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FRANCE TECH INSIGHT

French Innovation News for New England
May 2009

N°4 -



Consulate General of France in Boston
Office for Science and Technology

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EDITO

Dear Reader,

Welcome to the fourth issue of the France Tech Insight, our monthly newsletter introducing the latest updates in science and technology in France.

You will read this month about the strong French representation at the BIO 2009 conference in Atlanta. More than 100 world-class French companies will be present along with major clusters and research institutions. You will also learn about the French American Conference of Entrepreneurs to be held in New York on June 25 and 26. Our Office in Boston, which center its activities around innovation issues, will be represented in both of these major events.

In our "Innovation Actor of the Month" section, we would like to introduce you to the "Réseaux Entreprendre", the most active network of mentors in France, providing start-ups with personalized support from seasoned entrepreneurs.

And like every month, you will find the latest updates in French science, technology and innovation.

Furthermore, as we mentioned in the last issue, a new program is currently being developed by our Office. It will aim at fostering the internationalisation of French technology start-ups by providing them with intensive entrepreneurial training, mentoring and networking opportunities. We will keep you informed of the program updates in the coming issues...

I wish you a very prolific reading and I look forward to hearing from you shortly.

Sincerely,



Antoine MYNARD
Attaché for Science and Technology
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BIO 2009 in Atlanta : A Strong French Representation and Partnering Opportunities



More than a hundred top-class French companies will be presenting and partnering at the 2009 BIO International Convention to be held from May 18 to 21 in Atlanta. BIO is the greatest annual meeting of biotechnology in the world. The two major biotech clusters in France, LyonBiopôle and the Genopole will be represented along with 15 companies of the two clusters. We are very pleased to announce to you that the 3rd Annual [Fast-Track R&D Partnering with France](#) seminar will be held on the 18th and we also invite you to come to the Atlanta Convention Center to visit the [French Pavilion](#). The Office for Science and Technology of the French Embassy will be largely represented at this event, notably by the Scientific Attaché for life sciences, Mireille Guyader and by the [Young Entrepreneurs Initiative](#) project Manager, Géraldine Quetin. Feel free to [contact us](#) for more information.

French American Conference of Entrepreneurs - June 25 and 26, New York



FACE - the French American Conference of Entrepreneurs is a unique forum for the most prominent French and American entrepreneurs and the whole French American entrepreneurial communities to meet, interact, and put a trusted "face" on each other's name. FACE's goal is to create business relations between high-growth companies, business angels, VCs, investment bankers, corporate attorneys, strategic and institutional partners to foster trans-Atlantic initiatives. The French Office for Science and Technology in Boston will be partnering the event through the [Young Entrepreneurs Initiative](#), whose project manager, Géraldine Quetin, will be present in New York. For more information, please [contact us](#) or visit <http://www.face-newyork.com/>

YEI on LinkedIn and Facebook!



The [Young Entrepreneurs Initiative](#), our flagship program, now has its own groups on [LinkedIn](#) and [Facebook](#). So follow us !

PUF - Partner University Fund: A New Generation of Transatlantic University Partnership



The Partner University Fund (PUF), is a public-private partnership established in September 2007 under the auspices of the New York-based FACE foundation to promote innovative and sustainable partnerships between French and US institutions of research and higher education. The members of the PUF Grant Review Committee met on Tuesday March 24th, 2009 under the co-presidency of Dr. Allan E. Goodman, President and CEO of the Institute of International Education (IIE) and Dr. Christophe Laux, Professor of Engineering, Ecole Centrale Paris (ECP), in order to choose the laureates of the second PUF Call for projects. 91 grant applications were examined. 16 laureates were selected. For more information, please visit the PUF website <http://facecouncil.org/puf/>

Café des Sciences de Boston n°19 - May 26th

The "café des sciences" is a monthly meeting which regroups the French scientific community of the Boston area. This month, we will welcome Dr. Marc Rioult, Technology Licensing Officer for biotechnologies at MIT. He will share his experience and will draw an interesting comparison of the French and American technology transfer practices. The presentation will be in French. Please RSVP by [e-mailing us](#) or look on [Facebook](#) and [LinkedIn](#) for the group announcement that will be posted shortly.

Post-doc positions at the Centre for Research on Risk and Regulation, Ecole des Hautes Etudes en Sciences Publiques (Paris)

The Centre of Research on Risk and Regulation (C3R) is an interdisciplinary research centre at EHESP School of Public Health located in the heart of Paris. Applications for a postdoctoral fellowship within C3R are invited from social scientists with a recently completed PhD, with experience of survey methodology, undertaking data collection by questionnaires and structured

interviews. Deadline: June 30, 2009. [Learn more](#) (pdf).

