. REPORT

The I3E Hightech DAYS have been the Austrian national conference for the I3E project. The OEAW hosted this event at its premises in Vienna on the 23rd of June and contributed with presentation of actual leading sensor technology on the 24th of June.

Activities on the 23rd included assistance at setup, welcome of visitors, support at registration, contact to local academy facility management, support of speakers, networking with the present visitors from academy, industry and politics and participation in all presentations according to the program to scout important trends possibly not included in the strategic research agenda (SRA) so far. The head of the Institute for Integrated Sensor Systems Prof. Dr. Thilo Sauter also gave a presentation on the future of embedded systems and sensor systems and participated in the panel discussion.

Notes on the panel discussion are in the annex to this mission report.

On the 24th Albert Treytl accompanied the bus transfer of participants from Vienna to Wiener Neustadt and together with 2 colleagues from the Institute presented actual leading sensor technologies in the labs of the institute including MEMS sensors, wireless localization and automotive sensors. Mr. Bratukhin and Mr. Agbodjan helped as guides to bring the different groups of visitors to the different participating labs. In the afternoon all participated at site visits according to the program.

Signature of participants: available to download on the I3E Portal.

Annex: Report on the panel discussion

A panel discussion on the future of industrial informatics and embedded systems as well as the requirements to the research environment have been discussed at the end of the I3E high-tech days by important players in the field

Participants:

Athanasios Kalogeras (ISI), Thilo Sauter (OEAW), Vesna Mandic (UoK), Sumi Helal (UoF), Alkis Konstantellos (EC), Erika Györvary (CSEM), Piotr Domani (ITE)

Important statements:

- Problem fields setting up European research programs are regional initiatives vs. global trends, multi-disciplinarity of problems, too many research agendas (how to align them)
- More resources to from bottom-up initiatives
- Innovation transfer needs to be performed in small steps: identify niche markets first, then grew bigger
- Problem with funding for innovation: harmonization, where & when to find the money, how to include partners outside the country since many innovation funding programs are national.
- Customization of general research agendas (e.g. Artemis SRA) required to become applicable to the region needs. – Good practice examples for such custom programmes are the special EU funding for WBC regions. It is compulsory to adapt to different situations. There is hardly a one-fit-all solution.
- Seldomly there are extensive special (regional) funding programs except for support actions on European level
- Innovation often requires changes in politics
- Ecology is needed for innovation (“current must exist to make a spark”)
- Easier to cooperate on a national level due to bureaucratic hurdles.
- Do not be ashamed of commercialization – Why is applied research assumed to be of low scientific quality? → less funding, lower score at evaluation → support actions are required and awareness needs to be built.
- Be extrovert and communicate to all involved parties to push innovation.

6. RELATED DOCUMENTATION

Pictures, Press Clippings available to download on the I3E Portal