

AxiCom Paris
Press Office for AnteMemoire
Karine Mabilie
+33 (0)1 41061804
karine@axicom-france.com

Sana Berkaoui
+33 (0)1 41061826
sana@axicom-france.com

AnteMemoire announces the opening of the first independent, permanent Computer Museum in Europe based in Paris

*Information technology is part of our cultural and scientific heritage :
AnteMemoire conserves its memory and launches the first European permanent exhibition in Paris La
Défense dedicated to Computing, Telecommunications and the Professional Evolution*

Paris, Thursday July 2, 2007 – After many months of preparation, the AnteMemoire project is coming to life, faithfully rebuilding and bringing to the forefront the evolution of new technology over the years, with the Grand Opening of the First European permanent exhibition dedicated to 50 years of computing hardware and software.

The AnteMemoire project – guided by Philippe Nieuwbourg, President of the association and a specialist in information technology – takes place at the business area of “Grande Arche of La Défense” in Paris, France.

This inaugural exhibition marks a strategic turning point in the birth of the first independent, permanent Computer Museum entirely consecrated to computing, telecommunications, and the evolution of the computing profession in Europe. The Museum is supported by a large network of professional organizations, associations, and high-tech businesses.

The necessity of a permanent computing museum « to create a connection with a forgotten past »

Launched in 2003, the AnteMemoire project's primary objective is to educate today's generation - and generations to come - about the evolution of information technology, starting at the beginning of the 20th century up until present, and to serve as a point of reflection for future technologies.

The creation of a permanent Computer Museum in Europe is crucial for understanding the use of information technology. As the cradle of technological innovation in Europe, France is a worthy host country for such an initiative, just as the United States currently maintains a museum dedicated to information technology (Computer History Museum).

The non-profit organization AnteMemoire is consulting and calling upon all national and local elected officials, representatives of businesses and professional organizations, and to select cities that might eventually host the itinerant Computer Museum around France.

“Many among us were professionally brought-up with information technology. Discovered over the course of our studies, computers have step by step taken an essential role in our professional growth. Directly or indirectly, millions of people in Europe have built careers out of it : programmers, engineers, teachers, consultants, editors, journalists, graphic artists, salespeople,... Over one or two generations, women and men have become users, but also creators of current – and future – technologies. In order to dream about the technology of tomorrow, we have to understand today's technology. And to understand this progress, we have to know its history and its principal stages of development. This is the objective that AnteMemoire has set for itself : to collect and preserve the memory of the information technology history, put it into perspective in relation to today's users, and explain these

steps, in order to best transmit it to future generations, » states Philippe Nieuwbourg, President of the AntéMémoire association.

About AnteMemoire :

AnteMemoire, a non-profit organization, proposes to conserve and preserve the cultural and scientific heritage of the history of information technology. AntéMémoire seeks to be the faithful and long-lasting memory of the evolution of computing as it has developed over the generations. Eventually, AntéMémoire will solidify the foundations of the first independent, permanent Computer Museum of information technology in France.

AntéMémoire web site : www.antememoire.org

Regarding the first exhibition of the Computer Museum :

The first independent Computer Museum will take place at the "Toit de la Grande Arche", in Paris, La Défense, and opens its door to visitors on June 5, 2007. The exhibition will present a collection of approximately 100 historical objects and documents, organized thematically and chronologically through sixteen tableaux. The exhibition is opened to professionals, the public and school groups. More than 100,000 visitors are expected to attend the exhibition.