



The **Leading **C**ountry in **G**lobal **T**echnology, Finland, announces the Inaugural Millennium Technology Prize of One Million Euros to World Wide Web Inventor Berners-Lee**

Finland with highest Internet and mobile phone penetration in the world (thanks to NOKIA) has named World Wide Web inventor Tim Berners-Lee recipient of the first-ever Millennium Technology Prize.

The honor, which is accompanied by one million euros (A\$1,615,000), is bestowed by Finnish Technology Award Foundation, an independent fund established in 2002 and funded by the Finnish public and private sectors. The award is an international acknowledgement of outstanding technological innovation that directly promotes peoples quality of life, is based on humane values, and encourages sustainable economic development.

Berners-Lee created the first server, browser, and protocols central to the operation of the Web: the URL address, HTTP transmission protocol and HTML code. Currently Berners-Lee works at the World Wide Web Consortium (W3C) at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (M.I.T.), in Boston.

Seventy-eight innovators from 22 countries were nominated for the Millennium Technology Prize 2004 in four technological fields: health care and life sciences; communication and information; new materials and processes; and energy and the environment.

Berners-Lee will be lauded at an award ceremony at Helsinki's Finlandia Hall on June 15, 2004, held in conjunction with the inaugural Millennium Technology Conference, "Future Society - Future Technology." Future prizes will be awarded biennially. Visit <http://www.technologyawards.org/> for more information.

Finnish Minister of Trade and Industry visits Australia in April

Mr Mauri Pekkarinen, Finnish Minister of Trade and Industry, and a delegation of representatives of 15 Finnish companies will visit Australia to promote "High technologies and business solutions from Finland".

A PRESS CONFERENCE will be held on 27 April at 7:30 am for 7.45 am start until 8:45 am at NOKIA HOUSE, 6th floor, 19 Harris St, Pyrmont NSW 2000.

The purpose of the visit is to introduce ICT, fibre technologies' chemical detention, logistics, financing, metals technology engineering, waste management, the wood processing industry, forest machinery, touring cars, and the language learning solutions industries from Finland.

The media is also invited to the Finnish Business Seminar starting at 9 am at the Nokia House, where Minister Pekkarinen will also launch the newly established Finland Australia Chamber of the Commerce web site (Programme attached).

RSVP and interview requests by 21 April 2004 to Finnesse Communications: e-mail satu@finnesse.com.au or tel. 02 9929 6044

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