

The 2nd COGAIN Student Competition: Power of Gaze

Objective

The Second COGAIN Student Competition has been initiated by the Network of Excellence on Communication by Gaze Interaction (COGAIN). COGAIN is supported by the European Commission's IST 6th framework program. COGAIN integrates cutting-edge expertise on interface technologies for the benefit of users with disabilities. The network aims to gather Europe's leading expertise in eye tracking integration with computers in a research project on assistive technologies for citizens with motor impairments. For more information, see <http://www.cogain.org>

The objective of the competition is to boost the development of new, innovative applications that make use of eye input or innovative solutions for eye tracking. COGAIN especially invites submissions that *enhance the communication or control by gaze* by making the interaction *faster, easier, or more enjoyable*.

Rules

- Any student (undergraduate or graduate) or non-commercial participant (not a student but not a professional either) may enter the competition.
- Participants do not need to have any prior contact with COGAIN.
- Participants may be individuals or a group.
- Multiple submissions from the same participant(s) are allowed.
- The application must take advantage of gaze input on some level. It can either be totally gaze-controlled or combine gaze with other input modalities.
- The submission can be almost anything, for example, a new faster gaze communication method, a novel or improved way to point-and-select by gaze, a novel gaze-controlled way to control the environment or support mobility, a totally new concept (demonstrated with a proof-of-concept application), anything that makes the use of gaze as a controlling method easier, faster, more enjoyable ... use your imagination!
- The participants are allowed to freely choose their implementation tools and eye tracking devices. However, please note that COGAIN cannot provide eye trackers for the participants; they should use the trackers they already have, or alternatively, implement the application with special tools that allow development via emulation (see "implementation tools and eye trackers" for more information).
- COGAIN cannot provide support for the implementation or the usage of the eye tracking devices or implementation tools.
- Only complete submissions will be reviewed. Please see "Submissions" for more information.
- The recommended language of the submission is English. Other languages used in the interface of the application are allowed but the report must be in English.
- COGAIN is eager to spread high quality applications to eye control users around the globe and select applicants can get assistance in the distribution of their programs after the competition.

Submissions

The submission should include:

- Title of the application
- An installation packet, with all required parts.
Note that the submission cannot be only a description of an idea, algorithm, or concept -- there must be some clear way to test it with an eye tracking device, therefore, an executable application that demonstrates the idea is required.
- Installation / setup instructions
- A brief documentation explaining the idea of the application, brief notes on its implementation and an explanation how it works, and results of an initial user/usability test (recommended length is 5 pages).
- Contact information: name(s), (team name), organisation, email address, mail address, phone/fax
- Supplementary materials such as videos or still images are allowed but not required.

Please send the complete submission by email to:

student-competition@cogain.org

or by conventional mail to:

COGAIN Network Coordination Office
Päivi Majaranta / Pinni B1036
Department of Computer Sciences
FIN-33014 University of Tampere
Finland

Dates

- Deadline for the submissions: **31 May 2009**
- Notification on results: **1 August 2009**

Review criteria

- Originality and innovation
- Suitability for especially gaze-based control / how well the application takes advantage of gaze
- How well user requirements of a disabled person were taken into account
- Quality of the submission, including the software and the documentation

Prize

Three best submissions will be awarded. Each of the three best submissions will be granted with an Amazon.com Gift Card for the amount of 250 euros. All acceptable submissions that are reviewed will receive a signed certificate of participation in the competition.

For more information, see <http://www.cogain.org/competition/>