

Network Action Proposal

Title:	Visit of PhD Student Vadim Tikhanoff to LIRA Lab (IIT, Genoa)
Membership number(s)	97, 47, 30
Member name(s)	Angelo Cangelosi, Giorgio Metta, Giulio Sandini
Member institute/company name(s)	University of Plymouth & Italian Institute of Technology
Goals of the action	<p>- <i>To enable the continuation of the research visit of PhD student Vadim Tikhanoff (University of Plymouth) to the robotics lab at the Italian Institute of Technology (Genoa).</i> During the previous 5 months of Vadim's visit in Genoa he has developed the speech processing, SOM learning and vision modules for new language learning/grounding experiments with iCub (see report and outcome of previous action). Due to the complexity of the experiments, he now requires four additional months of support to complete the experiments. Note that in addition to the language learning experiments with iCub, during the previous visit Vadim also developed a new prototype simulator of iCub which is currently being used by others at IIT.</p> <p>- <i>To further support the establishment of new research collaboration between Plymouth and Genoa.</i> This action proposal will permit the bridging of funding between the euCognition previous action NA97-2 and the new FP7 IP project ITALK which will start in early 2008. Vadim's prototype experiment and iCub simulator will be very valuable in the ITALK project on language and action integration studies using the iCub platform.</p>
Principal activity to which it contributes <ul style="list-style-type: none"> o Community Outreach 	Community Outreach: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Exchange visit
Concrete outcomes of the action	<p>The action/visit will result in:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - international experience for Tikhanoff, as part of his PhD course and acquisition of new scientific and technical skills on robotic experiments for Tikhanoff - support new collaboration between the two labs in Plymouth and IIT Genoa in preparation for the forthcoming FP7 project ITALK - at least one <u>research paper describing new experiments on language learning and grounding in iCub</u> to be published in the euCognition website. This will also be submitted for journal/conference publication
Effort in person-days that will be charged to the Network Action (if any)	N/A
Expected start and duration in months	1/9/2007 (4 months)
The requested funding, under the following headings:	

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Travel Costs ○ Other Costs (check with the Network Coordinator if you aren't sure about eligibility of these costs) ○ Labour Costs (identify the number of person-days and the rate per day). 	<p>€ 3200 support for accommodation and subsistence during visit in Genoa between September and December 2007 (800 euro per month x 4 months)</p> <p>€ 3200 TOTAL REQUESTED</p>
<p>Please identify any other sources of funding that contribute to this Action</p>	<p>From 2008 the ITALK FP7 project will provide funding for the continuation of Vadim's work and dissemination at conferences</p>