



Welcome

At our network meeting last June, we all decided that a regular communication would be a great benefit – so welcome to our first newsletter!

As it's a forum for sharing information on new science initiatives and drawing attention to existing projects, please remember to share your news with us.

Science In Schools is one of the Laboratories launched under the umbrella of the European Alliance for Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), and aims to ignite young people's curiosity and interest in science by providing industry-developed science education resources to complement teachers' work.

We have already established collaboration networks in 10 countries across Europe, and hope to add more during 2009 by building on our successes and recruiting new organisations.

On December 4 in Brussels at a major CSR Europe event, the European Alliance for CSR launched the outputs of the various Laboratories' work in the form of *Toolboxes* designed to help companies address challenges facing society.

To launch our Toolbox, our Laboratory Leader Celia Moore gave a presentation *Enhancing Science Education in Schools*, and the video can be [viewed here](#) (full URL in contacts section).

Ron Hulman, Editor

New podcast directory resource

This month we have launched an exciting new resource which will provide us with an up-to-the-minute, science-focused podcast directory.

Aimed primarily at teachers, the audio and video podcasts have been chosen to complement and enhance professional development by helping teachers articulate the everyday application of science - and inspire their students.

Broad spectrum

The directory, which offers links to more than 100 publicly-available materials, covers a wide-range of science-related subjects from *'The personal side of Robots'* by Dr Cynthia Breaseal to *'Mechanical Engineering Job Profiles'* from the CareersPortal in Ireland.

The podcasts show mainly young people with careers in industry and so serve as role models for our next generation of engineers

and scientists. This innovative directory will provide a one-stop shop which brings to life the everyday applications of science, and complements the teaching of Maths, Science, Technology and Engineering in classrooms across Europe.

Currently, the majority of podcasts are in English, but as we expand - and with your help - our aim is to source relevant and enlightening materials across all our languages.

If your company has podcasts, or you are aware of suitable materials to add to the directory, please forward the relevant URL to the Editor.

To access the directory, or to download for hosting in your country networks please visit: www.csreurope.org/toolbox/scienceinschools.

National Engineers Week provides Major Opportunity

National Engineers Week, commencing February 15, provides the ideal opportunity for collaborative activities across companies, and a platform from which to promote Science in Schools and its related benefits throughout 2009.

[Engineers Week](#) (eWeek) - founded through a coalition of more than 100 professional societies, corporations and government agencies – enables organisations to reach out to a new generation of engineers by promoting an understanding and interest in engineering and technology young students.

Making a difference

Our networks in Ireland and Portugal will be using eWeek to promote Science in Schools,

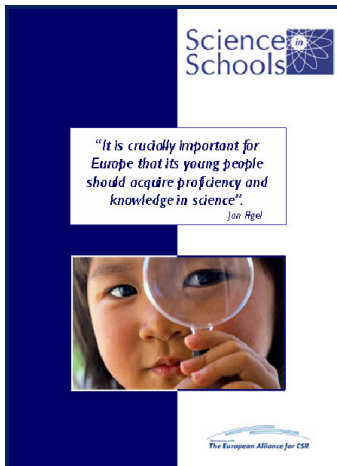


and we encourage all country networks and companies to use this opportunity to design or co-brand existing activities.

For example, in 2007 IBM used eWeek to recruit IBM volunteers from its female and minority groups to serve as engineering role models. These volunteers subsequently engaged with more than 69,000 students during visits to schools, IBM locations, and other community events.

To encourage recruitment, don't forget to use the Science in Schools booklet featured in this newsletter.

Booklet promotes Science in Schools



Collaboration is key to Science in Schools and, by acting together, we can provide a focal point for industry co-ordination.

To help promote this important project, we have published a 28-page booklet which sets out the background to Science in Schools, and outlines its aims and objectives.

The booklet can help you maximise your own understanding of Science In Schools, and is ideal collateral to assist with recruitment drives.

The Science in Schools booklet is one of a number of resources available which can be downloaded by visiting: www.csreurope.org/toolbox/scienceinschools. The booklet will soon be available in Spanish.

Did you know?

Only 15% of Europeans are satisfied with the quality of science classes in school.



EILL commits to support Science in Schools

As part of its remit to encourage young people into careers in the technical professions, EILL (European Institute for Industrial Leadership) has recognised the value of Science in Schools and is committed to promoting the scheme to its membership.

sustainable supply of future leaders for the manufacturing and technology-led industry in Europe. It is committed to the continued professional development of engineers, scientists and technical professionals.

For further information visit: <http://www.eiil.net/mambo/>

EILL, a not-for-profit organisation, is dedicated to developing a

Contact information:

Please submit your stories, information, or podcast files to the Editor: ron_hulman@uk.ibm.com or tel +44 (0)20 8818 4087

Science in Schools
toolbox: www.csreurope.org/toolbox/scienceinschools

Celia Moore's video : *Enhancing Science Education in Schools*
http://www.csreurope.org/pages/en/enhancing_science_education_in_schools.html

News from the network

Sweden

Private sector science education initiatives are currently being studied by a team from the Association of the Swedish Engineering Industries.

The findings will enable the team to understand and disseminate the sorts of science education practices which work best with students in schools, and use these findings to help inform education policy makers.

Austria

The launch of a two-year research project - 'INSPIRE' (Innovative Science Pedagogy in Research and Education) – is hoped to extend the supply of scientific specialists in Europe. It will introduce a limited validation observatory with 60 schools which will use, test and analyse new didactical tools in the field of Maths, Science and Technology.

Netherlands

In August, 50 teachers attended a three-day event to explore the implications of Web 2.0 to the future of education.

Hosted by IBM in partnership with Kennisnet (the Dutch support organisation in the field of education and ICT), the attendees looked at the development and evolution of Web culture communities and examined the changes in the way end-users are utilising the Web.

One of the major trends discussed was the introduction of games embedded into a wide-range of educational content enabling students to 'learn without knowing they were learning.'

United Kingdom

Business in the Community and IBM held a workshop in November to formally launch and invite participation in an industry collaboration to complement STEM – a strategy introduced by the UK government to improve education in the disciplines of Science, Technology, Engineering and Maths.