The week when Budapest becomes the ICT capital of the world

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Between May 15–20, 2011, Budapest will become the ICT capital of the world, hosting a series of high-standard scientific events related to Information and Communication Technologies and the Future of the Internet, attracting the world's top researchers in these fields and a large international audience. But let us summarize briefly the different elements of this extremely busy and interesting week that awaits us.

The 73rd IEEE Vehicular Technology Conference – VTC2011-Spring
15-18 May 2011, Budapest, Hungary

The 73rd IEEE Vehicular Technology Conference will be held 15-18 May 2011 at the Budapest Marriott Hotel. The IEEE VTC conferences have established themselves over the last six decades as one of the main international conferences in vehicular mobile and wireless communications. They are conducted twice each year (Spring and Fall) in key international cities. Budapest follows thus on the steps of Ottawa (Fall 2010), Taipei (Spring 2010), Anchorage (Fall 2009), Barcelona (Spring 2009), Calgary (Fall 2008), Singapore (Spring 2008), Baltimore (Fall 2007), Dublin (Spring 2007), Montréal (Fall 2006) or Melbourne (Spring 2006), and precedes the VTC2011-Fall conference in San Francisco (September 5-8).

The Conference is the flagship event of the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society with over 60 years of history and more than 5000 members. This year's first VTC conference will propose more than 660 oral and poster presentations grouped into 12 tracks: ad hoc and sensor networks, antennas and propagation, cognitive radio and cooperative communications, mobile applications and services, mobile satellite and positioning systems, multiple antenna systems and space-time processing, signal processing for wireless communications, transmission technologies, transportation, vehicular electronics and telematics, wireless access and wireless networks.

Besides these, the program will also feature keynote talks and panel discussions, involving world-class research-

ers and highly recognized executives from corporate, government and educational institutions and organizations worldwide. Moreover, the first day of the conference will comprise 6 half-day tutorials, on topics such as green communications and networking, cognitive radio based on UWB technology, participatory sensing crowdsourcing data from mobile smartphones in urban spaces, cooperative active and passive localization and tracking, mobility models and social networks, or low-complexity algorithms for large-MIMO detection. Finally, the same day will feature 5 thematic workshops as well: the International Workshop on Self-Organizing Networks (IWSON), the Second Green Wireless Communications and Networks Workshop (GreeNet), Cognitive radio and Cooperative strategies for POWER saving (C2POWER), Broadband evolved Femtocell Technologies (BeFEMTO), and the First International Workshop on Cross-Layer Operation Aided Multimedia Streaming. The organization of these workshops is partly sponsored by the National Innovation Office (NIH).

For more information, please refer to the conference website: (www.ieeevtc.org/vtc2011spring). Registration is already open.

Future Internet Week
16-19 May 2011, Budapest, Hungary

To accomplish the goals of the EU 2020 Strategy and its flagship initiatives, Innovation Union and Digital Agenda, there is a need for advanced communication infrastructures, information technologies, smart applications and services that should be based on a new generation of networks, on the Internet of the Future. The events of the Future Internet Week in Budapest will investigate the policy, technological, and socio-economic aspects of the Future Internet involving many participants from the industry, academia as well as stakeholders from the European Commission and from the Member States.

During these 4 days, the program will include the following events:
- Future Internet Research & Experimentation (FIRE) event – May 16, 2011;
- Internet of Things Conference – May 16, 2011;
- Future Internet Conference – May 17, 2011;

- Future Internet Assembly – May 18-19, 2011;
- Future Internet Forum – May 18, 2011;
- The European Network of Living Labs
  (ENoLL) event – date to be announced;
- Coordination of the European Future Internet Forum
  of Member States (ceFIMS) workshop –
  date to be announced.

The Scientific Association for Infocommunications (HTE) is involved as a local organizer of the Future Internet Assembly, an event partly sponsored by the National Innovation Office (NIH) For more details, please visit the Future Internet Week website (www.fi-budapest.eu).

ICT Proposers' Day
19-20 May 2011,
Budapest, Hungary

The ICT Proposers' Day is Europe's largest matchmaking event dedicated to networking and promoting research and development in the fields of Information and Communication Technologies. Participants have the opportunity to learn about funding possibilities in the fields of ICT offered by the European Union, and about the upcoming Calls 8 and 9 of the FP7 ICT Work Programme, offering more than one billion euros of EU funding. The two half-day sessions (Thursday afternoon – Friday morning) will provide academia and business sectors, SMEs and government actors from all over Europe a platform for building partnerships and exchange ideas for participating in calls for proposals. About 2500 participants are expected to attend. In addition, over 100 Commission officials will be present to provide information on the content of the calls for proposals and advice you on how to submit your proposal.

The event is free of charge; registration will open early February 2011. For more details, please visit the event's website (ec.europa.eu/information_society/events/ictproposersday/2011).

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Besides the fact that in the first half of 2011 Budapest became the Capital of Europe (next to Brussels and Strasbourg) due to Hungary giving the EU presidency, we can also consider it as the ICT capital of world, at least for this much-awaited week in May. We encourage everyone to take this excellent opportunity to meet the world's and Europe's leading professionals in the fields of Information and Communication Technologies, and attend these high quality events. We are looking forward to welcoming you in Budapest!