

Information for the press

IST 2004 Event: demo of wireless networking for communities and innovation

The Hague, 15th November 2004. During the European IST 2004 Event an outdoor wireless network is operational covering the area around the congress centre and Crown Hotel. VAIPS, a start-up company cooperating with Wireless Leiden, is demonstrating the use of WiFi technology for building a low cost, stand-alone wireless city-wide network.

WiFi technology is commonly used for wireless office networks and also for hotspots (wireless access points which provide connections to the Internet), i.e. for indoors and single point usage. In contrast, the Wireless Leiden Foundation has been enhancing WiFi technology for building a fully independent network of cooperating (federated) nodes, covering the City of Leyden and surrounding villages.

The network is fast, inexpensive, and extremely well suited for local communication and community Internet access. It is one of the largest outdoor WiFi-networks in the world with over fifty network nodes. It has easy and free access, both for making a connection, for delivering information and services over the network and for experimenting with new applications. The project is built on: enthusiasm, inexpensive hardware, open standards, open source software - and foremost a cooperative approach involving individuals, organizations, companies (such as VAIPS) and city government.

end of press release

website Wireless Leiden Foundation: <http://www.wirelessleiden.nl/english/>

contact person: Huub Schuurmans, +31 071 5139817, huub@wirelessleiden.nl
contact person VAIPS: Arno Rootsaert, +31 (0)6 53287969 arno@vaips.net