

competa™

COMMUNITY

Supporting business and
technology communities

'Connecting business and technology since 1997'

Technology matures through the community around it.

Non-profit organisations and other community-based initiatives play an important role in the development of technology and its application in business.

Competa supports the community by subsidising facilities and sponsoring projects

Conference Center

A meeting place for professionals to share knowledge and experience, help each other and learn.

Sponsorship

About the projects we currently support, including the Fair Trade Software Foundation

Presentations

Presentations on a wide range of subjects including "TechTalks" and "Business Updates"

Services

Up-coming events from Competa and other organisations. On-line booking system



Conference Center

A meeting place for professionals

The Competa Conference Center is a professionally equipped conference facility located in Rijswijk, easy to reach by car and public transport. Conferences, seminars, training and other meetings are held at the venue, organised by Competa and other organisations.

About the Facilities

Professional and informal

The venue is comfortable and informal, and has a conference capacity of over 100 people. Full business facilities are provided, including professional audio-visual and telecommunications equipment. The venue is available for hire by external organisations, both commercial and non-profit. This includes:

- User groups and other non-profit organisations
- Companies and commercial organizations
- Individuals and groups wanting to run seminars, conferences or training sessions

Rates are very competitive. For events of a technical nature and of interest to technical IT professionals, the facilities are available for free or low cost. For certain events, such as user group meetings, Competa will be happy to sponsor refreshments.

Why do we do this?

Competa cares about technology

Technology develops and matures through the sharing of knowledge and experience. User groups, companies and conference organizations all play a part in facilitating the transfer of knowledge. But we noticed that something was missing:

- Conferences are infrequent and may be difficult to attend due to work commitment, cost and timing
- Companies offer free seminars but these are often a sales pitch rather than technology focused events
- User groups and other non-profit organizations sometimes struggle to find venues for meetings that provide adequate facilities at an affordable cost

We care about technology and so wanted to create a venue to fill the gap. It is our vision that the Competa Conference Center will become the meeting-place for information technology knowledge exchange in the Netherlands.

A meeting place for professionals to share knowledge and experience, help each other and learn

Sponsorship

Giving something back

Competa likes to get involved in all aspects of technology and actively and enthusiastically supports and sponsors community-based technology initiatives.

We know that ideas developing in the community today will have useful applications in business tomorrow. For example the IT community can perform research and develop new ideas not yet commercially viable, help new technologies to reach critical mass, or find new applications for existing technologies.

If you are a member of a technology user group or involved in a community technology project there are many ways that Competa can help you. Possibilities include free use of our conference center for meetings, free access to business and technology consultants, or free help with technical support. Contact Us and tell us why your work is important, and how you think we can help.

Examples of community projects currently supported:



Fair Trade Software Foundation

Fair Trade Software is a new initiative started in the Netherlands and the UK. Modern software is highly modular, allowing components to be written in developing countries whilst the end-product is designed, assembled and delivered in an OECD country. This is possible thanks to Open Source technologies and the philosophy of Internet "communities", and the availability of telecoms links to developing countries. This is not charity or low cost outsourcing - it can be regarded as leveraged aid. Competa helped to create the Fair Trade Software Foundation.



Open Solaris

Open Solaris is an Enterprise Operating System based on Solaris, but openly and freely developed and distributed. Many new operating system technologies are developed in Open Solaris. Competa staff actively participate in a number of Open Solaris development projects. Competa also supports the local Netherlands Open Solaris Interest Group (NOSIG), for example by providing facilities for meetings at our offices in Rijswijk.



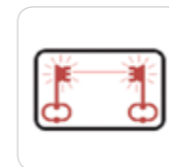
CAcert

Digital identity certificates are an important internet security technology. CAcert is the only non-commercial authority to issue certificates, which are available to the public for free, based on a web of trust. This is an important service, and Competa supports the community by assisting with assurances. Competa also supports the CAcert foundation directly, by providing consultancy services, and by maintaining CAcert systems in the Dutch datacenter with our Support service.



The NLUUG FTP server

One of the oldest and most active technology user groups in the Netherlands is the NLUUG (Netherlands UNIX User Group). The NLUUG supports Open Systems and Open Standards users in the Netherlands by organising bi-annual conferences and other events, and by operating one of the largest FTP archives in Europe. Competa staff sit on the NLUUG Board, and regularly give presentations at conferences. Competa helps with the FTP archive by providing server maintenance through the Competa Support service.



Wireless Leiden Foundation

Wireless Leiden is the largest Wireless Community network in the Netherlands and one of the largest in the world. The ambitious project has led to innovation in many areas including embedded systems and new routing schemes for wireless networks. One such innovation is the development of an authentication system for closed groups over open infrastructures, run by Competa in partnership with Hogeschool Leiden. Competa also provides consultancy for systems architecture, and management and training of Hogeschool students.



Xenerix

Xenerix is an Open Source Content Management framework. The research project, run by Hogeschool Zeeland, develops software for a new type of Content Management System. Unlike other CMS, Xenerix uses a data model which treats each individual item of data as "atomic" rather than storing related information together. Competa assists Hogeschool Zeeland with Training Workshops and Software Development services for architecture, including support for developers such as code reviews.

Presentations

Sponsored events

Competa organizes regular presentations at the conference center. The events are usually held in the evening to make it easy for people to attend, and food and drinks are provided for free.

TechTalks

Keeping the content technical

We sponsor presentations by invited speakers that will be of interest to technical IT professionals. The presentations are of a highly technical nature, and completely free from marketing and sales talk.

The TechTalks are an opportunity to meet others, share experiences and learn about technology. In addition to networking with other technical people you can build your skills and improve your CV.

Recent presentations have included

- Software development: Python and Django
- Networking: IPv6, Wireless, IP QoS
- Operating Systems: Open Solaris, FreeBSD, Embedded Systems, Timekeeping, ZFS
- Middleware and tools: Puppet
- General: Research Infrastructure, Web Performance Analysis

We are always looking for more speakers, so if you know about an interesting subject and would like to share your knowledge with the rest of the community please tell us and we will organize an event. Don't worry if you are inexperienced in giving presentations. Competa events are informal and the ideal place to practice your presentation skills. Competa can also help with reviewing material and tips on presentation skills.

Business updates

Benefit from technology

Competa business seminars provide up to the minute information on key business technology issues. Expert speakers and case study presenters from a range of organisations are selected to share their knowledge and experience with delegates. The seminars are focused and a practical way to learn about more specific issues.

Events provide great networking opportunities whilst bringing your knowledge of key business technology issues completely up to date.

Presentations cover common business questions and issues, such as:

- Sustainable development and corporate responsibility
- Demographics and trends in Social Media
- Green computing: reducing your carbon footprint
- Cloud computing: separating the truth from the hype

For upcoming events please look on our website or join the Competa Conference LinkedIn group



Events organized by Competa, our business partners and other industry organizations

Our Services

Technology expertise delivered through multiple service lines

Competa delivers enterprise information technology solutions to support customer business via a number of complimentary channels. Please see the separate service brochures for each of the following services

Vision

“A future where technology is fully utilised and businesses are able to benefit from all of the advantages that technology can bring”

Mission

“To enable business with information technology, translating business challenges and ideas into working technical solutions”



Consulting

Independent, objective and unbiased advice

Problem solving, systems architecture, advice on vendor, technology and product selection



Development

Software and systems that do exactly what you want

Flexible development services delivering working solutions with on-going support and training



Support

Concentrate on business, forget about operations

Fill the gaps in your team with exactly the right level of support, available on-demand



Training

Growing your assets and improving your performance

Focused training, tailored to your specific learning requirements and infrastructure



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