

priorities for ICT research, development and funding. A host of leading personalities from the world of ICT looked at how Europe can lead the agenda for the next decade.



In addition to the EUREKA stand, which featured the CELTIC telecommunications Cluster broadband access networks integrated telecommunication systems (Banits) project, the MEDEA+ microelectronics Cluster MIMOWA project demonstrated wireless multiple antenna multiple-input / multiple-output (MIMO) technology for third- and fourth-generation mobile phone and WiFi interfaces. And Enrico Villa, chairman of the EUREKA CATRENE nanoelectronics Cluster participated in the EU ENIAC nanoelectronics Joint Technology Initiative session to present interrelations and synergies between ENIAC and CATRENE.

### Focusing the efforts of the European nanoelectronics sector



More than 300 key players from the micro- and nanoelectronics industry and public authorities participated in the European Nanoelectronics Forum 2008 in Paris on 2 and 3 December 2008. This was the first common event organised by the EUREKA MEDEA+ / CATRENE Cluster programmes together with ENIAC – the European Technology Platform on Nanoelectronics – and AENEAS, the Association of R&D actors in nanoelectronics. Both CATRENE chairman Enrico Villa and AENEAS president Alain Dutheil emphasised the need for the whole sector to work together

in partnership with the public authorities to maintain European leadership in the semiconductor technology that underpins development of the Information Society.



The Paris event continued the tradition of presenting the Jean-Pierre Noblanc Award for Excellence which honours the most innovative and sustainable project carried out in MEDEA+. The 2008 winner was the BLAZE project which developed the semiconductor technology for the Blu-ray disc and firmly established Blu-ray as the global standard for high definition TV recording. At 427 person-years, this was one of the largest MEDEA+ projects.

[www.catrene.org](http://www.catrene.org)

### Innovation days 2009

The EUREKA Portuguese chair is organising a three-day event from 18 to 20 June 2009 as part of the 2009 European Year of Creativity and Innovation. The Lisbon event will demonstrate the EUREKA Initiative's active and positive contribution to building the vision of 'Europe leading technology and innovation'. The Innovation Days will consist of a project results' exhibition, open-air demonstration of technologies with impact on the general public and a parallel programme including international conferences and other events to promote the international valorisation of the results exhibited.

Events will include:

- Two international conferences with a focus on sustainable technologies/clean energy and technologies applied to sports;

- Participation of other international networks such as the Latin American technology co-operation network IBEROEKA;
- Participation of the University of Texas (USA), which will have a parallel programme of technology-transfer workshops running, and other major US universities; and
- Participation of relevant science and technology organisations from the Middle East and Asia.

### Eurostars

#### Eurostars moves from strength to strength



More than 300 proposals for projects had been received for the second call of the

Eurostars programme by the cut-off date on 21 November – a 50% increase over the first call. This high number reflects the attraction of this ambitious programme focusing on the research needs of high tech small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Proposals involved more than 75% industrial partners, with some 70% R&D-performing SMEs. As with Call 1, the majority of projects involved three main areas: information and communications technologies; biomedical and healthcare; and industrial manufacturing materials. The strength of Eurostars lies in the upfront commitment to funding from the European Commission and EUREKA member countries involved. The central transparent evaluation system provides a very fast acceptance of quality projects with synchronisation of central and national funding. "The undoubted success of Eurostars is a clear call to the European Commission and to participating EUREKA member countries to provide additional funding for what is now becoming a proven approach to supporting European SMEs," says Luuk Borg, head of the EUREKA Secretariat.

[www.eurostars-eureka.eu](http://www.eurostars-eureka.eu)