Marie Curie France Regions Program Call for Experts

Marie Curie France Regions (MCFR) is a program co-funded by the European Union under the FP7 People program dealing with researchers' mobility. Experts must be experienced academic researchers or researchers working in the public or private sector, coming from the International and the European scientific community. [Learn more](#).

Junior and Senior Researchers at CRBM and CPBS (Montpellier)

The Centre de Recherche de Biochimie Macromoléculaire (CRBM) and the Centre d'études d'agents pathogènes et biotechnologies pour la Santé (CPBS) are recruiting junior and senior group leaders and welcome projects addressing all levels of organization from the molecule to the organism including computational, integrative and systems biology with, for the CPBS, a specific interest in host-pathogen interactions. [Learn more](#) (pdf). Deadline : June 30th, 2009.

INNOVATION ACTOR OF THE MONTH

Réseau Entreprendre : the mentors network



Réseau Entreprendre is a network of business owners that aims at coaching men and women who are starting a business that have enough potential to turn into an SME. In this regard, 3 000 business owners volunteer their time and experience to the benefit of new business owners. Moreover, loans are provided to them. In 20 years

Réseau Entreprendre has coached 3 500 businesses, 85% of which are still operating 3 years later. Réseau Entreprendre is organized in 38 local associations throughout the French-speaking territories.

More specifically, Réseau Entreprendre aims at helping the business starters within the innovation field via its InnoTech program. About 600 CEOs - members of the network - are revolving around and within the innovation sector.

Numerous types of help are provided:

1/ the business starter is put in close contact with one of our members - owner of a business in an innovation activity. They are to meet every month for two to three years. The business starter shares his difficulties or successes and the member offers his experience and support.

2/ the business starter enters a wide network of business owners throughout France and some French-speaking countries.

3/ the business starter is invited to assist monthly meetings with local entrepreneurs in all sorts of activities.

4/ the business starter is offered a loan, from 30 000 up to 90 000 EUR, no warranty required, refundable in 5 years with up to 18 months of refunding delay.

If you would like to find out more about the Réseau Entreprendre and its activities, please [contact us](#) or visit: www.reseau-entreprendre.org

SPECIAL FEATURES

ISEN's Unique Underwater Acoustics Expertise

It is a rare occurrence when a French laboratory, i.e., the Acoustics Department headed by Professor Jean-Claude Debus at the Institut Supérieur de l'Électronique et du Numérique (ISEN, Higher Institute of Electronics and Digital Technology), a French engineering school with facilities in Lille, Brest, and Toulon, signs a cooperation contract with the US Naval Office of Research in Newport, Rhode Island. Nevertheless, this not a first for the discreet laboratory with a staff of fifteen who work on electroacoustic devices, picosecond acoustics, and power ultrasound. An overview of the development of ATILA, a modeling tool - the outcome of thirty years' experience - that has become a world standard for sonar study ...

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58549.htm>

Taste Education Vital for Children

That is the main conclusion of the research conducted for the EduSens project. The conclusions were presented at the first conference of the National Research Program on Human Food and Nutrition (PNRA, Programme National de Recherche en Alimentation et nutrition humaine), which was held from March 10 to 12, 2009. From 2005 to 2007, three successive calls for tenders were issued for the PNRA, which the French National Research Agency (ANR) launched in 2005. The purpose of the conference was to present the first findings of the projects that were selected during the first 2005 call for tenders. At the Conference, INRA Research Director Pascal Schlich, who is in charge of the Research-Industry-Sensometry Laboratory (LIRIS, Laboratoire d'interface recherche-industrie-sensometrie) ...

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58550.htm>

EDUCATION OUTLOOK

Ongoing International Development for ENSTA ParisTech

An even dozen for ENSTA, i.e., the number of double degree partnerships that Ecole Nationale Supérieure de Techniques Avancées (a graduate school of engineering) has signed with foreign universities, to date. The two latest agreements were signed in mid February with the State University of Novosibirsk (Russia) and the Technical University of Wrocław (Poland)...

More Info: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58450.htm>

CLUSTERS UPDATE

91 R&D Projects Selected for the FUI's 7th Call for Projects

The projects from 53 competitive clusters selected from among 190 submitted files will be receiving 107 million euros in State funding. The regional and local authorities have announced their intention to fund most of the projects along with the State, for up to 67 million euros. The small businesses sponsoring the projects should be receiving nearly 30 million euros from the Fonds Unique Interministeriel (FUI, government funding for industrial R&D projects).

Eleven of the selected projects come from the System@tic Paris-Region competitive cluster, 9 from Minalogic, and 7 from Aerospace Valley and the Astech cluster. All the clusters' call for proposals taken together equal 645 cluster projects that have been sponsored since 2005...

