



The Etabeta in Melbourne guest of the technological innovations exhibition

Friday, 22 March 2002

The Etabeta prototype, built by Pininfarina in 1996, will be the guest of the first Italian-Australian Technological Innovations Conference & Exhibition which will be held in Melbourne, Australia, from March 25 to 28, 2002.

This initiative, promoted and organised by the Italian Embassy in Canberra and the Federal Ministry for Industry, Science and Resources of Victoria, is designed to stimulate and promote systematic scientific and technological cooperation between the two countries, based on the determination of the two "country systems" to create areas of common interest in which to establish "clusters" of centres of excellence (universities, research centres and companies). The CNR (National Research Council) will be represented at the event, at both the exhibition and the conference. One of the products on display will be the Etabeta, the result of a research project undertaken by Pininfarina, on behalf of the CNR, as part of the "Transport 2" project to develop a modular prototype (it features a simple device that extends the rear overhang telescopically by 20 centimetres, allowing the vehicle length to be extended from 3.12 to 3.32 metres) with a low pollution dual power propulsion system, built of fully recyclable light materials and suitable for the urban cycle and medium distances on the open road.