MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear active GSE Members, Friends, Colleagues and prospective Members

Another challenging year is drawing to a close. COVID-19 affected our lives and activities. The new situation forced us to look for new ways of communication. Instead of working at the office and meeting in person, companies adopted home office and met virtually.

First of all, I would like to thank our member companies and individual members, who supported us also throughout the last 2 difficult years by participating in our numerous virtual activities.

In addition, I want to express my gratitude and many thanks to our more than 300 volunteer GSE Officers (Region Managers, Technical Coordinators, Working Group Chair(wo)men, Vice Chair(wo)men, Working Group and Region Administrators), who invested a lot of their precious time and efforts, and adapted quickly to the new situation by organising virtual events and working group meetings to keep alive this unique user community. We also very much appreciate the contribution of our excellent speakers, who shared their experiences and insights within our GSE community.

Many thanks also to our European strategic partners and sponsors. Without their support we could not cover the cost for all the activities as a non-profit organisation.

On the following pages you will find a review of some European activities in 2021. Bear in mind that this is only a minor part: our Regions offer and offered as well a lot of opportunities to exchange information and gain knowledge through various channels on diversified topics.

The event schedule for 2022 is not final yet, but we will keep you posted. Stay tuned and follow us on LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/in/guideshareeurope/ and visit the GSE Event Site regularly.

We trust that you explored the new look and feel of the https://www.gse.org/ site that we launched in May 2021. The updated site includes changes to easier navigation and reading for both mobile and desktop versions.

Please feel free to forward our news to other people in or outside your company. We would be very pleased if new members joined our association!

I look positive into 2022 where we hopefully can go back to "normal" without so many restrictions.

Stay healthy!

Cordially yours.

Peter Groth
President
GUIDE SHARE EUROPE

GSE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING NICE / FRANCE, 18 OCTOBER 2021

There was no possibility to hold our Annual General Meeting in 2020. Therefore, the board of directors presented the balance sheets and the profit and loss statements for the periods ending 31 December 2019 and 2020 at Le Méridien Nice Hotel on 18 October 2021. Discharge was granted to the Officers of the European Committee, the Steering Committee and the Regions Committee, for conducting the association's business during the years ending 31 December 2019 and 2020. The financial documents and minutes are available for our members in the member portal http://gsemember.gse.org/.

GSE WORKING GROUPS

The Working Group chair people in most of our Regions adapted quickly to the pandemic situation and switched to virtual instead of face-to-face meetings to keep in touch with their community members and to exchange information and experience with peers. Thank you all for your dedication!

Some Groups have been stopped, but new Groups are planned in 2022 to meet with the requirements and interest of members. Keep visiting your Region's website.

VIRTUAL GSE ENTERPRISE MODERNIZATION WORKING GROUP MEETINGS 2021

The European GSE Enterprise Modernization Group Meetings in Spring and Autumn were held as Virtual Editions. Many people dialled in from 13-15 April and from 26-28 October 2021 to hear the latest on mainframe applications.

On 25 October, a new Working Group board was elected. On 12 October an individual email was sent to each Working Group Member containing an individual secret key for the voting process.

The result is follows:
Alexander L. Pawlik succeeds Mads Zandersen as Chairman. Alexander was the former Vice Chairman. Gülcin Demirel has been appointed Vice Chairwoman. Scott Davis remains the IBM Representative.

Congratulations to the new elected board members!

We thank Mads Zandersen for his contribution as Chairman throughout the last years.

See the contact details of the EM Board under https://www.gse.org/working-groups/european-working-groups/

VIRTUAL GSE GUIDE TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL (GTC), 19-20 APRIL 2021

Over 100 people listened to the sessions covering new acceleration Garage at IBM, Hybrid Cloud – AI and Cognitive Analytics from Headquarters to the Edge, Container Technologies & Transformation Value, IBM Systems Trends & Directions.

Watch some presentations on our YouTube channel.

The event was organised with the support of IBM France that also offered the platform. Special thanks to Nicolas Desachy and Jean-Michel Corrieu.

VIRTUAL EUROPEAN OPERATIONS TECHNICAL CONFERENCE, 19-23 APRIL 2021

The conference usually taking place at IBM Germany Research & Development GmbH in Böblingen was hosted online by IBM. The participation was free of charge.

The agenda covered exciting enhancements within the IBM Z Service Management portfolio, including Z System Automation, Z NetView, Service Management Unite, Z ChatOps, the IBM Z Service Management Suite and Z Service Automation Suite, OMEGAMON, Workload Scheduler and Z Storage and GDPS.

Key parts of the conference were design discussions, sharing best practices, and to hear about upcoming development features.

VIRTUAL 15TH GSE ISP SYMPOSIUM, 28 SEPTEMBER - 01 OCTOBER 2021

It has been a very challenging project, involving many hours and people in organising the virtual edition of the ISP Symposium. We thank all the people involved in the organisation, our sponsors, vendors and speakers who made this unique event possible.

