TII INNOVATION TOUR TO FINLAND Helsinki and Tampere Regions 8-10 June 2009



PROGRAMME

Introduction:

Discover first-hand the players and institutions which excel in research commercialisation, academic entrepreneurship and knowledge-based company creation in some of the world's leading innovative regions. Over 3 days, a group of visiting specialists/ programme leaders in the field of university-industry collaboration, knowledge-intensive entrepreneurship and research commercialisation meet with their counterparts in the Helsinki/Tampere regions and learn about their practices and the key ingredients to their success. The event offers privileged opportunities to network with innovation support and technology transfer practitioners from the visited regions and with other international Tour members, as well as discover some of the unique cultural features of the host regions and Finnish lifestyle and experience the Nordic summer where the sun never sets.

Sunday 7 June 2009

During the day Arrival of participants at Helsinki-Vantaa airport, free time to discover the city, overnight stay at the centrally located Hotel Scandic Marski, Mannerheimintie 10

Monday 8 June 2009

08.45 Departure of coach from Hotel Scandic Marski Helsinki to TEKES, the Finnish Funding Agency for Technology and Innovation, Kyllikinportti 2

- 09.00 12.00 Scene-setting introduction to the innovation support system in Finland, including presentations of Tekes' activities (R&D programmes, proof of concept schemes, research-based technology transfer and innovation support initiative TULI).
 - Janne Viemerö, Director (Unit for Business Competence, Industrial Design and Competence Management)
 - Peter Westersträhle, Head of Office, Tekes Washington DC
 - Sami Heikkiniemi, Business Adviser/TULI Programme Manager

Introduction also to the organizations and activities of TII members located in the Helsinki region.

- Advansis, Kimmo Halme, Managing Director



- Small Business Center/Start Up Center of Helsinki School of Economics, Anne Gustafsson-Pesonen, Training Director
- 12.00 13.45 Short walk and lunch at the Sokos Hotel Pasila (Sevilla restaurant), Maistraatinportti 3
- 13.45 14.00 Transfer by coach to Forum Virium Helsinki, RTI-House 5D, Uutiskatu 2
- 14.00 16.00 Presentation of Forum Virium, its Innovation Communities and Living Lab concepts
 - Jarmo Eskelinen, Director
 - Project managers responsible for successful projects
- 16.30 16.30 Transfer by coach to the hotel
- 17.00 19.00 Departure from Hotel Scandic Marski for a guided tour by coach of Helsinki. The visit will include the neo-classical Senate Square, Market Square, Finnish National Gallery, National Theatre and Opera House, Finlandia Hall, the Sibelius monument and the Church of the Rock. Tour ends at Market Square close to the harbour.
- 19.00 21.30 Embarkation on Royal Line Oy for dinner cruise in the Helsinki Archipelago; short walk from harbour back to the hotel Scandic Marski

Tuesday 9 June 2009

- 08.30 09.00 Check-out from hotel and transfer by coach to Otaniemi Technopolis-Innopoli 2, Tekniikantie 14
- 09.00 10.00 Introduction to Otaniemi, the heart of Finland's hi-tech, Melissa Hardén, Otaniemi Marketing and Customer Service Manager
- 10.00 11.00 VTT Technical Research Centre of Finland as an innovation partner, Timo Pulli, Business Development Manager, VTT Technical Research Center of Finland
- 11.00 12.00 Technopolis Business Development Services: case Innovation Mill, Inka Orko, Research Discovery Services, Technopolis Ventures Ltd.
- 12.00 13.00 Lunch
- 13.00 14.00 University-industry collaboration at TKK Helsinki University of Technology Innovation Center, Teemu Seppälä, Innovation Manager
- 14.00 15.30 Transfer by coach to the Design Factory (www.aaltodesignfactory.fi) and in situ presentation of this activity of the new Aalto University created from a merger of 3 existing universities: HUT, Helsinki School of Economics and University of Art and Design Helsinki, Jussi Hannula



- 15.30 18.00 Transfer by coach to Tampere, and check-in at the Scandic Tampere City Hotel, Hämeenkatu 1
- 19.45 22.30 Transfer by coach to the observation tower Näsinneula overlooking Lake Näsijärva and dinner at its rotating restaurant, the highest place to dine in Finland

Wednesday 10 June 2009

- 08.30 09.00 Transfer by coach to Tampere University of Technology, Tekniikankatu, Sähkötalo building
- 09.00 11.00 Introduction to Tampere University of Technology, Optoelectronics Research Centre, one of the most successful university departments in terms of spin-off company creation in Finland: presentation of Laser Industry Development in Tampere Region, including case study examples of spin-off companies followed by a visit to the optoelectronics laboratory, Pekka Savolainen, Development Director
- 11.00 11.30 Transfer by coach to Finn-Medi, Biokatu 6, meeting room Pulssi
- 11.30 12.30 Innovation policy of the City of Tampere, Kari Löytty, Business Development Manager, Tredea Oy (recently established development company of the Tampere region)
- 12.30 13.30 Lunch
- 13.30 14.45 Finn-Medi's experience in developing a regional Life Science business activity, Reijo Itkonen, Business Development Director
- 14.45 15.00 Coffee break
- 15.00 16.00 Presentation of FIMECC Ltd., one of six recently established Finnish strategic centres for science, technology and innovation (CSTI), Seppo Tikkanen, Chief Technology Officer
- 16.00 16.15 Return by coach to hotel
- 17.00 22.00 Departure by coach for Sastamala lake, introduction to Finnish sauna and dinner; return to Hotel Scandic City

Thursday 11 June 2009

8.30 – 11.00 Check-out from hotel and transfer by coach back to Helsinki city centre, via Helsinki Vantaa airport

