

DESY Seminar

14 June 2005, 17:00, DESY Hörsaal

Jan-Willem van Holten (NIKHEF/DESY)

The HISPARC project – A view from the bottom

For several years Dutch high-schools have been participating in a study of cosmic radiation. At the initiative of the University of Nijmegen, a network of cosmic ray detectors is constructed all over the Netherlands, named HiSPARC (High School Project on Astro-Physics Research with Cosmics). The project is designed as an open network that other schools and academic institutions may join. Presently between 20 and 30 high schools are involved, clustered around 6 universities, and the number is growing.

HiSPARC is both a scientific and an educational project. The goal is to involve high school students directly in all stages of scientific measurement, giving them first-hand experience of scientific research and teamwork. First the high-school students construct their own detector under supervision of physicists at one of the participating universities. After testing and calibrating, the detectors are put into operation at the school, connected via internet to a central computer that collects all data, which are freely available to all participants.

- Tea and cookies will be served at 16:45 in the lobby.
- After the seminar there is a chance for private discussions with the speaker over wine and pretzels also in the lobby.