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The Steria – Institut de France Foundation supports the launch of Interface Handicap website

The website www.interface-handicap-accessible.com aims to be the first multi-access website of general interest that promotes the use of new technologies for differently-abled people.

Co-created by Interface Handicap and the Neo-Tekk agency with the support of the Steria Foundation, the site provides access to information on IT equipment and services that exist for differently-abled persons.

Easy access to IT technologies whatever the disabilities

The primary aim of this project is to meet the needs of differently-abled people, enabling them to make the most of opportunities provided by Internet. This is why from the onset the site was designed to include a number of features to make navigation easy and comfortable for differently-abled users, without the need for any additional tools.

Access to information is customised, so that all information is easily available for all: settings for partially-sighted and blind people, as well as the deaf and hearing-impaired; and a search engine designed to better meet the needs of differently-able people, whether physical or mental. The database is used to compile information on equipment and solutions that enable differently-abled people to access Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) more easily. It also aims to raise awareness among company managers and those employed in museums, local authorities, libraries, and public administration on the need to make computers, websites and intranet sites accessible for all.

This project was supported from the beginning by the Steria – Institut de France Foundation, which takes part in projects that aim to bridge the “digital divide”, in particular for differently-abled people. Two volunteers from Steria provided guidance to the teams to define the specifications and the objectives, and to manage the project.

From now on, thanks to www.interface-handicap-accessible.com, individuals, professionals, managers of organisations, project managers, and families will be able to find the information they need to take advantage of the potential of new technologies.

“The website www.interface-handicap-accessible.com is part of the community programmes implemented in our various countries. Our projects, run by volunteers promote accessibility to IT, education and employment,” explains Dominique Lambert, Delegate-General of the Steria-Institut de France Foundation.

The organisation Interface Handicap

Interface Handicap's role is to promote an equal access to social life, education, employment and culture for differently-abled people. Through its dynamic network and activities with various aid organisations, Interface Handicap advises and provides assistance to differently-abled people and specialised professionals, in compliance with current legislation, to better meet the needs and expectations of all users involved.

"Now that digital access is growing – a complex task to implement – we would like to make a firm contribution to the needs expressed by differently-abled people, which can be carried across to other Internet sites," explains Laëtitia Ouakil, manager for accessibility projects and web accessibility trainer.

For more information, go to the website: www.fondationsteria.org

About the Institut de France (www.institut-de-france.fr)

The Institut de France groups together five Academies: the Académie française [The French Academy], the Académie des inscriptions et belles-lettres [The Academy of Inscriptions and the Arts], the Académie des sciences [The Academy of Sciences], the Académie des beaux-arts [The Academy of Fine Arts], and the Académie des sciences morales et politiques [The Academy of Moral and Political Sciences]. The Institut de France was set up on 25th October 1795 and the current chancellor is Gabriel de Broglie.

About Steria: www.steria.com

Steria delivers IT enabled business services which help organisations in the public and private sectors operate more efficiently and profitably. By combining in depth understanding of our clients' businesses with expertise in IT and business process outsourcing, we take on our clients' challenges and develop innovative solutions to address them. Through our highly collaborative consulting style, we work with our clients to transform their business, enabling them to focus on what they do best. Our 18,300 people, working across 16 countries, support the systems, services and processes that make today's world turn, touching the lives of millions around the globe each day.

Founded in 1969, Steria has offices in Europe, India, North Africa and SE Asia and a 2009 revenue of €1,63 billion. 19.3% of Steria's capital is owned by its employees. Headquartered in Paris, Steria is listed on the Euronext Paris market.

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