

Southern Africa

▼ The *Meraka Institute*, the CSIR's national research centre dedicated to information and communications technology (ICT), was part of the *Department of Communication's* delegation on the ICT4All exhibition – the major parallel, multi-stakeholder event of the *World Summit on the Information Society* (WSIS) that was held in Tunisia this month. The ICT4All exhibition aims to contribute to the more effective use of ICT worldwide. The Meraka Institute promoted a selection of innovative ICT-based products and services, which have been developed through some of its current initiatives. These comprise:

↳ The Digital Doorway which promotes widespread computer literacy through minimally invasive education.

↳ The National Accessibility Portal which aims to enhance the development and independent living of persons with disabilities.

↳ Wireless Africa which researches ways and means to develop sustainable ICT infrastructure in developing countries.

↳ Open Source Centre which amplifies the benefits of Free/Libre and Open Source Software – locally and abroad.

↳ Human Language Technologies which creates, applies and adapts speech and language technologies for the benefits of the people of southern Africa.

▼ *Actum Electronics* has announced that it has purchased the complete business of *Altico Static Control Products* (Altico) as a going concern, effective 1 November 2005. Altico, a well-established distributor of static control products including anti-static clothing and equipment, anti-static consumables and packaging, and anti-static flooring, will be incorporated as a division of Actum Electronics.

▼ *Measuring Instruments Technology* (MIT) has been appointed as the exclusive South African distributor of products from *Andor Technology*, a maker of instruments for spectroscopy and scientific imaging. The product range includes a range of multichannel and gated detectors. Andor was a spin-off company from the Queens University in Northern Ireland.

▼ In a move to speed up cycle times and to become more competitive on the global market in executing its pipeline of programs, *Denel Aerospace Systems* (DAS) has decided to deploy PTC's Windchill Product Lifecycle Management (PLM) solutions in a contract worth R7 million. The contract is with productONE, the sub-Saharan Africa distributor for PTC, the developers of Windchill and Pro/Engineer.

▼ As of January 2006, *Gratoplast Wiremarkers* head office will be accommodated in new wholly-

owned premises. The new address is 361 Olympic Duel Ave, Northlands Business Park, Northriding, Randburg. Telephone and fax numbers remain unchanged.

Appointment



Yusuf (Joe) Patel

T-Systems SA has appointed Yusuf (Joe) Patel as its new general manager for Sales and Service Management for the Public Sector.

