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CATRENE announcing first call for project proposals

(*Nanowerk News*) CATRENE, the recently approved EUREKA Cluster for Application and Technology Research on NanoElectronics is extending an invitation to Europe's high tech industry, small and medium sized enterprises as well as research institutes and academia to participate in its first call for project proposals.

This first call will open from February 29, 2008 and close on April 23, 2008. Based on a diligent evaluation and project selection process, project labelling is foreseen as of or planned for September 30, 2008.

CATRENE projects are complying with the ambition of Europe's industry to deliver nano-/microelectronics solutions that respond to the needs of society at large, improving the economic prosperity in Europe and reinforcing the ability of its industry to be at the forefront of the global competition. "In the foreseeable future, the role of electronics and information systems will further increase, as the European society is faced with structural problems such as an ageing population, exploding health care cost, transportation bottlenecks, rising energy costs and the need to increase productivity", stated Enrico Villa, Chairman of CATRENE, and concluded: "these societal challenges are major opportunities for Europe's industry to be the first to address new lead markets".

CATRENE builds on the success of previous EUREKA programmes (JESSI, MEDEA, and MEDEA+) in fostering the continued development of a dynamic European eco-system with the critical mass necessary to compete at a global level in high technology industries. Information and guidelines for the preparation of project proposals are accessible on the CATRENE web pages: www.CATRENE.org section Project Calls, where the CATRENE White Book, which forms the working basis for cluster projects, can also be downloaded.

About CATRENE

The recent EUREKA programme CATRENE (Cluster for Application and Technology Research in Europe on NanoElectronics) aims at a Technological Leadership for a competitive European ICT industry. CATRENE is a four-year programme, having started 01 January 2008, and extendable by another four years. This is in line with the changing landscape of the semiconductor industry as well as the present view on technology evolution and the time span over which most of the major applications will develop. Resources required will be approximately 4,000 person-years annually, equalling about €6 billion for the extended programme.

For more information on CATRENE visit <http://www.catrene.org> or contact:

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