And the winner is...

Results of the EUREKA Innovation Award 2010

This year, the German EUREKA Chair under the slogan 'World Class Innovation through International Cooperation', invited nominations for the EUREKA Innovation Award 2010, with special focus on participation of or market exploitation in non-European (so-called 'third') countries.

A jury comprised of the Chairman and members of the Eurostars Independent Evaluation Panel – Miroslav Janeček, Shaul Freireic and Eberhard Seitz studied projects from across the EUREKA spectrum of technologies.

Three finalists were announced in March this year and the winning project was kept a close secret until the prize ceremony that took place in the Römische Hof in Berlin on 24 June, in the presence of ministers, ambassadors, EUREKA representatives and members of the international media.

The winner, MEDEA+ 2A302 ONOM-TOPIC 'European smart card platform for citizenship and mobile multimedia applications', scored incredibly well with its extremely high economic potential for the participating companies. ONOM@TOPIC helped to keep smartcard leadership in Europe – six European manufacturers own 80% of the global smartcard production capability. Results of this project have brought substantial changes in important fields (smartcards, e-government, biometrics). Excellent R&D results have been exploited in many countries and regions, from Bahrain, Qatar and India to Singapore and the USA. The project resulted in significant contributions to world standards. ONOM@TOPIC has already received recognition through the receipt of the MEDEA+ 'Jean-Pierre Noblanc' award in 2007; the Isabelle Attali award in 2007; the Global Frost & Sullivan Award for Emerging Company of Year 2008.

Finalists Σ!417 EUROMAR MERMAID 'Marine Environmental Remote-controlled Measuring and Integrated Detection' and MEDEA+2T103 FOREMOST 'Integration of 45 nm CMOS technology' also received credit for outstanding achievements in their projects.

EUROMAR MERMAID had a high economic impact on the company that produced a spin-off the FerryBox, – an automated water pollution controlling system for unattended operation on cruising commercial ships. Almost 50% of the world population lives near the coast and thus rely on stable water quality. With the MERMAID technology the marine environment can be monitored more cost-effectively and official monitoring authorities can have a much better overview of the environmental conditions. A Canadian company made a critical contribution to the consortium; China, Indonesia, India, Japan and Korea intend to use MERMAID for their environmental management. **MERMAID** won the *Lillehammer Award for innovation in sustainable environmental technologies in 2003.*

Companies participating in other finalist FOREMOST expect an extremely high economic impact: all major companies involved in multimedia and mobile hand phone development are expected to use ST-based 45/40nm low power processes; 30 patents have been submitted. The project has contributed to a remarkable increase of employment in Crolles and Dresden, also due to the participation in the IBM 32nm CMOS foundation worldwide consortium.

Scientific results are equally impressive with worldwide exploitation. FOREMOST has helped to maintain Europe's lead in CMOS integrated circuit manufacture in the world market. This project is also the highest ranked project with a partner from the incoming Chairmanship country Israel, underlining the importance of international cooperation.