...Read More: www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58449.htm and www.competitivite.gouv.fr

Perfume & Cosmetics - Two Clusters Sign Partnership Agreement

One party is the Parfums Aromes Senteurs Saveurs (PASS, perfumes aromas scents savors) competitive cluster, the number one French concentration of leading world companies in ingredient production for aromas and perfumes. The other party is the Cosmetic Valley competitive cluster, the leading world resource center for the perfume-cosmetics industry...

...Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58447.htm>

SEB Putting Taste Back into Steam Cooking

With the steady rise of pathologies related to poor nutrition, such as obesity or cardiovascular diseases, improving dietary habits is more than just a necessity, it is an imperative. Obviously, the approach involves a more balanced diet, but also a cooking method that limits calorie intake and preserves the vitamins and trace elements in food...

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58448.htm>

Joint French-American Research on Nanoparticle Impact on the Environment

Nanoparticles of nanometric size ranging from 1 to 100 nanometers are attractive for a range of different uses. Unsurprisingly, they have caught the attention of industry operators. French and US scientists have been actively working together on these issues since 2001.

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58453.htm>

MyOcean Answering the Question, What Will the Ocean Be Like Tomorrow?

MyOcean was launched by the French Mercator Ocean center and the Midi-Pyrenees Region, as part of the European GMES (Global Monitoring for Environment and Security) initiative. It materializes Europe's efforts to provide new services dedicated to the environment...

... Read More: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58551.htm>

Alcatel-Lucent and Institut TELECOM Inaugurate Joint Laboratory on Media Ubiquity

Working on future applications in digital media is the aim of the joint research laboratory inaugurated in late January by Alcatel-Lucent and Institut TELECOM. The future will bring the 'ubimedia', that is to say a digital environment where the individual sends, receives, and passes on information.

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58552.htm>

Outstanding Second Anniversary Report for the Nanosciences Foundations

The Nanosciences Foundation, a foundation for scientific cooperation set up by a February 2007 ministerial decree to support the 'Nanosciences on the Frontier of Nanoelectronics' Reseau Thematique de Recherche Avancee (RTRA, advanced research thematic network), is celebrating its second anniversary...

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58553.htm>

TOXALIM, a New Research Hub on Food Toxicology

The research hub on food toxicology (TOXALIM) has just been inaugurated at the St Martin du Touch INRA site in Toulouse. The European-scale hub brings together all the resources and facilities of four INRA research units, including 3 in partnership with the Toulouse National School of Veterinary Medicine, and the Purpan School of Engineering...

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58554.htm>

CNRS and Bayer CropScience Strengthen Collaboration

CNRS and Bayer CropScience (BCS), a leader in innovation for crop protection and plant biotechnologies, have renewed a framework agreement signed in 2005. "The renewal of the framework agreement will clear the way for the intensification of scientific and technological interaction, especially in plant health and environmental compatibility..."

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58555.htm>

Probing Molecular Nanomachines on the Atomic Scale Just Takes 1 Second!

The functional and structural study of biological nanomachines is a very hard task because of the size of the objects, their flexibility, and the complexity of the protein substrates (proteins, peptides, DNA, RNA, and so on)...

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58556.htm>

Yeast as a Cell Model for a Neurodegenerative Disease

A rare and severe neurodegenerative disease - spinocerebellar ataxia known as SCAN1 - is characterized by a loss of balance and coordination in adolescents, resulting in death around the age of 25...

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58557.htm>

SPOTLIGHT ON THE REGIONS

A Store Window Can Turn into an Interactive Screen

This what Hilabs, a new Grenoble based startup created in 2008, is offering businesses. Passerbys can look at a catalogue on a touch screen that lights up at their approach. "The really new and original feature is that it takes into account what happens in the street," explained Jerome Maisonnasse, the firm's Sales and Marketing Manager. Actually, the displayed information changes depending on whether passerbys are near, far, or at the window.

... Read More : <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58558.htm>

EVENTS IN FRANCE

SERI 2009 is off the blocks : The Leading Professional and International Fair dedicated to Research & Innovation

From Wednesday 3 to Friday 5 June 2009, on the occasion of the 5th edition of SERI in Paris, Porte de Versailles - Research & Innovation specialists, who every year benefit from discovering and working together, will pool their complementary skills and knowledge for three days.

More Info : <http://www.seri.info/>

The 2009 Rendez-Vous Carnot

Next May 13 and 14, the 2009 Rendez-Vous Carnot will be held at the Palais des Congres in Versailles near Paris. The Association of Carnot Institutes [1] are the organizers of the event that is backed by the Yvelines General Council, ASCR, ANRT, ANR, and INPI. Drawing on last year's success that saw more than 1,200 visitors and nearly 3,000 business appointments held between the 400 exhibitors and more than 700 projects sponsors...

More Info: <http://www.bulletins-electroniques.com/actualites/58560.htm>

Acknowledgments

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