Dear Friends,

The European Construction Technology Platform has published in www.ectp.org the SRA Implementation Action Plan where research priorities are defined to be developed in 2007-2010, through European, Multinational and National projects.

Due to the amount of defined priorities in this document, there is an urgent need to mobilise transnational efforts to assure that this Action Plan will be fulfilled, Eureka being a relevant instrument for this objective.

As it is know, EurekaBuild is promoting Eureka projects through a dedicated area in www.ectp.org and through thematic workshops in close cooperation with the leaders of ECTP Focus Areas. In the first half of 2007, four workshops have been carried out to share ideas between stakeholders, in January on Networks, in May on ICT and on Cultural Heritage and in June on Advanced materials, organised by the Dutch, Norwegian, Hellenic and Czech Rep. members, respectively.

More than 100 projects ideas were presented in these workshops although very few projects are starting. Consequently, both the Steering Committee and the Technical Committee are analysing this situation in order to obtain better results.

Project ideas should be presented with a clear initial commitment of an industry as a good starting point for feasible future Eureka projects and this will be highlighted in the next events and actions.

Finally, two events are planned for the second half of the year. The first one in Valencia, Spain, on Nanomaterials and Nanotechnologies (Nov.5-6) and the second one in Amsterdam (Nov.19-20) during the ECTP conference, to share views and improving contacts between stakeholders for multinational cooperation, in a Networking session (Nov. 20).

I kindly ask you to contribute on developing Eureka projects and on participating actively in the EurekaBuild events.

Regards,

Jesús Rodríguez
EurekaBuild chairman & ECTP SG chairman

May 2007
- EurekaBuild Workshop & Brokerage Events in Oslo (ICT) and Athens (Cultural Heritage)
- 2nd EurekaBuild Steering Committee & NTPs Meeting, Athens

June 2007
- 4th EurekaBuild Workshop & Brokerage Event, Telc (Materials)

August 2007
- 4th EurekaBuild Technical Committee Meeting, Amsterdam
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EurekaBuild National Representatives

Each country participating in the EurekaBuild Project is represented by two persons: the National Umbrella Public Representative and the National Umbrella Sector Representative.

The National Umbrella Public Representative (NUP) is the representative of the public authorities or designated by the Public Authorities in partner country.

The National Umbrella Sector Representative (NUS) is generally a representative of the construction sector. In EurekaBuild, this representative person has to be nominated by the National Technology Platform (NTP) in each country in order to assure a good link between EurekaBuild and NTPs as well as support of the industrial sector and the research community in the countries involved in this Eureka umbrella.

Eureka initiative in Poland
By Jerzy Tokarski
Polish Eureka NPC and EurekaBuild NUP

12 year of Polish membership in EUREKA is a story of hard work and successes. Polish partners were recognized as trustful collaborators that may provide brilliant ideas and knowledge of markets in Poland as well as in other CE countries. EUREKA became a routine and attractive mechanism of cooperation in R&D area for Polish researcher centers and companies.

EUREKA has offered to researchers and entrepreneurs a chance to learn how to establish links with western partners, how to do business based on their own ideas and skills, how to create and share revenues by developing and implementing innovative solutions in frames of R&D and industrial partnerships, how to protect IPR and secure financial benefits.

Instead of establishing specially earmarked fund for EUREKA projects a separate appraisal procedure has been set up within national research program. The general rule is obvious – project should defend itself concerning its merit, justification of costs, conformity with national research priority, a real chance for result implementation and economic benefits. The financial support is offered in form of grants to partners being main participants as well as to partners executing projects coordinated by foreign participants. Polish Ministry for Science and Higher Education spends 5-6 MEURO yearly for EUREKA grants.

Polish portfolio contains many projects with tangible results. More than 60% of projects coordinated by Polish participants brings clear financial benefits or tangible non countable results serving for the good of society. One of a good example related to the construction sector can be Bridge Prestressing System (E!1684).

