# global management challenge INTERNATIONALNEWS

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In the last year the Global Management Challenge celebrated 25 years. This was an historic occasion for this international competition and at this time, more than 350.000 people from Europe, Asia and America participate in this challenge.

The commemoration of this anniversary started at the beginning of 2004 and ended with the International Final of Global Management Challenge, on the 13th April of 2005, in Lisbon.

In this final and for the first time, there were 16 countries involved. Poland was the winner of the competition and this was their first victory.

In all these years the Global Management Challenge has been bringing together students of economics, management and engineering with managers of the biggest enterprises in the countries were the competition is played.

The effectiveness of the simulator and it's capacity to adapt to the changes in the markets and the opportunity that this competition gives to the competitors to test their knowledge of how to run a company, are some of the reasons for the success of Global Management Challenge worldwide.

Another important factor in the Global Management Challenge is its ability to bridge the academic world with the business community.

The international dimension of Global Management Challenge is only possible because of the work of local partners that organise the challenge in their countries, the sponsors that support the competition and the media partners that cover this event.

By Dr. Luis Alves Costa, President of the International Committee.

# The Results of the 25th International Final in Lisbon :

#### Poland 1st<sup>.</sup>

- 3rd Macau
- People's R. of China 4th
- 5th: Czech Republic
- 6th: Slovak Republic
- 7th: Singapore
- 8th : Belgium

Semi-finalists: Brazil, Germany, Spain, Hong Kong, India, Italy, Mexico, Portugal, and Singapore.

# BELGIUM

#### GLOBAL MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE EUROMANAGER

#### Created in 2005

**ORGANISATION: SDG Euromanager - Paris** MEDIA PARTNERS: www.references.be, ww.vacature.com, Hobsons Benelux

#### **CONTACT: Mrs Geneviève Rihouay** http://www.euromanager.be





25 years, 350 000 participants since 1980 38000 competitors in 2004, 21 countries in 2005

Microsoft sponsor in 6 countries, Accenture in 3 countries and TAP Portugal in 4.

# PEOPLE'S REPUBLIC OF CHINA

#### GLOBAL MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE CHINA

Created in 1996 **ORGANISED BY** Beijing CDS Information Consulting Ltd 600 teams in 2004.

MEDIA PARTNERS CCTV, China Youth Daily, China Daily 21st Century SPONSOR: Microsoft IN COOPERATION WITH: Icep Portugal, Idp

CONTACT : Mr. David Shi http://www.gmc-china.net



CHALLENGE BRAZIL Created in 1981 with 320 teams in 2004 ORGANI-

SED BY Simbiz - Consultoria Empresarial - São Paulo MEDIA PARTNERS: Estado de São Paulo SPONSORS: Accenture, EDP Brazil, Microsoft, Vivo SPECIAL COOPERATION: Agência Estado, CIEE, Fejesp, TAP Portugal, Universia e Gol

GLOBAL MANAGEMENT

BRAZIL

**CONTACT: Mr. Fabiano Rodrigues** http://www.globalchallenge.com.br

# A short, but long story

One evening in late May, 1969 a small group of people met in the Department of Operational Research at Strathclyde University in Glasgow, Scotland. They had just promised to design a business game for a competition to be run by the Glasgow Junior Chamber of Commerce in early November that year. This was long before the advent of micro computers and programming was only in its infancy. Still, it seemed like a good idea at the time!

This was long before the greements really started. We advent of micro compu- had so many brilliant ideas ters and programming (or so we thought at the time) was only in its infancy.

BUT, that was when the disathat to implement them would have taken us many

years rather than the few short months available to us. But we did it and it worked!

Almost exactly 36 years later, this very same group is still arguing, and anyone stumbling on one of our meetings will confirm that they can be very heated and noisy affairs!

They will also tell you that Edit 515 Ltd (as we have been called since 1970) are very independently-minded people and that is why we (William, Ray, David, Dan and Bill) make, paradoxically,



such a strong and formidable team

Of course, the fact that we have all enjoyed successful careers in diverse senior management roles (in international finance. commercial banking, academia,

engineering, logistics, intelligence services and consulting) has enabled us to maintain a hands-on interest in the continued success of the Global Management Challenge.

