



North Sea Region Programme's Monitoring Committee in Värmland

On 25-26 February 2009, the Monitoring Committee of the Interreg IV North Sea Programme convened in Karlstad for one of its biannual meetings.

The Monitoring Committee choose to locate its meeting to Karlstad partly due to Värmland's success in recent North Sea Programme project applications. During the meeting, both the County Administrative Board of Värmland and Compare promoted - through a number of presentations and study visits - the E-CLIC project.

The Monitoring Committee comprises representatives from each of the six member states that form the North Sea Programme as well as representatives of the programme's Steering Committee and the European Commission.



Sture Hermansson gives a presentation of working with transnational projects

Pitching Competition at EPIC

An international pitching competition designed to give talented production people an opportunity to win support towards their next big studio-based TV project was decided in Norwich on 26 March 2009.

'The EPIC Pitch' saw six finalists, including teams from the UK and Sweden, each pitch their new programme idea to a panel of industry professionals before facing questions from the judges. At stake was production sup-

port worth £10,000 provided by the East of England Production Innovation Centre (EPIC), the location of the E-CLIC Norfolk Centre. The prize will be used by the winning team to fund studio production days and post-

production activities at EPIC, in order to create a pilot or taster tape of the winning idea. The winning team was led by Nicola Hill whose idea, "I could run the country", struck a winning chord with the judging panel. The programme will give members of the public the opportunity to voice how they would run the country if they were in power. Material generated through the production will be used to promote the idea to broadcasters, commissioning editors and the wider industry.



The EPIC Pitch' finalists from the UK and Sweden

Europe's Biggest Free Multimedia Conference Multi-Mania 2009

The 2M09 conference took place on 18-19 May 2009 in Kortrijk, Belgium. E-CLIC partners took the chance to kill two birds with one stone – joined the conference and gathered for an E-CLIC meeting.

The conference, which was sponsored by the multimedia industry, presented 30 speakers from all over the world. 2M09 was divided into different tracks consisting of everything from development, design and audio/visual to inspirational sessions.

Microsoft Entrepreneurs Forum

This year's news was the Microsoft Entrepreneurs Forum, where E-CLIC was presented as an accelerator for new media industry in Kortrijk, Belgium. A panel discussion was held concerning the gaming industry, including the changes that can be expected within this sector in the Belgian market.



E-CLIC Steering Committee, Kortrijk May

Producing E-Learning Content

Atle Lokken from E-CLIC Rogaland, Norway gave a session on e-learning solutions with the recent launch of Adobe's software package, SC4. SC4 has made it feasible to integrate Flash-content in PDF publications, viewed in Adobe Reader. The solution exploits the best features of the traditionally two separate worlds of interactive multimedia and standardised, digital publication of documents and graphics, and lays the ground for a completely new breed of e-learning applications.

The University of Stavanger, Norway, explores the new features of the PDF format in the development of e-learning material for a web based bachelor degree in nursing. The project participants will demonstrate several examples of e-learning applications based on the solution, the methodology it constitutes, its benefits and challenges.



Dick Schaap and Angelica Kaus

WP3 Meeting

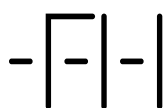
In Kortrijk, all partners were given the opportunity to present their ongoing projects and new project ideas. One project that aroused interest was Wireless Groningen.

Groningen, Netherlands stakes to deploy a citywide wireless broadband network. The expectations are that the city centre will be unwired by October 2009, with the entire city completed by 2010. Within the area of e-government, E-CLIC Groningen is going to develop other services connected to Wireless Groningen, which is a joint project between the City of Groningen, the University of Groningen and Hanze University. The project aims to build and operate a wireless network throughout the city of Groningen to serve all kinds of needs of its citizens.

E-CLIC Welcomes New Partners

Towards the end of 2008, Bremen University of Applied Sciences decided to drop out of the E-CLIC project. The lead beneficiary is happy to welcome Hannover University of Applied Sciences and Arts and Initiative D-21 to the E-CLIC consortium.

In mid-June 2009, the North Sea Steering Committee endorsed the Joint Technical Secretariat's decision to support the change of partners. The conclusions were based on the following: 'There will be minor implications in relation to the originally planned activities. The newly planned activities will contribute equally to the fulfilment of the project aims. As for the budgetary implications, there are no consequences of this change expected. A request for more information was fulfilled sufficiently.'



Fachhochschule Hannover

University of Applied Sciences and Arts

INITI@TIVE

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The new centre – E-CLIC Hannover, Germany – will have following key focus areas; the development of digital HD and IP TV content production and services, digital media, multimedia, industrial product design and usability engineering.



The six WP-Leaders Share Their Experience

Summing up the First E-CLIC Year

WP1 - Katarina Nordmark

E-CLIC's first year will soon come to its end, and it feels like the starting up phase has been satisfactory. A first meeting, concerning economics and accounting, was held in Copenhagen on 10-11 March 2009. Last but not least – the first claim has been submitted.



