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### **The "clickissime" project, designed by ESIEA's KPS association, wins the Steria-Institut de France Foundation grant**

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The Steria – Institut de France Foundation's selection committee met on July 19<sup>th</sup> to reveal the winners of the 2008 grant. This year, the committee has chosen to support the "clickissime" project proposed by a team of students from the ESIEA engineering school. As members of the KPS (Kernel Panic Systems) association, the students developed a simplified Open-Source operating system which is available for free. The project, which can be adapted to meet different user needs, is specially designed for people not familiar with IT and is initially aimed at senior citizens.

#### **Simplifying the access, not the computer.**

KPS has brought together students from the ESIEA engineering school since 1999. They provide other students with IT services such as loans, installation of equipment and work to repurpose company computers. Their work, which is part of the AFNeT Internethon movement is initially targeted to help disadvantaged people in France and in developing countries. With this population in mind, the group of students has developed an operating system which is intuitive, easy to use and requires no prior training.

The students are motivated by their belief in simplifying access to computers without reducing the wide range of functionalities and IT services.

#### **"Clickissime," a project adapted to its users.**

The association decided to use the technical experience gained through its humanitarian involvement, to work for a new group of users - seniors - all the while remaining faithful to their slogan: "simplifying access, not the computer."

Hubert, one of the project leaders, explains: *"We realized that the existing solutions made senior citizens feel like children. It's a fact that we go too far in restricting features available on the computer when making interfaces aimed at senior citizens. This is why we want to provide easy access to applications without simplifying them."*

In order to be successful in developing a solution which adapts to the needs of an elderly population, KPS will conduct a test phase in direct partnership with a panel of senior citizens, within the framework of the e-senior association.

These new users correspond to a new idea: integrating optional tools in order to set up a solution which is in line with the different needs of the target users.

### **An original open source project**

The Steria – Institut de France Foundation provides financial support and expertise for projects based on information technology supporting education, training and solidarity. It has decided to support "clickissime" through a grant aimed at financing the purchase of IT equipment for testing purposes.

The specificity of the project is the fact that it is based on the Open Source Linux software and available for free, unlike many of the existing solutions. Consequently, the Steria – Institut de France Foundation will also support the project by financing a market study conducted by the students to identify best current practices.

Finally, the Steria-Institut de France foundation will provide students with a sponsor who will contribute his/her experience in terms of project management and human-machine interface methodology.

The project, which is initially aimed at senior citizens, will later be extended to include disadvantaged families and people with disabilities. This is an opportunity for people with motor disabilities to use CVK virtual keyboard technologies. The project won the Steria – Institut de France Foundation grant and was developed by a group of students from Intech'Info (ESIEA group).

**For more information :**

[www.fondationsteria.org](http://www.fondationsteria.org)  
<http://clickissime.kps.fr>

### **About the Institut de France ([www.institut-de-france.fr](http://www.institut-de-france.fr))**

The Institut de France is comprised of five Academies: the French Academy (Académie Française), the Academy of Inscriptions and Belles Lettres (Académie des inscriptions et belles-lettres), the Academy of Science (Académie des sciences), the Academy of Fine Arts (Académie des beaux-arts) and the Academy of Ethics and Political Science (Académie des sciences morales et politiques). The Institut de France was created on 25 October 1795 and its current chancellor is Gabriel de Broglie.

### **About Steria: [www.steria.com](http://www.steria.com)**

The leading end-to-end IT services provider in Europe for companies which consider new technologies a vital part of their business strategy, Steria focuses on setting up strategic partnerships with its customers in each of its key markets: the public sector, finance, telecommunications, utilities and transport. Steria offers customers integrated services including consulting in core business processes as well as the development and operation of their information systems. In October 2007, Steria acquired the British firm Xansa.

The new group employs over 19,000 staff in 16 countries, including 5,000 in India. On December 31, 2007, Steria revenue amounted to €1.4 billion (€1.9 billion pro forma). The Group, headquartered in Paris, is listed on the Euronext Paris market.

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