

THE MART

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIRI INDUSTRIALE S.p.A. IN LIQUIDATION IN EXTRAORDINARY ADMINISTRATION (LEGISLATIVE DECREE N. 270, 8 LUGLIO 1999)
INVITATION TO EXPRESS INTEREST TO AN IRREVOCABLE OFFER FOR THE ACQUISITION OF "RAMO LAMINATI" BUSINESS OF LIRI INDUSTRIALE IN LIQUIDATION IN EXTRAORDINARY ADMINISTRATION

Through sentence No. 7/2010 dated July 29th 2010 and filed on August 2nd 2010, the Court of Turin declared the company Liri Industriale S.p.A. in a state of insolvency. Mr. Francesco Donato was appointed Delegate Judge and Professor Alberto Falini was appointed Judicial Commissioner; therefore, by decree of the Court of Turin in date October 7th 2010 and filed on October 19th 2010, the Extraordinary Administration procedure was declared opened and through the Decree of the Ministry of Economic Development in date November 11th 2010, Professor Alberto Falini was then appointed Extraordinary Commissioner. In date January 31st 2011 the Extraordinary Commissioner presented the Ministry for Economic Development with the programme foreseen in Art. 54 et seq. of the Legislative Decree No. 270/99 which contemplates - amongst other things - the sale of the ongoing "rolling-mill" business operated in the premises of Pont Canavese (the "Ramo Laminati").

With regards to the provisions in the programme pursuant to Art. 54 et seq. Legislative Decree No. 270/99 and the subsequent integration pursuant to Art. 60 of Legislative Decree No. 270/99, that was presented in date September 26th 2011 and approved by the competent Ministry, the Extraordinary Commissioner is interested in receiving irrevocable acquisition offers from companies - Italian or foreign - in order to proceed with the sale of the "Ramo Laminati", incorporated as defined under the Offer Regulations. The Extraordinary Commissioner hereby

invites

the subjects interested in the acquisition of the "Ramo Laminati" to send any offers in accordance with the Offer Regulations available at the head-offices of the Extraordinary Administration Procedure. The offer must be addressed to Liri Industriale S.p.A. in Liquidazione in Amministrazione Straordinaria, with head-offices in Nichelino (TO) Italy, Strada Vernea 2 and should be delivered to the Public Notary Dario Cortucci in Milan, Via Larga 19 (Tel. +39 02 58210301 - Fax +39 02 58322511), in a sealed envelope via registered post, bearing the words "Offer for acquisition of Ramo Laminati di Liri" within and no later than 2:00 PM (Italian time) on Thursday February 16th, 2012.

Each subject interested may - after signing a confidentiality agreement - view data and documents relating to the "Ramo Laminati", at the head-offices of the Extraordinary Administration Procedure, including a copy of the business Survey, as well as visit the plants.

Please note that this announcement does not constitute a public offer under Art. 1336 of the Italian Civil Code, nor in any way whatsoever commit the Extraordinary Commissioner to contract with subjects submitting irrevocable acquisition offers.

This announcement does not constitute a solicitation to the public, stating in that regard that the purpose of any sale shall not be - neither directly nor indirectly - securities of any kind whatsoever. Each and every final decision with regards to the conclusion of the sale contract shall in any case be subject to authorisation by the Ministry of Economic Development - after consultation with the Surveillance Committee - as provided for under Art. 42 of the Legislative Decree No. 270/99.

Extraordinary Commissioner
Prof. Alberto Falini

Contact:
Prof. Alberto Falini c/o Studio Falini
Tel. +39 02 77 88 63 213 - Fax +39 02 77 88 63 258

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GLOBAL EXPRESSION OF INTEREST (EOI)
HINDUSTAN PETROLEUM CORPORATION LIMITED (HPC) is the second largest integrated oil Refining and Marketing company in India. Status and is a Fortune 500 company.

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Event	Date	Time (IST)
EOI Electronic question and answer due date	03.02.2012	12.00 Hrs
EOI Response submission due date	14.02.2012	15.30 Hrs
EOI Response opening date	14.02.2012	15.30 Hrs

Chief Manager-Materials
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AUCTIONS

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BUSINESS & FINANCE

U.K. Computer Teaching Gets With the Program

[Tech Europe]

By Ben Rooney



Every school computer suite across England should hang a picture of Eric Schmidt on the wall, and children should sing songs in his honor for saving them from the mind-crushing tedium of the government's soon-to-be-abandoned computing curriculum.