E! 1684 BRIDGE PRESTRESSING SYSTEM
3 prestressed road bridges designed and constructed with the use of elaborated technology are in continuous operation. Photo presents Milenijny bridge in Wroclaw.

Since 2006 Poland is a member of EurekaBuild aiming at promotion innovative construction related projects. To promote this initiative Polish Ministry for Science and Higher Education together with ASM – coordinator of the Polish Construction Technology Platform and sector representative in EurekaBuild organize series of trainings and workshops when representatives of the Polish construction sector have possibility to discuss the ideas and create project consortia.

EUREKA is a marvelous vehicle. Its exquisiteness results from human invention that can not be planned or predicted. For EUREKA the most important issue is the merit of the project. EUREKA is a proven mechanism of Pan-European collaboration in innovative business and a sum of many profitable private public partnerships. EUREKA statistics shows that 70% of project proposals are submitted by SMEs and large companies.
EUREKA UMBRELLA PROJECT:
Technologies for a Sustainable and Competitive Construction Sector

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Eureka initiative in Spain
By Emilio Iglesias
Spanish Eureka NPC and EurekaBuild NUP

The EUREKA Programme is a support initiative for cooperative R&D within Europe which is part of the ERA (European Research Area). In EUREKA each country takes on the financing of its companies and institutes. EUREKA certifies approved projects by means of a “stamp of excellence” which, apart from being a promotional element and an asset of the technological level of the promoted projects, makes the project eligible for public funding in most European countries.

In Spain EUREKA is considered as an interesting vehicle for promotion of the technological cooperation between Spanish and foreign companies. Spain is member of EUREKA from 1987 and from this date it has carried out a support action including the activation of special funds for the supporting of the national participants. The figures show the importance and the implication of the Spanish national bodies, mainly the Ministry of Industry, Tourism and Commerce-MITYC as representative of the EUREKA High Level Group (HLG) and The Centre for the Development of Industrial Technology-CDTI as National projects Coordinator-(NPC) respectively. The operation level is carried out by EUREKA Office-CDTI. CDTI is a public agency which belongs to the MITYC whereas the political level is carried out by MITYC itself. Spanish NPC-CDTI promotes assists, assesses, co-funds (by means of credits partially no-refundable loans) and monitors the Spanish participation in EUREKA. Although MITYC and MEC (Ministry for Education and Science) also fund projects labelled as EUREKA ones by means of grants, the entry and exit point for the presentation of a EUREKA project with Spanish participants is the EUREKA Office at CDTI. All sources of funding are complementary up to 75% of the eligible cost. Another restriction is that a company must lead the national part of project in case of the participation of several organisations.

We can consider the Spanish participation in EUREKA as excellence since Spanish organisations have participated in 755 of the total of 3251 of EUREKA projects already announced. Moreover Spanish companies lead 23% of ones in which they participate. Regarding typology of participants (1035), mainly are companies (741) most of them SMEs (476). If these figures are important for individual projects, we are also very proud on the participation in Strategic initiatives such as Clusters and Umbrellas. Spain is a main player in most EUREKA technological clusters such as CELTIC (communications), ITEA, EURIPIDES, and we are also very active in thematic umbrellas: EUROAGRI (agro-food industry), EUREKATOURISM (technology for tourism), LOGCHAIN (logistics), ECONTEC (content technologies), EULASNET (laser applications), PRO-FACTORY (advanced automation) and EUREKABUILD.

Regarding umbrellas, we consider them as a good framework for involving industrial organisations in R&D projects for specific industrial sectors. There is no doubt that construction activities are one of the most important economical areas in many European countries including Spain both as contributor of the GNP and employment and also as source of research activities. The challenges for the incoming years force to coordinate actions with the involvement of all parties of the industry and the public administration and also focus on R&D activities.

