Here are a few lines to sum up what I feel was a very successful DLT thanks to the outstanding organization put up by our local volunteers.

The DLT was arranged in cooperation with the Salvador, BA and Montevideo Chapter. Organization was great thanks to the work of Edson Leal, Jorge Hedderwick and Gustavo Giannattasio.

In Salvador I gave 2 lectures, one on the 17th at the university with the attendance of close to 150 students and professors and on the 18th at the opening of the Software Conference with the attendance of close to 300 people from academia and industry.

The two lectures analyzed the technology evolution and in the first the accent was on the implication on research, in the second on the implication on biz.

In Buenos Aires I gave a lecture at the EXPOCOM, with an attendance of over 100 engineers, most from industry with a few from academia. The topic was Vision of the future with communicating objects and applications.

In Montevideo I gave a lecture to over 30 engineers gathered on the premises of ANTEL on the topic of Technology evolution: Impact on the telecommunications biz.

All lectures were well received; the IEEE and COMSOC were given good exposure.

I am posting, by the end of October, on the COMSOC web pages in the DLT area the recording of a lecture that in a way contains all the issues that have been addressed in the various areas.

In this DLT I had the opportunity of meeting several local volunteers. All acknowledge and appreciate the DLT program and all would like to see the establishment of stronger ties with COMSOC (mostly seen as located somewhere far in the USA) and with other COMSOC members worldwide.

Out of this discussion we have identified a trial program of videoconferences, to be given on a periodical base, ideally once a month. The trial will start in March 2008 and will run with 6 videoconferences through 2008 (skipping the vacation months of July, August and December).
It will involve a number of Chapters in Latin America. Jorge Hedderwick and Ricardo Veiga are taking the lead to define the procedure and technical specification to have the conf call on Internet (possibly using Internet 2). Interest has been expressed also by Nelson Fonseca and Gustavo Giannattasio. I will prepare a list of topics and lecturers to be discussed and finalized in a first conference testing in October.

The goal of this initiative is to create stronger links with local communities and to foster the establishment of worldwide communities within the COMSOC banner. This is considered to be of particular importance to attract and retain students that more and more are developing a community based culture of information exchange.