

e u r o p e a n CONNEXTION

THE NEWSLETTER FOR MEMBERS OF THE EU HITACHI SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY FORUM

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Editorial note

This is now a well-established tradition. The Forum members, who have kindly accepted to join the working group to prepare the agenda of the forthcoming Forum, meet in Brussels in the autumn. They met again this year and I have been most impressed, as well as my colleagues and the Forum fellows, by the dedication and commitment of the team led by Chris Marsh.

Dr. Michiharu Nakamura, president of Hitachi's R&D Group, participated in this working group meeting. He will be the chairman of the Forum Fellows for 2003.

Next year's topic will be **Energy**. You will find in this issue of Connexion Chris Marsh's summary of the working group recommendations. My team will now liaise closely with the working group to identify the speakers who will gather in Antwerp, the city selected for the venue of the Forum 2003.

I look forward to seeing you in this beautiful city and, in the meantime, I take this opportunity to wish you and your families a peaceful Christmas and a successful New Year.

Yours sincerely,

Norikiyo Koide
General Manager
Hitachi Corporate Office, Europe

Energy and its implications for European Society

The Agenda for the 2003 Forum – the Working Group discussions so far Chris Marsh

In the middle of October the Working Group for the 2003 Forum (the 6th, to be held in Antwerp 16-18th May 2003) started the process of planning the agenda. Initial discussions by email were followed by discussions with the Forum Fellows and Hitachi representatives from Japan and Europe at a meeting in Brussels at the end of November.

The 2002 Forum had decided that the topic of the 2003 Forum would be **Energy**. The first thing discussed by this year's Working Group was the Forum title and taking the lead from previous years "Energy and its implications for a European Society" was selected. This was followed by active discussion of the topics for the presentations. Two topics, Energy technologies for the 21st century and Energy policy for Europe were selected. Under Energy technologies for the 21st century it is planned to have presentations on:

- the generation of energy from the present mass market energy sources such as oil, gas, nuclear and coal,
- the generation of energy from the new (not yet mass market) energy sources such as hydrogen fuel cells, wind, wave, biomass, etc.,
- technologies for reducing energy consumption and
- alternative uses for energy technologies.

Each talk will cover the technology and the impact on the environment and society. Under Energy policy for Europe it is planned to have presentations giving a broad view of energy policy past and present, from the European Commission on their recent Green paper on Energy policy for Europe (*Towards a European strategy for the security of energy supply*) and a critic of the Green Paper from an independent expert perhaps from outside Europe (an expert from Japan would be very interesting).

As Energy is a field unfamiliar to most people it was also decided that the Forum would benefit from starting with a general presentation to explain the need for sustainable energy in Europe and by doing so introduce the topics of the following presentations.

For the parallel working sessions it was decided to try to have four sessions at next years Forum.

The preliminary titles selected for the sessions are:

- What should governments do to promote energy conservation?
- What is the best energy technology for defeating global warming?
- Energy supply, a right or a commodity?
- What should governments do to promote new energy technologies?

The format of the parallel working sessions and

presentations was also discussed and two new possible formats were proposed. At this stage it is difficult to say whether the new formats would work or be better than last years format so this is still being looked into.

As the organisation of the Forum continues, the Working Group is looking forward to what should be an interesting, informative and highly enjoyable Forum in 2003. We are also looking forward to seeing you there.

Chris Marsh is Chairman of the Working Group 2002-03.

He is a research fellow at the Department of Materials at the University of Oxford.



■ Participants at the working group meeting are (from left to right): M. Butcher, G. Leborgne, N. Koide, E. Mabiála, H. Craen, F. Axisa, S. Dupuis, A. Catlin, C. Marsh, R. Verrue, P. Longin, F. Schmitz, L. Geux, M. Nakamura, E. Dancer and S. Ishioka.

Let's meet...

... at the sixth EU Hitachi Science & Technology Forum,

Antwerp

16, 17 and 18 May 2003

The Forum's central topic will be:

ENERGY

Let's visit...

Since the 2001 Forum, Hitachi Corporate Office, Europe has organised a visit on a Friday afternoon related to the Forum's objectives and next key-topic. We are currently investigating different possibilities related to **Energy** which could be interesting for the Friday afternoon visit for the 2003 Forum. We will inform you as soon as we have more details.

Hitachi Review

Hitachi Review is a newsletter introducing the latest developments of Hitachi's science & technology activities. Since 1998 the full-page newsletter is available on the Hitachi website and covers, among other relevant domains, the following fields of technology: Information Systems, Electronics, Industrial Systems and Power Systems.

The December issue of Hitachi Review focuses on the newest technologies and developments in the areas of electric power and energy. These developments aim to tackle the current market demands by taking full advantage of the latest information technologies. The featured articles outline the different technology applications that are used to optimise the power and energy sector.

The web page and the articles can be consulted through the following URL: <http://global.hitachi.com/Sp/TJ-e/index.html>

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