EUREKABUILD is a strategic project focused on the generation and support of “close to market” R&D cooperative projects within the EUREKA scheme (under the bottom-up principle). EUREKABUILD involves the industry by means of members of the ECTP and the National platforms (NUS). Moreover, it has the support of the NUPs (National Umbrella Public representative), who are delegates of the national R&D agencies and represent the public administration in relation to R&D and project funding.

We are sure that both members working together on the base of the EUREKABUILD Action Plan will cover and develop the Strategic R&D agenda of the Construction sector developed by the ECTP for the short-medium term (close to market R&D), which leads to the ambitious goal of “promoting and facilitating of the development of industrial projects aiming at the contributing to the vision of the construction sector towards competitive innovation”. This action is suitable for the involvement of the EC.

We are likely to contribute to such an exciting goal!
EurekaBuild projects

Projects are key elements for the realization of EurekaBuild project’s aims. That is why the EurekaBuild Technical Committee decided to improve the most efficient communication tool as website is and to develop a projects section at the EurekaBuild website. In order to be more useful and clear for potential project partners, three kinds of information were subscribed to each EurekaBuild project idea:

1) The ECTP priority that the project idea refers to (from the list of 9 priorities defined in the ECTP SRA Implementation Action Plan)

2) Project idea status
   a. First step: when a project idea has been published on the EurekaBuild website under the wish of a project idea leader. The idea may remain on the website for a maximal period of six months. After this period, the project idea is deleted, unless it has been proved to fulfill the conditions of the second step.
   b. Second step: when the project idea has been validated by a Eureka National Project Coordinator (NPC) or has got a clear commitment of an industrial company (that is to say that the idea is led or officially supported by an industrial company).
   c. Third step: when the project has been endorsed by Eureka and has been awarded the Eureka Label.

Project ideas collected for the EurekaBuild events, will be announced on the website only if sent to the EurekaBuild Secretariat after the event. Each project coordinator needs to inform the EurekaBuild Secretariat on progress of the project idea from the first to the second and third steps. If the coordinator does not contact the Secretariat a project idea remaining in the first step for 6 months shall be deleted from the website.

3) Kind of partnership searched
   a. Clients & Users
   b. Finance
   c. Industry
   d. Others
   e. RTD&I

This way of project ideas classification allows for better and easier look through all EurekaBuild project ideas and search for interesting subject.

Already organized international thematic workshops & brokerage innovative projects realization and underlined the role of EurekaBuild in Absolute proof can be not only the number of collected ideas (totally 144 as shown on the graph below) but also Eureka projects submitted as a result of workshops. To give an example – after the Oslo Workshop & Brokerage event a project idea GEOSUITE2 entered the final stage and got the Eureka label. Before the workshop it was also decided to submit, under EurekaBuild umbrella, the previously prepared project STABCON. During the Brokerage event in Athens nine groups of proposals have been established as potential Eureka project consortia. All consortia are working now on final proposals conclusion.

More details on Eureka rules and project proposals preparation as well as the list of submitted project ideas are available at the EurekaBuild website www.ectp.org/eurekabuild2.asp.
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E!4078- EUREKABUILD STABCON
Stabilisation And Solidification Of Contaminated Sediments And Other Dredged Material

The project will develop the stabilisation/solidification method so that those responsible for harbours and other areas with contaminated sediments and other dredged materials can analyse and apply the S/S method as an alternative to the current solutions.

The overall objectives of the project are to develop and commercialise new services and products related to the (S/S) method for: - Greater understanding of the basic behaviour of S/S treated contaminated sediments with respect to geotechnical and environmental properties, including long-term properties and durability. - Use of appropriate binders for various matrices of sediments-contaminants. - Developing cost-efficient mixing techniques and improvement of the mass stabilisation technique. - Establishing principles for the design and construction of geotechnical structures using S/S treated sediments. - Developing a methodology for assessment of different solutions aimed at providing guidelines for permit applications.

