

Welcome Speech

Prof. Rolf Tarrach

President of the
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Minister Biltgen, Ladies and Gentlemen,¹

I am delighted to welcome you to the University of Luxembourg for the 2012 SnT Partnership Day. As many of you are aware, SnT is one of two interdisciplinary centres here at the University of Luxembourg. Each centre's hallmark is a strong commitment to a particular scientific topic that is highly relevant to society. At SnT, that topic is "security, reliability and trust" within the field of information and communications technology; at LCSB, our other interdisciplinary centre, the topic is "systems biomedicine." Both of these are topics that are of great import to society, and both are so genuinely exciting that scientists all over the world have decided to dedicate their lives to their pursuit.

The shared vision of both interdisciplinary centres is to conduct world-class research. But what is needed to realize that vision? For one, you need exceptional leadership. At SnT, that leader is Björn Ottersten, Director of the Centre for Security, Reliability and Trust. Only a few weeks ago, Professor Ottersten was named this year's recipient of one of the most highly coveted and acclaimed honours in his field - the IEEE Award. I would like to take this occasion to ask you to help me congratulate Dr. Ottersten once more for his brilliant success. We are very fortunate that a researcher of the calibre of a Björn Ottersten is the man in charge at SnT.

The other thing you need to conduct world-class research is the ability to attract world-class scientists to your centre. You do this by offering them cutting-edge facilities and equipment for their research. I can proudly say that SnT has been a model for putting this into practice. One of the major perks of working at SnT is the strong bond the SnT has forged between the Luxembourg industry and the scientific community. To date, SnT has successfully entered into no less than 14 partnerships with companies and other public institutions. The shared research goals are important factors in helping create the most excellent research facilities that are available here at SnT. Being able to show them to you and discuss them with you is the SnT Partnership Day's goal. I hope that today will be a time for intense and for a rewarding exchange of ideas.

¹ Note: The following text describes Prof. Tarrach's hands-free talk,