

Luleå, 2009 – 06 – 09

## Conference on Future Internet in Northern Sweden

For one week in late-June and early-July, international researchers, public authorities and companies will gather in Luleå, in northern Sweden, to take a look at the Internet of the future. The conference, which is in conjunction with the Swedish EU presidency, will bring together ten current EU-sponsored research projects.

Behind "FIRE and Living Labs – Future Internet by the People", which is expected to attract more than 300 delegates, are Luleå University of Technology (LTU), with its Centre for Distance-spanning Technology (CDT), and the European Commission. In addition to researchers, public-sector bodies and companies, participants will include Sweden's Minister for Infrastructure, Åsa Torstensson; telecom giant Ericsson's research manager, Jan Färjh, and Antti Peltomäki, the EU's Deputy D.G. for Information Society & Media.

- "The conference will be an opportunity to merge academic Internet research with hands-on projects within the European Living Labs Network, in which ICT-based services and products are developed with the aid of actual product users. We're a European leader when it comes to this working method," says Michael Nilsson of CDT, one of the programme arrangers.

During the week of June 29<sup>th</sup> through July 3<sup>rd</sup>, a range of parallel seminars will be held. Among others, ITU, the International Telecommunication Union, will hold its own meetings, as will many of the research projects. On July 1<sup>st</sup> and 2<sup>nd</sup>, the official and public sessions of the conference will take place. About ten EU-sponsored research projects will be presented and demonstrated during the week in Luleå. LTU researchers are involved in four of these projects. One of the projects, N4C, is looking at ways of making broadband solutions available in communications-challenged communities, i.e., places with no access to ADSL, satellites or 3G. N4C trials are under way with the involvement of reindeer herders in the high fell country of Norrbotten, in northern Sweden. The project is building on technology developed by NASA for interplanetary Internet. Read more about "FIRE and Living Labs – Future Internet by the People" at: [www.fireandlivinglabs09.eu](http://www.fireandlivinglabs09.eu)

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