This cross-national project is coordinated by Ssab Merox Ab from Sweden and realized in Swedish-Norwegian consortium with following partners: Cementa Ab, Norcem, Skanska Sverige Ab, Swedish Geotechnical Institute, Oxeloesund Hamn Ab, Ecoloop Ab, Ramboell Sverige Ab.

Project start: 1st of July 2007
Duration: 30 months
Budget: 3,55 MEUR

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E!3972- EUREKABUILD GEOSUITE2
Geosuite2

Achieving more cost-effective solutions is an important part of more sustainable solutions for civil engineering structures, including efficient management and storage of large geotechnical information volumes, efficient use of construction material and equipment, less redundancy resulting in the use of smaller quantities of steel and concrete, shorter construction time and reduced costs.

The concept in creating GEOSUITE 2 is to create software that the geo-community in Scandinavia and abroad will wish to acquire. At the end of the project period, the GEOSUITE 2 project will offer to its international commercialisation company VIANOA GEOSUITE AB comprehensive software with reliable components to solve geotechnical design problems. The software platform will include a standardised system for the management and presentation of geotechnical data and verified solutions for the analysis of stability, settlement, excavations and pile groups. GEOSUITE 2 will offer a unique combination of geotechnical solutions and a new ICT platform, with management of geotechnical data that many generations of geotechnical engineers have waited for.

The project is coordinated by Vianova Systems As from Norway and realized with following partners: Norwegian Geotechnical Institute, Ntnu - The Norwegian University Of Science And Technology, Geovita As, Multiconsult Geo Department, Sintef Byggeforsk, Vianova Geosuite Ab, Autograf Programutveckling Ekonomisk Foerening, Norwegian Public Roads Administration, University Of Oslo.

Project start: 1st of January 2006
Duration: 48 months
Budget: 3 MEUR

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Events

**EurekaBuild events** organized around specific priority research themes aim at encouraging researchers from industry (large companies and SMEs), research institutes and universities to collaborate in the area of innovative projects from the construction sector submission.

Events are being organized by National Construction Technology Platforms in close cooperation with the Focus Area Groups, EurekaBuild members’ National Umbrella Sector and Public Representatives and National Eureka Contact Persons.

Workshops & Brokerage events gather people not only from the hosting countries but also from abroad.

Up to now 4 organised events had more than 300 participants from 23 countries.

One more event will take place in 2007 and four are planned for the first half of 2008.

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**EurekaBuild Workshop & Brokerage Event**

“Towards a sustainable built environment and a living cultural heritage”

**Athens, Greece – 21st May 2007**

The third EurekaBuild Workshop and Brokerage Event was organised on 21 May 2007 in Athens by the Technical Chamber of Greece (TEE) and the Hellenic Construction Technology Platform (HCTP).

137 participants of the workshop had a great opportunity to listen interesting presentations made by several keynote lectures, consult project ideas with EU and EUREKA Officers, Ministers and research representatives. Organized poster session with possibility to present EurekaBuild project ideas, participants’ profiles with relevant works, materials and research findings was a good occasion to exchange contacts between project ideas partners around inspiring ideas.

During the brokerage event, 27 EurekaBuild project ideas were discussed between the interested partners (companies – industrial partners, research organisations, academic institutions). The result of brokerage meetings that followed was the development of eight groups of proposals and respective probable consortiums. The relevant call is anticipated to be launched in September 2007.

The report on workshop and brokerage event prepared by the organisers can be reached at [http://www.ectp.org/eurekabuild2.asp](http://www.ectp.org/eurekabuild2.asp). Also program, list of participants and project ideas submitted to the event as well as presentations held during the opening session of the event can be reached through the website.
EurekaBuild Workshop & Brokerage Event
“Advanced Building Materials and Technologies”

Telč, Czech Republic – 4-5 June 2007

The "Advanced Building Materials and Technologies" (ABM&T) Workshop was organized on 4-5 June 2007 in Telč by the Czech Construction Technology Platform.

