

Celtic Press Release

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Four excellent ICT projects awarded at Celtic-Plus Event 2012

The awards ceremony at this year's Celtic-Plus Event in Stockholm on 22 February may have been slightly less glamorous than the Oscar ceremony in Hollywood. However, the ICT projects receiving the awards could eventually have a more sustainable impact on everyone's lives than the celebrated movies.



Winners of the 2012 Celtic Awards, together with Celtic-Plus officials in Stockholm

First Celtic Innovation Award goes to WINNER+

This year's edition of the Celtic-Plus Event saw the premiere of the new Celtic Innovation Award. The award was created to acknowledge the actual industrial market impacts of Celtic projects results. The worthy winner of the first Celtic Innovation Award was the project with the auspicious name WINNER+, which stands for Wireless World Initiative New Radio. The project verified and implemented the new 4G mobile technology standards LTE and LTE-advanced in trials, thus making a major contribution to the high-speed mobile communications of tomorrow with European industry in the leading role. The world's first commercial 4G/LTE network was launched in Stockholm in 14 December 2009, and there are today about 10 million 4G/LTE subscribers worldwide.

The project leader, Werner Mohr from NSN Germany, received the prize from Charlotte Brogren, the Director General of the Swedish research funding agency Vinnova. In her laudation, Ms Brogren praised WINNER+ as an excellent example of how European collaborative research can complement each other. WINNER had started as an FP6 EU project and was continued and finalised as WINNER+ in Celtic.

Celtic Excellence Awards for SERVERY, OPERA-Net, and HNPS

The about 200 participants of the Celtic-Plus Event had further opportunity to applaud, as there were three more winning projects.

The **Gold Award** winner in the traditional Celtic project excellence category was the **SERVERY**, which had realized prototypes and evaluations of an open European service marketplace. In addition to service delivery, the system also allows creating and commercialising multimedia services to mobile and fixed broadband users. Some project partners have already created new products based on SERVERY. The most advanced is the BlueVia sales-portal from Telefónica, which integrates several SERVERY functionalities. Alcatel-Lucent, Bull and NSN have also integrated results from SERVERY into some of their new products. In 2011 sales of solutions coming from SERVERY already amounted to 1 million euro, Much more is foreseen in the near future.

The **Silver Award** went to **OPERA-Net** (Optimising Power Efficiency in mobile Radio Networks). The project developed holistic solutions for reducing power consumption in communications networks and for evaluating network elements and their interdependencies. The business relevance of OPERA-Net is very high: reduction of power consumption is ensured through the network analysis when base stations are in sleep mode and the related efficiency improvement that can be achieved.

Finally, the **Bronze Award** went to HNPS (Heterogeneous Network for European Public Safety). The project had developed a well-controlled integration of communication systems, including private mobile radio systems and broadband services, using fixed or deployed networks. The security platform created by HNPS allows to seamlessly and autonomously use six different network technologies. The HNPS system was successfully demonstrated to user communities, including policemen and fire-fighters.

The award winners and other outstanding Celtic projects demonstrated their solutions in the exhibition, which accompanied the conference part of the event.

About Celtic-Plus

Celtic-Plus is an industry-driven European research initiative to define, perform and finance through public and private funding common research projects in the area of telecommunications, new media, future Internet, and applications & services focusing on a new "Smart Connected World" paradigm. Celtic-Plus is a EUREKA ICT cluster and belongs to the inter-governmental EUREKA network.

Celtic-Plus is open to any type of company covering the Celtic-Plus research areas, large industry as well as small companies or universities and research organisations. Even companies outside the EUREKA countries may get some possibilities to join a Celtic-Plus project under certain conditions.

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