From the beginning of computerized data processing, taking backup copies of data is an inevitable task of professional IT operations. The Spectrum Protect tool promises the protection of data against many forms of data loss.

Over 200 people took their chance to participate and benefit from the innovations and to hear what is expected to be implemented in ISP over the next couple of years. The attendees could keep up with the very latest features and plans of the ISP-team within IBM, gained hints and tips on upgrading their archive and backup services and to acquire additional technical insight into Spectrum Protect. The conference was conducted with 2 tracks on Tuesday, Wednesday and Friday and with 3 tracks on Thursday.

13 Companies took the possibility to present their products at virtual booths.

GSE GUIDE AUTUMN EVENT NICE / FRANCE, 18-19 OCTOBER 2021

After 3 postponements of the **GSE GUIDE SPRING EVENT** we were very excited to finally be able to meet face-to-face at the newly refurbished Le Méridien Nice hotel.

The GSE GUIDE AUTUMN EVENT under the motto ""On the Wave of AI and Beyond" came up with a very attractive agenda, including live demonstrations on the autonomous ship MAYFLOWER, a ship crossing oceans autonomously without anyone on board or remote controlling. A "AI Captain" that leverages sensors data fusion to perceive its environment, think and decide at sea, without network connection. A flexible low-cost platform allowing scientists to collect more oceans vital data and to better understand key domains, such as pollution, marine mammals and global warming.

The first day ended with the demonstration of a productive AI solution, showing how to conclude an insurance policy by phone without any real person on the line.

The Guide Autumn Event closed on the second day with a panel discussion on autonomous and driverless vehicles.

We are convinced that the participants left with a lot of new impressions about current and future technologies.

The event was organised in partnership with IBM.

15TH EUROPEAN GSE / IBM TECHNICAL UNIVERSITY FOR Z/VSE, Z/VM, KVM AND LINUX ON IBM Z, LEIPZIG / GERMANY, 25-27 OCTOBER 2021

The objective of this European event was to offer a forum to IT managers, technical system professionals and application developers to learn from each other, provide and share own experience reports, hear from IBM and its partners about new developments and solutions.

The balance and demand of enterprises' IT between efficiency, scalability, flexibility, security and reliability have been the premises guiding the IBM Z and LinuxONE platforms. Today most enterprises are thinking how to further optimize, simplify and integrate their IT by considering some kind (public, private or hybrid) of "cloud" deployment model, in terms of solutions at different abstraction layers, common within different platforms, to drive automation, agility with a similar user experience.

First-hand information was offered about technology evolution and on how advantages can be gained with IT. The agenda covered new announcements, several international customer stories, IT optimization, Cloud enablement topics for enterprise and many other significant topics that reflect the potential of the z/VM, z/VSE, KVM and Linux on IBM Z platform to IT managers and IT professionals.

The Technical University, organized by the German Region, the Chairmen of the Working Groups z/VM, KVM und Linux on IBM Z and z/VSE Working Group, in partnership with IBM, was held in Leipzig.

GSE GUIDE TECHNOLOGY COUNCIL, IBM WATSON CENTER MUNICH, 29-30 NOVEMBER 2021 POSTPONED TO 14-15 MARCH 2022

The GSE Guide Technology Council was supposed to kick off on 29 to 30 November. Due to the aggravated COVID-19 situation, especially in the Bavaria Region, the organisation team of GSE and of the IBM Watson Center Munich decided to postpone the event to **14-15 March 2022**.

We will keep the same agenda. Visit our Event Site for more information.

GSE ENTERPRISE MODERNIZATION WORKING GROUP EVENT HAMBURG, 04-06 APRIL 2022

Save the date for the 1st face-to- face EM Event since 2019!

You will find more information on the Event Site as it becomes available.

OUTLOOK ON GSE INTERNATIONAL EVENTS IN 2022

14-15 March	GSE Guide Technology Council (GTC)	Munich, Germany
04-06 April	GSE Enterprise Modernization Working Group Meeting	Hamburg, Germany
09-10 May	GSE Guide Spring Event	Milan, Italy
16-20 May	European Operations Technical Conference (EOTC)	Böblingen, Germany
04-07 October	GSE ISP Symposium	tba
24-26 October	16th European GSE / IBM Technical University for z/VSE, z/VM, KVM and Linux on IBM Z	tba

Visit our Event Site to learn what is coming up next: https://www.gse.org/european-events/
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GSE's official language is English, but in order to build on both cultural and language strengths, we are grouped into 10 geographical regions. As such, members have the opportunity to communicate in their native language when participating in Working Groups, National Events or special projects.

You want to know what is going on in your or other regions?
Find the contact details of the Region Managers or Technical Coordinators or their website links under
https://www.gse.org/regions/

CONTACTING GUIDE SHARE EUROPE

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