WP3 - Theo Miljoen

The first project period was used to survey ideas for possible projects, and to investigate the availability of different kinds of expertise. Project partners met to make the project ideas more concrete. The WP3 meeting in Kortrijk accelerated the cooperation in the projects. In the first year of E-CLIC, nearly twenty WP3 projects have been launched. The subjects of the projects vary widely, examples being services for wireless networks, serious gaming, digitizing and archiving old 16 mm films to make them accessible for researchers in different countries, etc.



WP2 - Jan Frick

It has been a busy year for WP2. Two transnational work shops have been accomplished. In order to be able to realize the student exchanges between the E-CLIC centres Erasmus agreements have been drafted. An international workshop for all partners and student exchange is planned for

a full week in October 2009 with the main focus on entrepreneurship based on broadband access. An exchange/database system is being developed and tested for possible use during autumn 2009.



Work Packages Within E-CLIC

WP1 - Project Management and Dissemination

WP2 - Regional and Transnational Collaboration and Development

WP3 - Services Development

WP4 - Content Production

WP5 - Broadband access

WP6 - Evaluation, Validation and Exploitation

WP4 - Jamie Warren

Since the E-CLIC project launched back in September 2008, Norfolk County Council has been responsible for setting up the UK E-CLIC centre in Norwich and leading on the Content Production work package. The East of England Production Innovation Centre (EPIC), where E-CLIC Norfolk centre is based, has hosted a number of successful regional and transnational workshops along with the EPIC pitching competition. The competition saw finalists from the UK and Sweden battle it out for a valuable

prize relating to production support at the centre with the prize funded by Norfolk County Council. The centre has also seen a number of studio productions take place with further transnational and student events planned for the coming months. The E-CLIC project is an exciting project to be involved in and Norfolk County Council is looking forward to building on its transnational work going forward.



WP5 - Andreas Kassler

WP5's main objective is to develop new broadband access solutions which can bridge the digital divide and enable broadband for all at reasonable cost. This is especially important for rural or developing regions. One of the focus areas of E-CLIC is wireless broadband access solutions such as the ones offered by WiMax, LTE or Wireless Mesh Networks. During the project's first year E-CLIC was mainly devoted to establishing collaboration among

the centres and starting new research projects and case studies. Examples include research and development on how mesh networks can be used to provide broadband wireless access between oil rigs in the North Sea region, but also on more concrete technological aspects in relation to multi-channel multi-radio mesh networks.



WP6 - Tim Brauckmüller

WP6 commenced with a strong focus on definitions, evaluations and test methods. A working team has been appointed to proceed with this work. The first meeting took place in Copenhagen on 10-11 March 2009, held

jointly with a WP1 budget meeting. The first WP6 student project has successfully been carried out by E-CLIC Värmland.



Calendar

E-CLIC Project Meeting

23/6 2009 Egmond aan Zee/
Haarlem, The Netherlands

NSR Annual Conference and General Assembly 2009

24-26/6 2009 Egmond aan Zee/
Haarlem, The Netherlands

Entrepreneurship Week

(including an E-CLIC project meeting)
12-17/10 2009 Stavanger,
Norway

Smart Cities Meeting

E-CLIC is invited to a joint
meeting with this NSR-project
8-10/12 2009
Bremenhaven, Germany

Stavanger 12-17 October 2009

Entrepreneurship Week

One week in Stavanger, Norway, by E-CLIC. The Entrepreneurship Week is above all a meeting place for students, entrepreneurs and employees.

The Entrepreneurship Week will offer a range of workshops to choose from. The length of your participation is up to you – half a day, one day, three days – you decide. The intention is that a full week will function as a course unit for students.

The mixture of attendants and speakers, workshops and lectures, company visits and social events will make this week a week to remember.



E-CLIC Värmland on Wheels

On 13 June 2009, E-CLIC Värmland took part in a 10 kilometre in-line race.

- A different and funny way to promote the project, Sture Hermansson said after the race.

E-CLIC Värmland decided to promote the E-CLIC project on wheels. The race – *Karlstads Stadslopp* – took the participants on a tour through Karlstad. A lot of people had gathered to cheer the skaters on, who all made it across the finishing line.



Team E-CLIC Värmland

E-CLIC Newsletter

This newsletter will be published twice a year.

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The Interreg IVB
North Sea Region
Programme



WiMax Offshore Communications

The E-CLIC centres of Rogaland, Värmland and Groningen are working together in a case study with the aim to combine existing technologies to create an industry need for new services and applications in the offshore oil and gas sector.

Today's wireless offshore communication solutions have limitations in terms of range, hazardous operating environments and static point-to-point network links. Wireless technologies such as WiMax in combination with mesh technologies will enable better bandwidth coverage, increased capacity, higher speeds and boosted

range – to a lower cost. This study aims to show that there are huge unexplored opportunities in the area of wireless communications for offshore use. The ground is prepared for developing new wireless and broadband services, which in turn will create a market-driven demand for these new applications and services.

Investing in the future by working together for a sustainable and competitive region