



Media Diary Note

Reserve your places for EUROBOT The 8th European Robotics Challenge

The 8th edition of **EUROBOT** will take place from **20-22 May 2005 in the town of Yverdon-les-Bains, Switzerland**. The enormous – and growing – popularity of this event has fuelled its progression from a relatively small-scale championship between four countries in 1998 to a major event bringing together, this year, 3000 young people from universities, engineering schools and scientific clubs from 22 countries across Europe and, indeed, the world.

EUROBOT is one of the most sophisticated robotics competitions in the world, pitting completely autonomous robots against one another in a pre-set 'challenge'. The competing teams must explore possibilities in a variety of scientific disciplines - mechanics, computing electronics - to devise the best strategy possible for the competition.

The idea has proved very successful with technically minded students and science clubs and has provided an original way of having fun with science. The atmosphere is resolutely festive: this year's challenge, for example, is '**Bowling**' where the challenge lays not only in bringing down skittles but also in the choice of strategy (for the rules of the game go to www.eurobot.org).

The competition also has a serious side however. It provides an important training ground for our engineers of the future and a forum for bringing the latest developments in this field to the attention of the general public. It also offers a valuable occasion for students to meet with professionals, exchange ideas and perhaps explore future employment opportunities. Eurobot is organized around sharing knowledge and bringing science and technology to their best through innovative talents. For the 1st year, an International Conference on Dextrous Autonomous Robots and Humanoids is organised, in parallel of Eurobot (www.darh2005.org).

The public interest in the event is high with a record of 90,000 visitors last year and a television audience of **several million viewers**. The event was covered last year by a large number of broadcasting stations like DR-TV (Denmark), RAI (Italy), VPRO radio (The Netherlands), Euronews, France 5 (France) and each year as part of the science programme '**e=M6**' which is produced for the **M6** TV channel by VM Group. EUROBOT is jointly organised by VM Group, Planète Sciences and the town of Yverdon-les-Bains that hosts the event during the Swiss Robotic days.



EUROBOT and sponsors

The great success of **EUROBOT** has led to increasing interest from a wide range of sponsors. **DASSAULT SYSTEMES** is proud to be the official sponsor of the **EUROBOT** Cup. Each **EUROBOT** team can own up to 5 CATIA Robotics Edition Licences and therefore create the robots of their dreams (www.3ds.com/eurobot).

The European Commission's Directorate-General for Research will support again the organization this year of **EUROBOT** 2005. The European Commission - DG Research - is enthusiastic about the event, which can only help to support the Commission's goal of making science and technology more attractive to young people.

Technical assistance and sponsored participation

Technical assistance will be made available for journalists wishing to attend the event and the organisers will sponsor a number of places. In particular, audiovisual journalists will have the support of a team of trained personnel and a range of pre-prepared audiovisual materials will be made available to them.

For further information, please contact:

If you would like to receive **more specific information** about the **event**, please contact:

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Eurobot 2005: www.eurobot.org



CONFIRMATION OF ATTENDANCE
IMPORTANT

PLEASE FAX BACK TO +32 2 761 19 06

To apply for your attendance, please send e-mail or fax enclosed form to:

Fax: +32 2 761 19 06 - E-Mail: christophe.guyot@ddb.be

CONFIRMATION OF ATTENDANCE
EUROBOT

Yverdon-les-Bains (Switzerland), 20-22 May 2005

Yes, I would like to attend the event

Name >

Media/Publication >

Press Card No. >

Address >

Tel./Fax >

E-Mail >

In addition, I wish to use a TV crew from VM Group to film my own report and interviews.

No, I am unable to attend, but would like to receive further information (**press kit**) + a beta copy of the report made by VM Group (Free of charge and free of rights for broadcasting)

Participating media will receive assistance in advance logistical planning and complete practical details prior to the event.

For audiovisual media:

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