In total 58 people from 10 countries (Austria, Croatia, Czech Republic, Hungary, Italy, The Netherlands, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia, Spain) participated in the workshop and brokerage event.

Keynote lectures concentrated around the "Advanced Building Materials and Technologies" theme underlined the importance of development and research work on innovative building materials which are the base of the construction sector. A great number of examples of new material and technological solutions in this field was presented and compared with the work undertaken by members of ECTP FA Materials as introduced by its leader Gian Marco Revel.

At the workshop 30 project ideas were discussed within 3 groups focused around following themes:
1. Microstructural properties of components and chemicals of cementitious materials.
2. Concrete, masonry, composites, reinforcement, fire resistance, reliability.
3. Building kits and building systems revitalization, energy and RES, LCA, LCCA.

Live discussions were continued during the social event organized near to the beautiful castle – one of the attractions of this subscribed to the UNESCO list town.

Detailed report on the event including all presentations, submitted project ideas and formed consortia are available at www.czctp.cz.
Event announcements

5-6 November 2007 – VALENCIA, SPAIN
The next EurekaBuild event is going to be held at the Valencia Expo in the “Convention and Exhibition Centre”. The workshop hosted by Spanish EurekaBuild members will be dedicated to “Nanomaterials and Nanotechnologies for Construction Applications”. The event will include a seminar, where relevant personalities from the European and National Administration will present their vision of the topic selected, as well as personalities from the industry and the scientific world. The magistral conferences will approach on Monday the 5th the situation of the sector regarding the R&D. During Tuesday the 6th diverse socioeconomic aspects of the Nano-Construction world will be presented, including the creation of spin-offs and the role of the business angels. In the framework of EUREKABUILD a Brokerage Event will be organised, with the aim of sharing and matching proposal ideas to generate Eureka! Projects. In parallel, there will be a space of 2000m² for the exhibition fair dedicated to Nano-inventions from any industrial sector related with Construction and Habitat, or to show your company expertise.

For more information and registration, please consult the website: http://www.eurekabuild-spain.com

19-20 November 2007 – AMSTERDAM, THE NETHERLANDS
3rd ECTP Conference is going to be organised in Amsterdam RAI Exhibition and Convention Centre. This two-days Conference will reflect the work being done by ECTP and the importance of research in the construction sector. During the first day ECTP developments at the European level will be presented. The second day of the ECTP Conference will be mainly dedicated to the networking of Construction National Technology Platforms (NTPs). The role, mission, experiences and wishes of these NTPs, at both national and European levels, in relation with the ECTP and the trans-national activities taking place especially in the frameworks of Eureka (with the EurekaBuild umbrella on “sustainable and competitive construction”) and Era-nets (with the ending Erabuild and future Eracobuild networks), will be discussed during this day. Brokerage sessions will be also organised in order to stimulate trans-national synergies to give birth to project proposals for Eureka or Era-Nets. A “country market” will take place, where NTPs are invited to contribute by presenting and offering potentials for cooperation. EurekaBuild country representatives (NUPs and NUSs), in liaison with their respective NTPs, have a specific and important role to play in this event as regards EurekaBuild objectives. They are asked to mobilize their national potential for providing a set of attractive industry-oriented project ideas looking for partnership in other countries. They are asked also to play a role of coordinators and leaders for a strong representation of their country during this “country market” event. On 21st November 3rd EurekaBuild SC & NTPs Meeting will take place in Amsterdam.

For further info on the conference please visit www.ectp.org

23 January 2008 – POZNAŃ, POLAND
6th EurekaBuild workshop & brokerage event on ICT is going to be organized by Polish Construction Technology Platform in Poznań during the BUDMA Fair – the largest construction fair in Central and Eastern Europe every year attracting about 60.000 visitors from several dozen European countries. Before the EurekaBuild Workshop on January 22, the 5th EurekaBuild Technical Committee Meeting is going to be organized by Polish NUP and NUS. More information on this event will be available soon at www.pptb.pl.