It was the executive chairman of Google who used his Edinburgh MacTaggart lecture last August to shame the U.K. government into action. "I was flabbergasted to learn that today computer science isn't even taught as standard in U.K. schools," he said. "That is just throwing away your great computing heritage."

The U.K. government took on board the stinging criticism of the computing curriculum and the education minister, Michael Gove, Wednesday announced that he was scrapping the current curriculum. "From this September all schools will be free to use the amazing resources that already exist on the Web," he told the annual education technology conference in London.

The late and lamented computing curriculum was, at heart, little more than an extended training session in Microsoft Office. Students learned how to use PowerPoint and Excel, not to code. And was it ever so dull.

My eldest daughter recently had to take an IT exam at 16. If you wanted to crush the life out of the subject, if you wanted to turn off an entire generation to the excitement of what you can do with computing, then you could not have devised a better project than the one she and her classmates, all of whom are on Facebook, Twitter and have mobile phones, were set. They had to draw up a database schema in Microsoft Access for a dentist's billing system. Be still my beating heart.

How far, in the wrong direction, we have travelled. When I was 16, taking what we were told was the first "O" Level in computing (a key exam for students with university hopes), we could pick any project we wanted; mine was to write an assembly language emulator. I was told it was a bit unambitious.

But this is not a call to some nostalgic lost era of education, and nor is the life-crushing tedium of school computing unique to the U.K. It appears, in a straw poll, to be common across a lot of Western Europe.

Salar al Khafaji, a Dutch entrepreneur who went to school in Amsterdam, said it was much the same there. "I had been programming since I was 10 years old and having to sit through hour-long courses teaching you 'e-mail' can hardly be called motivational." Christian Lanng, CEO of the Copenhagen-based Tradeshift said: "We learned no coding from school. I learned to code Basic at my Commodore 64 at the age of 7."

However, talking to entrepreneurs in eastern Europe a different picture emerges. Kristjan Hiemea, of Estonian start-up Erply, said he did a lot of coding at Märjamaa high school. "We did basic programming, Visual Basic programming, Excel advanced macros. I was able to write code, build applications. That was fun." The same applies to Mischa Dohler, of Barcelona-based Worldensing, who grew up in Jena in what was then East Germany. "We were taught assembler and basic on the then-available computers. I got a Commodore and Atari later (when the Wall came down) at home."

Mr. Gove's initiative needs to be looked at in a wider, political, context. The U.K. government is investing a large amount of political capital in supporting and promoting the start up culture. Hardly a day goes by without ministers, or even royalty, getting involved. A recent report by the U.K.'s National Endowment for Science, Technology and the Arts said that just 1% of U.K. businesses with the highest growth rates generated half of the

The U.K.'s computing curriculum was little more than an extended training session in Microsoft Office.

new jobs created between 2002 and 2008; many, if not all, of those are industries dependent on technology skills. The old curriculum was not just an impediment, it was actually driving people away. In 2011, just 31,800 pupils took the computing exam at 16, compared to 81,100 in 2007. This has, said Peter Barron, head of external relations for Google, resulted "in a work force that lacks the key skills needed to help drive the U.K.'s economic growth."

However, the U.K. lacks the teachers to provide this dynamic and relevant computing education. Data from the U.K.'s General Teaching Council suggest that of the 28,767 teachers who registered with the GTC in 2010, only three qualified in computing or computing science as their primary qualification. Sensible schools will look outside their own ranks for help; sensible corporations will offer it.

However, schools should be wary of equipping students with the wrong skills. Mr. Lanng might be a case in point. "When I was at school everyone was playing Tetris. ... I went in and hacked the executable file and edited my high score on all the computers. Unfortunately the number I picked was too long, which made all the computers crash at random intervals with a pop-up with a very long number and my name next to it. I was banned from the computer room for a week."