After designing and running many other business games and simulations since our formation, we still refer to, and talk about 'the game'. Furthermore, we are dedicated to looking after it and developing it even further.

The ongoing commitment and enthusiasm of the original designers has resulted in a continuous pro-

gramme of development (including many metamorphisms) which resulted in the idea of a universal business game, the underlying simulation model of which formed the basis for the Global Management Challenge.

# What makes the Global Management Challenge unique?

The short answer is the people - the designers and developers, the organiser at SDG (in Lisbon), the controllers and the sponsors and media supporters worldwide - it really is a collaborative and global venture. This network of friends (I hesitate to use the term colleagues, because we are much more than that) from all over the globe is what makes the Global Management Challenge experience unique - there is nothing guite like it anywhere in the world.

There are, however, many other design aspects associated with the Global Management Challenge model that emphasises its uniqueness when compared to other business simulations:

- The programs have always been, and will continue to be, contemporaneous, robust and fair.

- The fundamental design philosophy ensures that the Global Management Challenge is sufficiently complex to facilitate and



encourage sophisticated analysis but, at the same time, it accurately reflects reality so that intuitive decision making can also achieve success - this is impossible with simplistic models. - the Global Management

Challenge recognises the constantly evolving nature of management.

- Managers have to manage and assess the relevance of input from highly skilled experts when making decisions - and this under the pressure of time constraints.

- Expertise in group dynamics can dramatically improve the operational efficiency of teams - but not necessarily to the exclusion of entrepreneurial flare.

- All of this requires a sophisticated Virtual Business Environment - because real life training is too costly and time consuming.

# Innovation and continual change is the hallmark of the Global Management Challenge

The Global Management Challenge has always reflected, and on numerous occasions even anticipated many changes in the real world. Recent significant examples include:

- The introduction of VAT at least 2 years ahead of its actual introduction

- In the early 90's, as the Global To be realistic, simulation Management Challenge expan- models must continually ded throughout continental adapt to provide fresh Europe, the idea of a single challenges European currency became

part of the simulation model through the use of the Euro as its currency - 12 years before its actual introduction.

- Businesses are now recognising the need to adopt risk aversion strategies and the Global Management Challenge has been adapted to reflect this reality.

- Another recent development has been the ability to market globally, backed by the introduction of internet trading as a new and up-to-date feature of the model.

Many less significant innovations and subtle model revisions are introduced year on year. To be realistic, simulation models must contiemphasises its uniqueness nually adapt to provide fresh challenges to the

Global participating teams and the Management Challenge has consistently achieved this objective.

#### The Global Management Challenge and the future

Where do we go from here? Well that would be telling! Wouldn't it?

Suffice to say that the current designers and developers still include the original 5 friends who formed Edit 515 Ltd all those years ago. It's still our 'baby' (so to speak) and we LOVE it. While we believe in changing the bath water regularly we have no intention of throwing the 'baby' out with it. So enjoy the current version but ...

watch this space!

By Bill Armitage, Bill Robertson, Dan Davidson, David Hutchings, Ray Taylor, EDIT 515 http://www.edit515.co.uk

There are, many design aspects associated with the Global Management Challenge model that

#### CZECH REPUBLIC

#### EUROMANAGER

Created in 2002 and **ORGANISED BY:** Recruitment International - Praha 261 teams participating. **MEDIA PARTNERS:** Prace, Radiozurnal, Super Vision SPONSOR: Microsoft IN COOPERATION

WITH: Aiesec, Allianz

Crowne Plaza Hotel, CSA - Czech Airlines, Deloitte, Czechinvest, GE Money, HL.M Praha, Ministerstvo Skolstvi Mladeze A Telovychovy

**CONTACT : Mr. Jan Vymetal** http://euromanager.cz

# HONG KONG

#### **GLOBAL MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE**

**CREATED** in 2005 **ORGANISATION:** Louis Lai & Luk

**CONTACT: Mr. Danny Luk** 

#### INDIA

JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN Asian Association of Management Organization and SDG Portugal Lda

