

SAVE THE DATE!

PostEurop 2016 Innovation Forum

Smart Cities & Internet of Things (IoT)

Larnaca, Cyprus, 24th November 2016

Hosted by



ΚΥΠΡΙΑΚΑ ΤΑΧΥΔΡΟΜΕΙΑ
CYPRUS POST

About PostEurop

POSTEUROP is the association which represents European postal operators. It is committed to supporting and developing a sustainable European postal communication market accessible to all customers and ensuring a modern and affordable universal service. Our Members represent 2 million employees across Europe and deliver to 800 million customers daily. For more information visit www.posteurop.org.

The Operational Activities Circle

The Operational Activities Circle (OAC) is PostEurop's platform for discussing and sharing expertise on postal operations, quality of service, retail outlets, terminal dues (the payments settled between postal partners when distributing post from abroad) and advanced electronic solutions. Over the past few years, the OAC has even extended its wide coverage to topics and issues relevant to secure and enhance postal operations. It aims at providing the Working Groups with the necessary tools and information to continue to drive quality and operational excellence in the light of the future challenges of the sector, with the aim of using the best available expertise/knowledge.

The Innovation Forum

The Innovation Forum (formerly known as Advanced Electronic Forum) aims to provide a platform for discussing the latest trends and developments in information and communication technology, in order to develop and improve efficiency and to inspire PostEurop Members on ways to improve Quality of Service, new value-added services and IT-integrated customised solutions. It is organized each year to create more awareness about "what's going on out there" and inspire Postal operators to design and build solutions, products and services that fully meet their customers' needs.

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OBJECTIVE OF THE 2016 INNOVATION FORUM

The extraordinary development of ICT (Information and Telecommunication Technologies), in particular the exponential growth of Internet and the proliferation of smartphones, has been shaping, on one hand, how societies tend to organise themselves and, on the other, how everybody and everything is interconnected.

In what concerns societies one has been observing that more and more populations tend to concentrate in bigger cities, seeking, at the same time, for higher life quality standards.

This means that cities must be smarter, that's to say that they must manage the investments in social and human capital as well as in transportation and modern communication infrastructures in a proper way so as to support a sustainable economic development and demand for high quality of life, which will further contribute to the efficiency of the several services rendered by those smart cities.

On the other side, Internet is a network that is present everywhere and interconnects everything. This Internet of things (IoT) "is the network of physical devices, vehicles, buildings and other items – embedded with electronics, software, sensors, actuators and network connectivity that enable these objects to collect and exchange data: IoT is the infrastructure of the information society".¹

Postal Operators due to the above referred developments of ICT (and in particular of Internet) and also because of the impact of globalisation, e-substitution effect and on-going fierce competition have realised that their traditional business is fading away. So they must keep up with the dawn of a new era: they perceive these new realities – smart cities and IoT – as a challenge that, vis-à-vis the capillarity and strength represented by their assets (like post office stations, truck and car fleet, distribution and logistics skills, mailmen force) will enable them to provide new solutions, services and products that will constitute new sources of revenues. And allow them to stay in business.

To address the opportunities that Smart Cities and IoT represent for Posts, PostEurop organised in Larnaca, Cyprus, on 24 November – and kindly hosted by Cyprus Post – the 2016 Innovation Forum to present and discuss the varying points of view of Postal Operators and other organisations committed to these topics.

Who should attend: all senior professionals, within Postal Operators, responsible for Strategic Development, Commercial and Marketing areas, as well as for those in charge of Innovation, development of new ICT based solutions or Operational level.

¹ Wikipedia - "Internet of Things Global Standards Initiative". ITU