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U.S. NEWS

Protests Put Event Host Cities on Alert

By Jack Nicas

CHICAGO—After violent protests erupted in cities across the globe last year, U.S. cities hosting some of 2012's most contentious events are changing their laws to try to head off trouble before it starts.

In Chicago, host of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and the Group of Eight summits in May, Mayor Rahm Emanuel has proposed limiting the hours of demonstrations, tightening permit rules and jacking up fines. The minimum penalty for violating parade rules, for example, would soar to \$1,000 from \$50.

In Charlotte, N.C., site of the Democratic National Convention in September, officials aim to ban protesters from throwing anything and from carrying a long list of items—from ice picks to felt-tip markers. Meanwhile, Tampa, Fla., officials are being more accommodating: They plan to offer demonstrators a stage with a sound system, relax rules on public rallies and streamline event permitting during the Republican National Convention in August.

Cities thrust on the international stage by high-profile events have struggled for years with how to damp protests while limiting disruptions and images of police-protester clashes on the evening news. The Democratic mayors of Chicago, Charlotte and Tampa—all of whom have dealt with the "Occupy" movement since last summer—say the laws will keep their cities safe while protecting free speech.

"People will have their First Amendment rights protected and the law will be enforced. Those two aren't in conflict," Mr. Emanuel told reporters last week.

But some experts warn that taking too firm a hand can backfire. Alex Vitale, an associate professor of sociology at Brooklyn College who tracks how cities police protests, said changing laws to target protesters can scare off peaceful demonstrators, "leaving just those who are amped up for a confrontation."

Philadelphia Police Commissioner Charles Ramsey, who was widely reported as taking a restrained approach this fall when dealing with Occupy protesters, said the small slice of protesters with an



Police brandish weapons during the 'Occupy Denver' protest in October. Major summits or political conventions planned for Chicago, Charlotte, N.C. and Tampa, Fla., are likely to draw protests in 2012.

Changing the Rules/ Host cities' crowd-control plans

Chicago

NATO/G8 summits, May 19-21
Expected attendance: 10,000

Proposed law changes:

- ◆ Limit hours of public demonstrations and public parks
- ◆ Increase fines for resisting police and for violating parade rules
- ◆ Increase restrictions on parade permits
- ◆ Authorize police superintendent to deputize law enforcement personnel from other agencies

Charlotte, N.C.

Democratic National Convention, Sept. 3-6
Expected attendance: 35,000

Proposed law changes:

- ◆ Ban camping and fires on public property
- ◆ Ban throwing 'noxious substances'
- ◆ Authorize officials to revoke event permits
- ◆ Ban protesters from possessing 18 categories of items, including weapons and armor

Tampa, Fla.

Republican National Convention, Aug. 27-30
Expected attendance: 50,000

Proposed law changes:

- ◆ Allow event permits to be obtained several hours before an event, down from a previous 60-day rule
- ◆ Relax requirements for toilets, trash pickup and liability insurance for some event permits
- ◆ Relax rules on hanging banners

agenda of violence complicates the policing of large demonstrations. "I don't know if there's a right or wrong way of doing it," he said. "You can be accommodating and people can take advantage."

In the 1980s and 1990s, experts

say most cities looked to avoid violence by negotiating with protesters. But that approach failed at the 1999 World Trade Organization Ministerial Conference in Seattle, where police, undermanned to clear protesters blocking an intersection, used

tear gas, sparking riots. Since then, U.S. police forces have largely become more aggressive toward protesters.

Before the 2008 Democratic National Convention, Denver tweaked laws to tighten permit rules and ban

GOP Vote Sets Records in Iowa and New Hampshire

By Janet Hook

Turnout rose about 3% over 2008 levels in the first two contests of the Republican presidential nominating process in Iowa and New Hampshire, yielding a record number of GOP voters and providing fodder for analysts trying to predict voter behavior for the November election.

Republican officials have been hoping that an eagerness to defeat President Barack Obama would drive voters to the polls, and public opinion surveys have shown that Republican voters are more energized than are Democrats this year.

Now, analysts are looking at turnout numbers for clues to whether voting behavior will match the Republicans' stated enthusiasm.

Bill McInturf, a Republican pollster, said it was a good sign for the party that more voters were casting ballots than in 2008, which featured

exciting primary contests in both parties that drove voters to the polls.

