

# s in brief

## on't to take the reins of the EUREKA R&D network



**The reasons behind Israeli technological excellence, reflected in its significant participation in R&D projects and its decision to assume the Chairmanship of EUREKA in the network's 25<sup>th</sup> year of existence.**

Given birth to more cutting-edge technology companies listed on the Europe and Asia together? How does such a small, young state attract inward investment per capita than Europe? And how has it produced the technology start-ups in the world?

Published book **Start-up Nation**, authors Dan Senor and Saul Singer. Business success is based on a cultural emphasis on multi-disciplinary and a specified focus. With examples from Israel's main inventors and how it describes how the country's flattened hierarchies and government culture and society that so uniquely combines both innovative and intensity.

Visible camera, replacing highly invasive and painful diagnostic surgery. The software for revolutionizing the process of genetic sequencing, are examples of Israeli high-tech excellence.

It shows, there are lessons in Israel's example that apply not only to organisations but also to individuals seeking to build a thriving organisation. With this spirit it is now the time to look at a remarkable and resilient nation for new, surprising clues.

Under the EUREKA Chairmanship in July, Israel will be able to showcase its record of innovations and innovators.

<http://www.eureka.eu/15840232?play=1&video=1311023934>

## 2010, a year full of opportunities for innovation!



On the launch of the annual Chairmanship of the Centre for the Development of Technology (CDTI - the Spanish Eureka Office), the members of the network of Innovation Agencies (TAFTIE) gathered in Madrid for its 10th Working Group meeting in 2010. The meeting served to kick-off the work planned by sub-groups concerning a wide number of issues from SME's role at EU level, role of TAFTIE in the ERA, internationalisation of Innovation Agencies, future of Innovation Agencies in 2020, etc.

Under the Chairmanship of TAFTIE for the second time from January to December 2010. Major objectives for TAFTIE's Chair in 2010 will be to complete the implementation of TAFTIE's strategy, creating the right conditions to shape European Policies and consolidating linkages within the multilevel innovation network.

For more information about TAFTIE [www.taftie.org](http://www.taftie.org).

## EUREKA Cluster CATRENE to enhance project portfolio

CATRENE, the industry-driven Cluster for Application and Technology Research in Europe on NanoElectronics (E!4140) announced its third call for project proposals extending from 1 February to 1 June 2010. Participation in the project outline phase is compulsory for participation in the subsequent Full Proposal phase. After evaluation and selection, a final decision can be expected by end June 2010, with project labeling. Projects would begin in 2011.

For more information: [www.catrene.org](http://www.catrene.org)

## THOR - Striking Technologies for Power

The THOR project (co-labelled by CATRENE and EURIPIDES) aims to develop highly efficient, integrated and reliable power electronics technologies for automotive, aeronautics and healthcare applications (magnetic resonance imaging systems). A key part of this project is the development of high power switches (transistors and diodes) based on innovative silicon process, silicon on insulator or wide band gap materials targeting the voltage from 200V to 3000V. The project covers the development of new technologies for discrete power components, power cores and storage ele-

ments, also, developing innovative and affordable packaging for high temperature, thermal and EMC management solutions. Enabling technologies are increasingly driven by the applications using them.

## EUREKA Day in South Korea 2010

The EUREKA Day kicks off the partnership between EUREKA and Korea after the association of Korea to EUREKA under the Portuguese Chairmanship in 2009. The event, at the Grand Hyatt in Seoul on 17-18 March 2010, allows for mutual exchange of information between Korea and the EUREKA network in the field of innovation. Representatives from industry, research institutions, universities and experts in R&D cooperation from Korea and the EUREKA network are invited. Roles and responsibilities within the network are under discussion, as is a review of past experiences in project cooperation, as well as an outlook on future expectations. The presentation of partners from different technological fields in matchmaking events promotes cooperation between Korean and European industry and R&D organisations and establishes new contacts.

More information: [www.meci.co.kr](http://www.meci.co.kr)

## EUREKA a partner of SME Week 2010



EUREKA will be participating again this year, as a partner, in SME Week, organised by Enterprise and Industry Directorate of the European Commission from 25 May-1 June. The event informs existing entrepreneurs about support available to them at EU, national, regional and local level and promotes entrepreneurship.

SME Week is not just one event but hundreds across Europe, bring information as close as possible to entrepreneurs - and those hoping to become so. The number of countries participating in SME Week this year has increased to 37, meaning that almost all EUREKA countries are present.

For more information: [www.ec.europa.eu/sme-week](http://www.ec.europa.eu/sme-week)

## EUREKA embraces social media to better communicate

In order to enhance collaboration within the network and to take EUREKA's profile to a higher level of visibility, the EUREKA Secretariat is progressively implementing new tools offered by the Internet.

Network members can now join EUREKA's group on **LinkedIn** or follow EUREKA's activity on **twitter**. Twitter is a 'microblogging' tool, increasingly used by journalists and media monitoring specialists, by scientific media and within the political sphere; it will be open to a broader audience than LinkedIn. Latest news, events and EUREKA's success stories will be published on both LinkedIn and twitter.

## DID YOU KNOW? The earth moved

Each day has been shortened by 1.26 microseconds as a result of Chile's earthquake. It shifted the earth's axis 8cm.

## Eurostars News



Over 300 applications, representing more than 1,000 applicants, were received by 25 February 2010 - the latest application deadline for the Eurostars SME joint research funding programme. More than 70% of applicants are SMEs, the main target for funding, proving that the pro-

gramme truly responds to this crucial sector's needs and expectations.

The Eurostars Independent Evaluation Panel (IEP) announced early this year that 112 of the 279 applications received by the September 2009 deadline had surpassed the quality threshold. National funding bodies from Eurostars-participating countries funded 85 of these, based on the IEP ranking; they provided 45 million euro in funding, with the European Community adding a further 15 million. National public funds allocated to projects have substantially increased in some participating countries, in order to better support the research excellence being carried out by SME-led project consortia under the auspices of Eurostars [www.eurostars-eureka.eu](http://www.eurostars-eureka.eu)



## The new Commissioner's priorities

New Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, Mária Geoghegan-Quinn envisages some changes to her portfolio, which for the first time includes innovation. Among her main priorities are the following:

- > Broadening the remit of the proposed European Innovation Act, for which she will be responsible;
- > Setting new research investment targets to replace the 3% target of the Lisbon strategy - and persuading the private sector to contribute more;
- > Getting SMEs more involved in the Framework Programme.

For more information:

[http://ec.europa.eu/commission\\_2010-2014/geoghegan-quinn/index\\_en.htm](http://ec.europa.eu/commission_2010-2014/geoghegan-quinn/index_en.htm)



The new Commissioner for Research, Innovation and Science, Mária Geoghegan-Quinn