REMOTELY VISITING ACADEMIC LABS USING ICTs

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This work describes experiences using services offered by the new Information and Communication Technologies (ICTs) and how they may open perspectives for increasing students, teachers and researchers knowledge on lab capabilities and cooperation activities between distant institutions.

The experiences involve the Laboratory of Instrumentation for Measurement (LIM) at Faculdade de Engenharia da Universidade do Porto (FEUP) and the Laboratory of Heat Engines (LHE) of the Department of Energy Engineering (DEE), at the Budapest University of Technology and Economics (BUTE).

The technologies used are based on basic systems for IP voice and video communications: the Skype® software as a free VoIP application and a network camera for capturing and sending live video over an IP network.

The co-operation between the DEE at BUTE and ISEL also involves Universities visiting. It is within the present Cooperation Programme that a Remote Lab Visit was performed with FEUP, followed by a real visit. Later, a Remote Lab Visit was performed with DEE at BUTE.

The simplicity and the realism of the used techniques launched new perspectives on Remote Lab Visits involving all the participants.

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