

## Jan Karel LENSTRA: Chairman of the Digiteo Scientific Council

In 2007, we contacted Jan Karel to propose him to chair the Scientific Council of Digiteo, the academic research cluster in ICT located South of Paris. As a renowned scientist in our field, Director of a famous institution, CWI, and involved in a number of European ventures, he had the ideal profile. The Scientific council is a body of crucial importance for Digiteo as the "outside eye" on what we are doing or intending to do, and it is really external since it includes only scientists working outside France.

We are very happy that Jan Karel accepted an additional burden being already involved in so many tasks elsewhere. He has taken this chairmanship knowing that he was bringing help and encouragement to a new scientific undertaking which will not give him a lot of benefits! This generosity is one of the many qualities of Jan Karel.

Some courage was also needed: Jan Karel was not afraid of the increasing complexity of the French system which creates new structures at a speed larger than anywhere else. Actually, he manages to understand quite well the context in which Digiteo is developing ("very dynamic" as he said with his usual humour). A possible explanation is that it is not the first time he had to deal with the French system...

So, he has conducted the Scientific Council since 2007 with precision, rigor, and with the wide vision he has about what's going on, Europe-wide, in ICT. He is carefully following the activities of Digiteo and has attended very regularly our annual forum, even when the transportation was problematic last year because of a strike!

It is therefore a pleasure to have this opportunity to pay a tribute to the role of Jan Karel. The good news is that he will continue to chair our Scientific Council and we are very grateful to him for his contribution.

Maurice ROBIN  
Director Digiteo