# FRANCE

#### GLOBAL MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE EUROMANAGER

Competition created in 1995 **ORGANISED BY SDG** Euromanager - Paris 174 teams in 2004 MEDIA PARTNERS: Le Figaro Etudiant, Hobsons France, Radio Classique SPONSORS: Crédit Agricole SA until 2001, PricewaterhouseCoopers until 1996

**COOPERATION:** TAP Portugal, Université Paris1 Panthéon-Sorbonne.

JOINT VENTURE BET-

WEEN esmt European

School of Management

and Technology - Berlin

and SDG Portugal Lda

Competition created in

**MEDIA PARTNER:** Verlagsgruppe

1971

**Contact : Mrs Geneviève Rihouay** http://www.euromanager.fr

CIA

## GERMANY

#### MARGA

SPF



Handelsblatt

**CONTACT: Mr. Andreas Nill** http://www.esmt.org/marga



ITALY

#### **GLOBAL MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE**

Created in 2002 ORGANISATION: IML Italia, Divisione **Business** Simulations - Roma MEDIA PARTNERS: Class Editori (Campus Milano Finanza, Italia Oggi) SPONSORS: Politecnico di Milano, Università Roma Tor Vergata, MIP, CUOA, SDA Bocconi

**CONTACT : Mr. Pierre Derenemesnil** http://www.challengeitalia.com

#### MACAU

#### **GLOBAL MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE GESTAO GLOBAL**

Created in 1995 **ORGANISATION:** Macau Management Association **MEDIA PARTNERS:** 

Macao Daily News, Jornal Tribuna de Macau, TDM Macao and Instituto de Formacao Turistica.

SPONSORS: Companhia de Electricidade de Macau, Companhia de Telecomunicoes de Macau S.A.R.L., Fundacao Macau

**COOPERATION:** Instituto de SPECIAL Promodao do Comercio e do Investimento de Macau. Autoridade Monetaria de Macau. Transmac-Transportes Urbanos de Macau, S.A.R.L., Sociedade do Aeroporto Internacional de Macau, S.A.R.L., IACM, Fundacao Oriente, **ICEP** Portugal 56 teams last year.

**CONTACT: Mr. Chui Sai Cheong** http://www.gmc-asia.com

# MEXICO

#### **GESTION GLOBAL**

Created in 1995 More than 400 teams in 2004

**ORGANISATION: DEMO -**Decisiones Empreseriales -Mexico

MEDIA PARTNERS: Factor 91, Publico **SPONSORS:** Becas Gestion, Universia **SPECIAL COOPERATION:** Alquimia, Comparmex, American Airlines

**CONTACT:** Mr. Carlos Farcug http://www.gestion.com.mx

#### ROMANIA

**EUROMANAGER GLOBAL MANAGEMENT** CHALLENGE

**ORGANISED BY: DCG.** Profiles International & Ziarul Financiar PATRONS OF HONOUR: National Bank of Romania, UNDP Romania.



Romanian Senate SPONSORS: RoBank-OTP Group, Athenee Palace Hilton

MEDIA PARTNERS: Ziarul Financiar. InfoPro. Business Magazin, Psihologia Azi

**CONTACT: Mr. Doru Dima** http://www.euromanager.ro



#### timonials t e s

"We are very pleased to be involved in this world wide initiative that already celebrated it's 25Th anniversary. In Portugal we have been sponsors for almost eight years and since then we extended our collaboration to several other countries, being part of this successful project is very rewarding for us. This strategy and management competition is very important for those who participate: through this event young people have an opportunity to learn more about the management challenges that they will face in the future and how to run a company. For those who are already working the competition is an outstanding opportunity to test theirs skills. Being an international competition, the participants and the sponsors also have a unique opportunity to learn about different cultures and establish very interesting and fruitful connections." Rodrigo Costa, Vice President of Microsoft Corporation

Every year the results have been better. The company employed 15 players in last game, and this year we intend to grow this number. The association between Accenture and Global Management Challenge improves our brand". Lauro Chacon, Accenture Human Ressources **Director - Brazil** 

"For the second successive year, I have encouraged my Corporate Strategie students to take part in the Euromanager Challenge. I find the concept of the Global Management Challenge particularly attractive in that its links theorical learning and practical application". Paul Verdin, Professor & Head of the Strategy and Organisation Chair at the Solvay Business School - Belaium





The Polish delegation won the International Final 2004 and will organise the International Final in Warsaw in April 2006.

