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# Editorial

Opportune remains always the subject of environment which requires not only more extensive report but also specialised study from the experts. The function of environmental markets constitutes an ideal contribution so in the qualitative what quantitative delimitation of idea of a growth compatible with the maintenance of environmental balance.

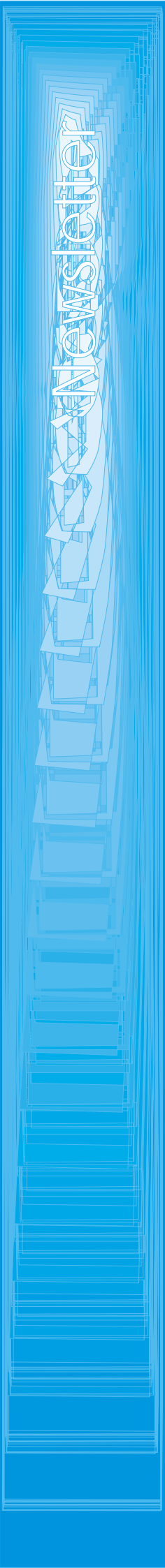
However the debasement of environment is result of proneness of wheel of production, which is supported in the modern industrial logic of productive system to exploited the ecosystems for their exchange value, as well as from the role of state as an author and factor of conditions for accumulation of capital.

The relations of society and environment are interpreted as subjects of study of the perceptions and behaviour of the individual around the environment, as well as the environmental education In that way someone may conceive that various problems coexist among in which we can point out: a deficit application of provisions, as much in central as in local level, the technological stagnation in sectors regarding the methods of anti-pollution, the ignorance and the debasement of importance of the problem from most of us, and also the lack of systematic and completed analysis and assessment of environmental repercussions as well as the lack of completed methodological frame.

This are only certain from modern, overall and complicated problems of environment that deplore our country and which require new, decentralizing and flexible forms of political action.

Particularly, the situation requires the need of better application of existing environmental legislative provisions, because is necessary, from the side of state's point of you, the increase of pressure towards the enterprises to avoid the negative repercussions from industrial activities of high pollution that place in danger the local ecosystems.

Georgios Livanios  
President



# Finish Presidency of European Union

Finland is in the chair of the European Union during the second half of 2006.

There are several core topics to be promoted during the Finnish Presidency. Finland will make the effort to strengthen the unity of the EU member states and the foundation for purposeful activity of the union both internally and at the global scene.

Confederation of Finnish Industries EK supports this concept and underlines the need for actions to encourage innovation, to make better regulation, to improve the internal market and to strengthen the transatlantic relations, as well as the relations with Russia, China and India.

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# Millennium Prize in the balance

The nomination period for the winner of the Millennium Technology Prize 2006 closed on October 31, 2005. Nominations were received from all areas of technology all over the world.

The international selection committee will meet to discuss the winner from March 23-30, 2006 in Helsinki, and the second prizewinner will be announced on June 15, 2006.

The Millennium Technology Prize of one million euros is the biggest of its kind in the world. It is awarded every other year for a technological innovation that has significantly raised the quality of life, represents human values and supports sustainable development. The inaugural Millennium Technology Prize was presented to Tim Berners-Lee, the inventor of the world wide web, in June 2004.

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Tim Berners-Lee,  
(World Wide Web),  
2004.

# μ : Nanosynchronization: A New method for Digital Circuitry Design developed by FORTH

chip-

A new chip processor, which uses the nanosynchronization technique, has been developed by the research team of Computer Architecture and Very Large-Scale Integration Systems Laboratory, at the Institute of Computer Science (ICS) of the Foundation for Research and Technology-Hellas (FORTH), headed by Dr. Christos Sotiriou, Visiting Professor at the University of Crete and FORTH Researcher, in collaboration with the University of Turin, Italy.

This innovative design method allows digital circuits to operate "flexibly", i.e. in a variable and self-regulating fashion, depending on the operating voltage, and without having common external timing mechanisms, as opposed to current conventional digital circuits. "We propose a novel design method for the future digital circuits" maintain Dr. Ch. Sotiriou.

Nanosynchronization is a digital circuitry design method based on the local dispersion of the necessary internal data synchronizations, i.e. in those circuit parts where they are needed. Using this method, the circuit can adjust its speed to the amount of data to be processed and its supply voltage according to energy requirements, thus achieving higher performance through flexible operation, as well as significant reductions in power consumption by adjusting the circuit supply voltage.



# Aurora Borealis -

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# Aurora borealis -

## The magnificent northern lights

The aurora is beautiful, spectacular, splendid, and appears quite frequently - almost nightly in the polar sky. Appearing in the form of majestic, colourful, irregular lights in the night sky, the aurora has a variety of shapes, colours, and structures, and continuously changing in time. Everybody who has seen the Northern Lights will agree that they are nature's optical poetry. Physicists say that the aurora is just a large-scale electrical discharge phenomenon in the high-altitude atmosphere, resulting from quantum leaps in oxygen and nitrogen atoms. Indeed, the aurora is atomic physics, but the aurora was also a superstitious subject in mythology and fairy tales. From ancient times, it has

filled people with awe and wonder, with delight and pleasure, with both joy and fear. It has inspired



artists and it also terrified people who thought that the end of the world was approaching. Exact explanations of the phenomenon had to wait until modern space and particle physics was developed in the 20th century and knowledge about details in the Earth's electromagnetic environment became available through spacecraft measurements.

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