

RoboBraille - towards an accessible and inclusive information society

A conference held by the RoboBraille Consortium and Synscenter Refsnæs, the Danish Center for Visual Impairment Children and Youth

The RoboBraille consortium and Synscenter Refsnæs, the Danish Center Visual for impairment Children and Youth, invite you to attend our conference.

Following the successful validation of RoboBraille amongst visually impaired users throughout Europe, the RoboBraille consortium has gathered a handful of interesting speakers to give their views and perspectives on how the RoboBraille-service and similar ICT solutions can be used to create a more accessible and inclusive information society.

Registration

Conference participation is free. Please sign up for the conference by sending a mail with your contact details to: conference@robobraille.org. The seats will be allocated on first come, first served basis.

Place

The conference is held at the Banquet Hall in Sorø Academy, Denmark on Friday November 30, 2007, at 9 am-3.30pm.

Directions

The address of the Banquet Hall (Festsalen) is:
Sorø Akademis Skole
Hovedbygningen, Akademigrunden 8
4180 Sorø

Trains leave from Copenhagen Central Station. For further information about routes and prices please visit: www.rejseplanen.dk.

Further Information

Don't hesitate to call on + 45 48 22 10 03 if you have questions about the arrangement, directions or accommodation.

Programme – preliminary

9.00-9.30	<i>Registration of participants Coffee</i>	
9.30-9.40	Welcome	<i>Rikke Syberg Henriksen (DK) Communicator</i>
9.40- 9.50	Welcome Speech Introduction to the RoboBraille project	<i>Dan Spangaard (DK) Director of the Synscenter Refsnæs, Danish Center for Visual impairment Children and Youth.</i>
9.50-10.00	Welcome Speech	<i>Bent Normann Olsen (DK) Deputy Chairman of the Regional Council of Zealand</i>
10.00- 10.10	Towards ICT for All	<i>Marie Munch (DK) Deputy Director General. Ministry of Science Technology and Innovation</i>
10.10- 10.35	Status and future perspectives of the RoboBraille-service	<i>Lars Ballieu Christensen (DK) RoboBraille Coordinator , Synscenter Refsnæs, The Danish Center for Visual impairment Children and Youth</i>
10.35- 10.50	<i>Coffee break</i>	
10.50- 11.20	Not scheduled	
11.20- 11.40	The application and use of RoboBraille within an educational setting”	<i>Ian Beverly (UK) Divisional Manager of European and International projects at the Royal National college for the Blind in Hereford</i>
11.40- 12.00	Braille- A unique access of literature and information for blind people.	<i>Kurt Nielsen (DK) Chairman of the Danish National Braille board.</i>
12.00- 13.00	<i>Lunch*</i>	
13.00- 13.30	"European Union of Networks"	<i>Anne E. Jensen (DK) Member of the European Parliament. Member of the Alliance of Liberals and Democrats for Europe</i>
13.30- 14.00	RoboBraille - The right answer to the demand for	<i>Dr.Giulio Nadone (IT) National President of the</i>

	culture and information accessible to everyone.	Associazione Disabili Visivi
14.00-14.15	E-inclusion - A vital chance for blind and partially sighted people for mainstreaming in society	<i>Thorkild Olesen (DK)</i> Vice-president Danish Association of the Blind.
14.15-14.45	<i>Coffee and pastry</i>	
14.45-15.15	Design for all	Brian Boile (IE) (unconfirmed)
15.15-15.30	Conclusions	<i>Lars Ballieu Christensen (DK)</i>

* Please note that lunch does not include beverages

About the RoboBraille service

RoboBraille is an email-based service capable of translating electronic documents into either Braille or synthetic speech. The user simply sends an email to a specific email account and gets the file back as either Braille or speech within a couple of minutes. This makes the user highly independent and self-reliant, as material in Braille or speech can be obtained whenever this is required without having to rely on external suppliers. Thus, the RoboBraille service supports an inclusive information society.

The RoboBraille project receives financial support from the European Commission within the scope of the eTEN programme. During 2007 the service has been validated amongst users in Cyprus, Ireland, Italy, Portugal, United Kingdom and Denmark.

The RoboBraille project was named "Project of the Month" for the month of June 2007 by the European Commission, selected amongst a large number of European projects. Furthermore, the RoboBraille service has been shortlisted as a finalist for the 2007 Social Contribution Project Award awarded by the British Computer Society as part of its Project Excellence Awards. The winners will be announced on December 6, 2007.

For more information about the service Please visit our website www.robobraille.org.