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Portuguese IT in London – Seminar “ eSolutions for an eWorld: Portuguese Software Development”



Aicep Portugal Global – the Portuguese Business Development Agency in the UK and Barclays UK/Portugal, with the support of the Portuguese Airlines TAP, hosted on the 2nd October, a network event entitled “eSolutions for an eWorld: Portuguese Software Development”, showing Portugal’s best ITC solutions and services at the Barclays’ global headquarters, in Canary Wharf.

During an afternoon three major Portuguese companies and the Government Unit for the Technologic Plan were invited to present their solutions to the British business community, as well as portray their strategies, technology developments, partnerships endeavoured, funds collection, and prospects steps.

The governmental **Unit for the Portuguese Technologic Plan**, presented the Portuguese public policy for the sector, showcasing how some of those policies have been implemented and in which way it impacts on the citizen, companies and Public Administration life.

Critical Software, Portuguese company already established in the UK, working for accounts such as NASA and ESA, briefed the audience on how to take abroad a company specialized in IT solutions development, presenting the challenges and positive incentives related to that expansion, quoting the International Programme of Internships promoted by aicep as one of the positive links between Portugal and the UK. **Vision-Box**, already based in Germany and Brazil, is now interested in exploiting and exploring the UK market. Vision-Box leads the world ranking for the facial recognition systems and in borders access safety and control (smart gates). The presentation of **Quidgest**, by the Head Office of the UK branch (recently established), emphasized the company’s leadership in automatic software code development evolving beyond the limitation of the one-size-fits-all approach. The tailored solutions that the company offers to its clients, in a case-by-case basis, is its biggest add value.

In the audience were Chief Executive, General Managers, IT Operations Managers e Business Developers of highly regarded UK companies and Institutions operating in this sector, together with the delegation of the Portuguese Business Agency and Barclays teams which provided a dynamic and constructive Q&A session.

Innovating Portugal

“eSolutions for an eWorld: Portuguese Software Development” is part of a major project run by the Portuguese Business Agency in the UK and Barclays UK/Portugal with the support of TAP airlines, called *Innovating Portugal*. The programme includes a series of Seminars subject to different areas of Portuguese expertise and knowledge, taking place from June 2009 to January 2010 in Canary Wharf, London. The initiative aims at presenting to British companies and business people working in UK the modern Portugal, where companies and research institutions are in the forefront of development and innovation, leading new discoveries and being remarkably competitive in sectors of relevance, showing why Portugal is one of the most attractive investment destinations in Europe.

During the *Innovating Portugal* the attendants have the opportunity to meet high-level business people from relevant Portuguese and British companies, finance and government. The remaining three Seminars will run from November onwards, on a monthly basis. Next to come: “Innovation in Construction and Building Materials”.

Prestigious and reputed British organizations such as UK Trade and Investment, British Chambers of Commerce,

Confederation of British Industries, Portuguese Chamber of Commerce in UK, and sectorial Associations are working with aicep Business Centre in London to promote Portugal as a Country of Excellence in R&D.

2009-10-19 16:11

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