

Paris, 30 March 2006

Supélec's cHeer uP! project awarded the Steria – Institut de France Foundation's 2006 Grant

The cHeer uP! project developed by a team of Supélec students is aimed at establishing a lending system whereby laptop computers with Internet access can be made available in isolation rooms at the Institut Gustave Roussy de Villejuif, the largest oncology centre in Europe, to 18 to 25-year olds suffering from leukaemia. The cHeer uP! association is helping these young cancer patients to focus beyond their illness by offering them individual guidance in pursuing projects of importance to them, and thus contributing to the recovery process.

The Steria – Institut de France Foundation Grant supports student projects that use information technology to help people in need. It offers students the opportunity to develop practical and innovative civil action initiatives backed by Steria's voluntary support teams able to provide the specialist skills required to manage and ensure the success of these projects.

Focusing on the future through information technology

Cancer affects 7000 adults aged between 18 and 25 at present. It entails long-term, global treatment by chemotherapy and radiotherapy. Hospitalisation can be from a few months to a few years and these young people may need to attend a host of different hospitals for transplants, all of which can have a serious impact on relationships with family and friends. The Supélec cHeer uP! association aims to help these young cancer patients to pursue their personal projects.

As part of this initiative, the winners of the Foundation grant plan to equip the isolation room department at the hospital in Villejuif with laptops and multimedia kits to help these young adults feel part of the outside world and look to the future, through communication by e-mail and in forums and by continuing their studies via Internet access to course work. Access to information technology may also encourage them to pursue personal projects in areas such as computer graphics, video or drawing. This project was developed in close conjunction with the patients' parents' association.

Patients will also be able to archive their data (course work, data from their personal projects) on the server to be installed in the department. Finally, as part of this project, the Supélec students would like to ensure optimum security when using the Internet, in conjunction with the hospital's IT department.

The role of Steria France's volunteers: guidance and advice

Support by the Steria – Institut de France Foundation for the "Un ordinateur contre le cancer" ("Computers to fight cancer") initiative by cHeer uP! comes in the form of a €9000 subsidy to finance the purchase of laptops and multimedia kits, and sponsorship for the project by a voluntary employee in providing his or her project management expertise.

The project will be sponsored by François, a Project Director at Steria, who will act as a guide to the association's voluntary team by providing his expertise to manage and ensure the success of this initiative, as well as guaranteeing that the solution meets the needs of the patients, their parents and the medical team. He will call on the skills of Steria France consultants and employees.

For more information, log on to 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 Académie des Inscriptions et Belles-Lettres, the Académie des Sciences, the Académie des Beaux-Arts and the Académie des Sciences Morales et Politiques. It was founded on 25 October 1795 and is currently chaired by Gabriel de Broglie.

About Steria (www.steria.com)

Extensive expertise in its three core businesses of consulting, systems integration and managed services has made Steria the leading end-to-end IT services provider for companies and public authorities throughout Europe.

With a revenue of nearly €1.2 billion and 9,000 employees, Steria is one of the top ten European IT services companies.

Understanding the challenges facing its customers enables Steria to design business-specific solutions with high added value in all of its fields of expertise – the public sector and healthcare, banking/insurance, telecommunications and utilities/transport/manufacturing – as well as innovative technological solutions.

Based on over 35 years' experience in managing large-scale projects, an exceptional ability to respond and an industrial approach to business, Steria has developed a result-based culture with a commitment to service quality and customer satisfaction.

Steria's employees, who hold 24% of the Group's capital, draw on its core values of simplicity, creativity, independence, respect and openness to transform the latest technology into innovating services – enabling Steria to help its customers achieve and maintain a competitive advantage – and into charitable projects via the Steria - Institut de France Foundation.

Steria is listed on Euronext Paris, Eurolist (Compartment B).

About cHeer up! (www.cheer-up.net)

Because fighting for this project is a way of fighting against cancer

cHeer uP!, an national association set up by students, guides 18 to 25-year olds with cancer in pursuing their personal projects. Helping them to focus on the future and to be enthusiastic about their project is a way of fighting cancer together. The cHeer uP! association was set up at the end of 2003 by 2 students and now operates over 10

sites France-wide rallying 250 voluntary students, in Paris and the Paris region, Montpellier, Nantes, Lille and its surrounding area and Rennes. cHeer uP! is the first association of its kind dedicated to supporting young adults. It plans to be serving 40 healthcare centres by 2010 in its bid to help as many young adults suffering from illness as possible.

Press Contacts

Steria – Institut de France Foundation

Dominique Lambert

Tel.: +33 1 34 88 57 76

e-mail: dominique.lambert@fondationsteria.org

TBWA\Corporate

Maxence Naouri

Tel: +33 1 49 09 26 95

e-mail: maxence.naouri@tbwa-corporate.com

Institut de France

Nathalie Darzac

Tel.: +33 1 44 41 43 40

e-mail: com@institut-de-france .fr

cHeer uP ! Supélec

Yannick Bonin

Tel.: +33 6 77 10 17 35

e-mail: contact@cheer-up.net