

Nantes is hosting the 6th ARFITEC forum

Centrale Nantes is organising and hosting the Arfitec 2016 forum from 2nd to 5th November. This international forum will be held for the first time in the metropolis of Nantes.

ARFITEC is a cooperation programme for engineering training co-financed by the French Embassy in Argentina. It promotes student and teacher/researcher mobility for engineering programmes and thus **heightens cooperation** between establishments from both an academic and a research perspective.

This program, launched in 2007, has already funded the **mobility of many students and teachers through scholarships**. By 2015, 201 Argentine engineering students and 178 French engineering students were attending training at ARFITEC partner institutions and by February 18, 2015, 26 bilateral projects involved about 20 Argentinean universities and more than 50 French engineering schools members of the Arfitec consortium.

Around Centrale Nantes, many actors from the Nantes region are mobilized to make this forum an accelerator of Franco-Argentine collaborations for engineering training. The **Pays de la Loire** region provides an active and financial support, Nantes Métropole is to welcome the participants as soon as they arrive at the Exhibition Center of Nantes. Also participating in the organizing committee are **Oniris, Polytech Nantes, Mines de Nantes, Ensa Nantes, Istia and Audencia Business School**.

The workshops and exchanges within the framework of the forum will allow to instill a new dynamic by focusing on **the research aspect** of these collaborations. Albor Cantard, Secretary of State for University Policy of the Ministry of Education and Sport in Argentina, Michel Perraudin, Deputy Head of the Americas Department of the European and International Relations and Cooperation Department of the Ministry of Education, Higher Education and Research, as well as Emmanuel Becquart, Attaché of University Cooperation at the French Embassy in Argentina, are expected to attend the Forum.

Following the success of BRAFITEC, a Franco-Brazilian forum held in 2006 at Centrale Nantes, the school is once again recognized for its international positioning with the organization of this meeting.

About Centrale Nantes

Centrale Nantes is a French engineering school and member of the Ecoles Centrale Group. Its graduate, master and PhD programmes are based on the latest scientific and technological developments and the best management practices. Founded in 1919, Centrale Nantes' 40-acre campus welcomes 2050 students, including 1340 graduate students, 200 sandwich-course students, 240 PhD students and 270 Master students.