

# Nice-Sophia Antipolis

## Unique gateway for projects in France

### "European Satellite Navigation Competition 2008"

*Europe's competition for satellite navigation applications.*

**Nice-Sophia Antipolis, May 19, 2008:** Thanks to the vast Galileo project currently underway, Europe will be equipped within 5 to 10 years, with an extremely high precision, satellite positioning system, placed under civil control, and paving the way for a wealth of services. Totally independent, but interoperable with the two systems in place (US GPS system and Russian GLONASS) **Galileo will represent some 1,8 billion users by 2010 and up to 3,6 billion by 2020.**

The Galileo Masters competition, baptised in 2008, "European Satellite Navigation Competition", was launched 5 years ago to reward the best project in the field of satellite navigation applications. This initiative has since gained momentum, with the number of regions increasing from 3 to 13, the number of participants from 84 to 258, with a team of 77 experts (instead of 17 to start) now in charge of evaluating the ideas submitted.

This year's competition involves 13 regions and reaches beyond Europe to take on an international dimension: Bavaria, Hesse, Baden-Württemberg, Lower Saxony, North Rhine-Westphalia, Nice - Sophia Antipolis, Prague, South Holland, Madrid, Lombardy, Great Britain, Ireland, and 2 new regions: Queensland / Australia and Taipei / Taiwan.

The competition has for the first time received the support of the GSA, the European authority that supervises the Galileo program and is keen on accelerating the development of the GNSS markets while maintaining European competitiveness.

The Nice - Sophia Antipolis region, which has, from the start, been Bavaria's historical partner for the competition, is the unique entry for projects in France. Participation is coordinated by Team Côte d'Azur, the economic development agency of the Côte d'Azur, and the Fondation Sophia Antipolis, in charge of the park's scientific and cultural animation.

Three of the prestigious Galileo Masters were won under the French banner: Dr. Elmar Paul Selbach in 2004, VU Log in 2005 and ANTEQ in 2007. Sophia Antipolis based NODBOX, won the Special Prize 2007 attributed by Germany's T-Systems and addressing one of the company's industrial issues.

- **The European GNSS Supervisory Authority (GSA)** is searching for promising solutions that apply the improved accuracy and integrity of the European Geostationary Navigation Overlay Service (EGNOS) to tap into new - particularly security-critical - fields. EGNOS is Europe's 2nd satellite navigation and positioning program which is already in use and will be fully operational in 2009.
- **the European Space Agency (ESA)** will reward the most innovative idea for commercial applications that can be realized both quickly and for the long term.
- **The Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI)** of Taiwan will award its prize to the best gaming concept, regardless of genre, platform, or number of possible players.
- **T-Systems and DHL** have joined forces to find an innovative means of optimizing the freight volume of its DHL delivery vehicles.

***Application ideas involving any aspect of satellite navigation can be submitted***

***- from May 1 to July 31: at [www.galileo-masters.com](http://www.galileo-masters.com).***

***Expert jury deliberation to select regional finalists will take place in August***

***- 18-19 September : Winner selected at international meeting of jury presidents in Sophia Antipolis.***

***- 21 October : Award ceremony at the trade show SYSTEMS in Munich.***