#### POLAND

### EUROMANAGER - GLOBAL MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE

**CREATED** in 2000 and **ORGANISED BY** Bigram SA, Personnel Consulting 293 teams in 2004

MEDIA PARTNERS: Rzeczpospolita, Businessman Magazine, Wirtualna Polska, Personel PATRON OF HONOUR: Warsaw Stock Exchange, National Bank of Poland SPONSORS: Bank Millennium, Deloitte, Metro Group, Microsoft

SPECIAL COOPERATION: British Polish Chamber of Commerce, Jobpilot, Foundation for Capital Market Education

CONTACT: Mr. Piotr Wielgomas - http://www.euromanager.pl

# PORTUGAL

#### **GESTAO GLOBAL**

Created in 1980 512 teams in 2004 ORGANISATION: SDG -Simuladores e Modelos de Gestão, Lda. MEDIA PARTNER: Expresso SPONSORS :



Imperio Bonança, Accenture, Portugal Telecom, Microsoft, Alcatel, Barclays, SAP, EDP, Staples Office Centre, CTT Correios, Águas de Portugal, REN

**SPECIAL COOPERATION** : TAP Portugal, IAPMEI Portuguese Institute for the Support of Small and Medium Sized Enterprises and for the Investment, IEFP Portuguese Institute for Professional Training, ICEP Portugal Portuguese Trade Office, Euronext Lisbon, Aiesec Portugal, Telepac

> CONTACT : Mr. Pedro Alves Costa http://www.sdg.pt

# SINGAPORE

JOINT VENTURE BETWEEN Asian Association of Management Organization and SDG Portugal Lda

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COMING SOON DENMARK, GREECE, QATAR, UK

and

# SWITZERLAND :

GLOBAL MANAGEMENT CHALLENGE EUROMANAGER ORGANISED BY SDG Euromanager - Paris

# SPAIN

# **GESTION GLOBAL**

Created in 1991 N° of teams : 512



ORGANISATION: SC -Strategic Company - Madrid MEDIA PARTNERS: Expansion, Gaceta Universitaria SPONSORS: Accenture, Iberdrola SPECIAL COOPERATION: Aiesec, Cesma, Internet Factory, Universia

CONTACT : Mr. Jose Maria Cobo Martin http://www.gestionglobal.net

#### SLOVAKIA

#### EUROMANAGER



ORGANISATION: Recruitment

Created in 2003

International - Bratislava **MEDIA PARTNER:** SME **SPONSOR:** Microsoft **SPECIAL COOPERATION:** Aiesec, Berlin Chemie, BPP – Professional Education, British Chamber of Commerce, Citigroup, Coca Cola, Deloitte, Eurotel,

Skolsva

CONTACT : Mrs. Sylvia Kotucova http://www.euromanager.sk

Ministerstvo

Slovenskej Republiky

# testimonials

"PricewaterhouseCoopers is happy to be the partner of Euromanager, the Global Management Challenge, for the tenth successive year. This tournament is a good example of connected thinking, an expression which translates the power of our organisation worldwide. Connecting people from different worlds - corporate executives, students and professors in the context of a strategic challenge - and enriching the experience and knowledge of each one - is what makes for the conditions of an exceptional human adventure." Jean-Emmanuel Combes, Senior Partner Communications & Marketing Europe, PricewaterhouseCoopers - France

"The Global Management Challenge is an exciting competition which allows students to put their knowledge into practice, to take part in an international tournament with real spirit and to confront the corporate world. This latter element is undoubtedly the basis for a fruitful and convivial exchange between practising managers and students. It is a great occasion to discover the company another way." Karine Fernet-Scherer, Head of Recruitment Department, Groupe Crédit Agricole SA - France

"Degussa has been playing MARGA for years! The participants work with lots of enthusiasm and always motivate each other in the competition. Our company management rewards the great commitment of our teams, especially in their leisure time, and considers MARGA to be an indispensable part of our in-house training program!" **Dr. Hans Strack, Degussa - Germany**