"The fact that Republicans so far are showing up in greater numbers is important and encouraging as regards their involvement and commitment to voting in record high numbers this fall," said Mr. McInturf, who directs The Wall Street Journal/NBC News poll along with Democratic pollster Peter Hart.

"Historic turnout is still historic turnout," he said. Still, there were some signs that the desire among GOP primary voters to defeat Mr. Obama was tempered by a lack of enthusiasm over their choice of candidates.

More than eight out of 10 people who voted in New Hampshire's primary said they were dissatisfied with or angry about the Obama administration, according to polls taken as voters left polling places. At the same time, nearly one-

third of the GOP primary voters said they would like to see someone else on the ballot. It isn't uncommon, however, for voters in the early primaries to have reservations about their candidates.

"This vote, in the minds of voters, this was their first vote against

The totals fell short of what Iowa's governor and a New Hampshire official had predicted beforehand.

President Obama," said Andrew Smith, director of the University of New Hampshire Survey Center.

"Electability and the ability to beat Obama will become increasingly important as the primaries progress." Some 248,485 voters cast ballots

in New Hampshire's Republican primary on Tuesday, according to Associated Press totals that included all precincts in the state. That count was unofficial, as the secretary of state's office was still conducting its tally.

If it holds, it would mark a 3% increase from the record 241,039 ballots cast in 2008. Similarly, the 122,255 people who participated in Iowa's caucuses last week represented a 3% increase from the prior cycle.

In both states, independent voters made up a larger share of the GOP electorate than in 2008, when robust primary contests in both parties competed for the attention of independents.

In both cases, turnout was somewhat below the levels predicted by public officials.

In Iowa, Gov. Terry Branstad, a Republican, had predicted that eagerness to defeat Mr. Obama would

tools protesters use to lock themselves together. In 2003, before negotiations for the Free Trade Area of the Americas, Miami banned protesters from carrying items that could be used as weapons and required permits for gatherings of more than six people. Protests in Miami that year turned violent.

This year, Tampa plans to give the expected 15,000 protesters a dedicated parade route and protest area "as close as possible" to the Republican convention, assistant city attorney Mauricio Rodriguez said. And for protesters who want to demonstrate elsewhere, permitting will be streamlined, with just a few hours' notice needed and insurance requirements likely waived.

"We're less concerned about paperwork than we are about the peaceful nature of it all," said Tampa Mayor Bob Buckhorn.

The proposals in Charlotte would ban protesters from possessing 18 categories of items, including weapons and armor. For some seemingly innocuous items—backpacks, scarves—police would have to decide whether protesters are carrying them with malicious intent.

The law "creates a potentially disastrous situation for Charlotte if police can decide what a person's intent is," said Occupy Charlotte protester Laurel Green, an artist.

Charlotte City Attorney Bob Hagemann said the law enables police to "engage" suspect protesters and act if necessary, "while at the same time respecting and protecting legitimate First Amendment rights."

In Chicago, Mr. Emanuel's proposals would, among other changes, limit the hours of demonstrations, increase fines for resisting police and for violating parade rules, and require applicants for parade permits to describe all "sound amplification equipment, banners, signs, or other attention-getting devices."

A city spokeswoman said the permitting changes have been in the works for years.

Activists say the new permit requirements give police reasons to crack down on peaceful protests. "We know from history that this does not stop people from acting out," said Don Rose, a longtime Chicago activist and veteran of the infamous clashes between police and protesters at the 1968 Democratic National Convention in the city.

send as many as 140,000 voters to the polls, or about 18,000 more than materialized. New Hampshire Secretary of State Bill Gardner had predicted turnout of 250,000 voters.

The priority New Hampshire voters gave to beating Mr. Obama was a major source of strength for Mitt Romney, who won the primary with 39.3% of the votes. He was seen as the most electable by more than half of all primary voters—including many who supported other candidates.

Dante Scala, a political scientist at the University of New Hampshire, said that the state's turnout may have been depressed somewhat by the longstanding expectation that Mr. Romney would win.

"The feeling you got in New Hampshire was that the primary was kind of blah," said Mr. Scala. "Ron Paul voters were the exception, but you weren't overwhelmed by the enthusiasm."