



## Werkbezoek Martijn van DAM

Date: 19.8.2004, 10.30h

Location: Gemeentearchief Leiden, Boisotkade 2a, Leiden

Participants: Martijn van Dam, 2e kamerlid PvdA  
Bas Batelaan, inhoudelijk medewerker 2e kamerfractie PvdA  
Prof. Bernhard Katzy, CeTIM, Center for Technology and Innovation Management  
Henk Uitttenbogaard, ondernemer en voorzitter Stichting Wireless Jacobswoude  
Guido Enthoven, directeur IMI, Instituut voor Maatschappelijke Innovatie, Leiden (vanaf 12.45 uur)  
Maarten van de Plas, Gemeente Leiden (innovatieve kennisclusters)  
Rolf Zoutendijk, Gemeente Leiden (breedband)  
Huub Schuurmans, bestuurslid Stichting Wireless Leiden  
Jasper Koolhaas, voorzitter Stichting Wireless Leiden  
Dr. Vera Kazei, CeTIM, Center for Technology and Innovation Management  
Dr. Claudia Bucker, CeTIM, Center for Technology and Innovation Management

1. Huub Schurmanns welcomes everybody and gives an overview about the agenda.
2. Martijn van Dam introduces himself and Bas Batelaan. They both have an IT background. Their expected result of the meeting is to get information about the wireless technology.
3. Huub Schurmanns gives an introduction to Wireless Leiden  
Wireless Leiden in a wireless computer network in the city of Leiden. It is free, everybody can use it; it is quick; it is cheap, users do not have to pay to access the network.  
The concept is different to the one of "Hot spots". Wireless Leiden is a real wireless network between computers, whereas Hot Spots are wireless access points to a wired network  
It makes use of free accessible frequencies. Therefore cooperation is crucial. Otherwise interferences would hamper the usage for everybody.  
The network is run by group of voluntaries, it has been started without any subsidies.  
At the moment there are around 2000 users on the network.



The Wireless Leiden network is expanded to the region of Katwijk, Kaag, Jacobsvoude and Benthuizen

Examples for services on the network:

- A Free internet access for users
  - B Local communication, e.g. between two locations of one school or between the main office of a library and the subsidiaries; or sharing of an existing ADSL line
  - C Research, the network can be used as an in-field laboratory
  - D Broadcasting of church services to old people's homes
  - E Environment for technological and social innovation; developing and testing environment for new prototypes and services
- Further to the immediately visible function of providing a wireless Computer network, there is another function: Platform for innovation. Already 6 start-ups have been founded by the group of Wireless Leiden.

4. Bernhard Katzy gives an interpretation of Wireless Leiden as an innovation cluster.  
Strength of Wireless Leiden is that it is self-motivated and not initiated by public subsidy. Second strength of Wireless Leiden is the matching of technologies with market needs which has already led to the foundation of six companies. These companies profit from the reputation and the marketing of the network on a worldwide scale. Bernhard Katzy compared Wireless Leiden to similar networks in Munich, Barcelona and Switzerland. Rather than on one specific technology the Wireless Leiden group is based on technical competence of its members in numerous fields, strong experimental learning capabilities and pragmatic problem solving competence. With its track record of working solutions and products in starting companies it is a breeding environment for the future emerging broadband market. The challenge for the network is a sustained support to the dynamic innovation for which more structural support is needed.
5. Henk Uittenbogaard gives a presentation about the chances for the economy.  
Wireless Leiden has already spun off companies founded by the members of the group. The companies can use Wireless Leiden for marketing purposes because the initiative gets more attention than a young starting company would get. The new companies can use the knowledge in the cluster.  
At the moment market needs are:
  - A Reliable, cheap and easy-to-build communication for bigger events, e.g. in a city.
  - B Integration of payment and admission systems for events
  - C Quick Building of communication system in cases of catastrophes (Building a network based on fiber glass takes 24 hours,



the wireless network can be set up in less than 1 hour)

D Internet access on cruise ships

E Care services for patients at home (supervision of medical equipment, communication and coordination between the nurses)

6. Guido Enthoven Give a short introduction to the objectives and the priorities of IMI.
7. Additional points from the discussion:
  - A As an initiative of volunteers Wireless Leiden now needs professional help to survive and exploit the existing network. Support should not be designed top-down, but should keep the bottom-up approach of the existing network, minimize the risks
  - B Nobody has experience with broadband. Wireless Leiden can be a platform for experiments.
  - C Clusters are a platform for innovation because many people with different perspectives meet and discuss and thus generate ideas.
8. Huub Schurmanns closes the meeting and thanks everybody for their attendance.