Further events:
- February 2008 / Lithuania / Energy Efficient Construction
- March-April 2008 / Slovenia / Cultural Heritage
- 23-25 May 2008 / Croatia / Networks for sustainable environment and high quality of life and 4th EurekaBuild Steering Committee Meeting

For further info & updated list of EurekaBuild events visit: www.ectp.org/eurekabuild2.asp
Meetings minutes

2nd EurekaBuild Steering Committee & NTPs Meeting
Athens, Greece – May 22, 2007

The 2nd EurekaBuild Steering Committee meeting was organized in Athens in May within two sessions: a morning one dedicated to EurekaBuild issues and an afternoon session where networking activities between ECTP and National Construction Technology Platforms (NTPs) were discussed.

After a short analysis of the first year of EurekaBuild introduced by EurekaBuild Chairman and Secretariat, putting in light the good numbers of collected ideas but also the need to transfer now these ideas into Eureka projects, Professor Antonia Moropoulou made a presentation on behalf of the Hellenic EurekaBuild member. It was specially important due to the fact that Greek Eureka Office officially confirmed, during the workshop organised the day before on “Towards a sustainable Built Environment and a Living Cultural Heritage”, the willingness and support from Greece as a EurekaBuild member.

WP1 officially presented the first EurekaBuild Newsletter as well as website improvements specially with reference to the “EurekaBuild project ideas” section.

WP2 leaders gave a short report on the brokerage events already carried out in 2007 and introduced future planned ones. They also presented some statistics and analysis on EurekaBuild project ideas submission with guidelines and remarks towards future steps.

Morning session was closed with the approval of the EurekaBuild strategy and activities for 2007-2008. It was decided that big effort is going to be made to have a follow-up on already submitted project ideas to promote their development towards a status of Eureka project.

All presentations made during the 2nd EurekaBuild Steering Committee meeting are available on the ECTP Collaborative Work Space to all EurekaBuild NUSs and NUPs, as well as contact persons of National Technology Platforms.

4th EurekaBuild Technical Committee & NTPs Meeting
Amsterdam, The Netherlands – August 30, 2007

The 4th EurekaBuild Technical Committee meeting was kindly organised in late August in Amsterdam airport by Ger Maas (BAM) as WP2 Leader. The main objectives of this meeting were to plan the activities of EurekaBuild for the 12 coming months and to define the practical points of the participation of the Umbrella to the ECTP Conference in Amsterdam in October 20.

The main point of the strategy which was discussed was the need to pass from a list of more than 100 project ideas already created by the EurekaBuild umbrella to an increasing number of Eureka-endorsed projects. After 1 year of activities, 2 new projects on Construction have been endorsed by Eureka under the flag of the EurekaBuild Umbrella. In order to identify project ideas with the highest potential for becoming future Eureka projects, it has been decided to put emphasis in the website on project ideas which will attract rapidly an industrial support. Other ideas will be cancelled from the website after a period of 6 months.
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EurekaBuild
The Eureka Umbrella project E!3790 (2006-2009)

European Construction Technology Platform started EurekaBuild - an Eureka Umbrella, as a strategic initiative dedicated to generating and supporting projects in the area of construction.

EurekaBuild was created to improve the communication and cooperation between European researchers and industrialists due to facilitate and stimulate generation of innovative R&D projects, focused on the development of products, services and applied technology that will improve the international competitiveness of the construction sector.

EurekaBuild will tackle two main challenges:

- to become sustainable by reducing resource consumption, managing transport and utilities networks in a sustainable way, reducing environmental and man-made impacts, improving safety and security and protecting cultural heritage
- to become a demand driven sector by including more knowledge in the products but also all along the whole value chain.

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Information on EurekaBuild as well as details of launching individual Eureka projects under EurekaBuild Umbrella may be obtained from:

www.ectp.org/eurekabuild2.asp

Impressum

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