

## Corfu Summit: Community's role in the "information society" underlined

At the Summit meeting in Corfu on 24 and 25 June 1994, the Heads of State and Government of the European Union discussed the Bangemann Report on the information society. After the debate, the Greek Presidency's conclusions were as follows:

"The European Council took note of the report from the group of leading figures representing the industry, operators and users who have been examining the various aspects of this question under the chairmanship of Mr Bangemann. The European Council considers that the current unprecedented technological revolution in the area of information opens up vast possibilities for economic progress, employment and the quality of life, while simultaneously representing a major challenge. It is primarily up to the private sector to respond to this challenge, by evaluating what is at stake and taking the necessary initiatives, notably in the matter of financing. The European Council, like the Commission, considers that the Community and its Member States do, however, have an important role to play in backing up this development by giving political impetus, creating a clear and stable regulatory framework (notably as regards access to markets, compatibility between networks, intellectual property rights, data protection and copyright) and by setting an example in areas of application set out by the Group (teleworking, distance learning,

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## INTERNAL MARKET

### Liberalization a key word for the future information society

Officially presented to the Heads of State and Government at Corfu, on 24 and 25 June, the report on the information society has been prepared by the High-level group on the Information Society chaired by Mr. Martin Bangemann (Commissioner). This report: "Europe and the global information society; recommendations to the European Council", is an important statement expressing the goals and outlining the means of implementing Europe's role in the global information society.

The message clearly expressed by this High-Level Group society is that the information society is coming, whether we like it or not, and that we ought therefore to set out rules of the game which will enable European operators to compete on the market. This revolution should be driven by the market the prime task of government being to safeguard competitive forces. To give the Europeans the opportunity to win the new markets, we need to see an open market, lower tariffs, equal opportunities for all operators, public and private, with common rules on a European scale. Stressing the urgency of the matter, the Group underlines that competitive suppliers of networks and services from outside Europe are increasingly active in European markets.

The strategy suggested by the industrialists, under the aegis of EU industry and telecommunications Commissioner Martin Bangemann, is based on the total opening up of the market to competition as soon as possible. This means speeding up the deregulation of those infrastructures

and services which are still under monopoly. This should not present any technological or financial difficulties, say the experts, who present an action plan based on specific initiatives involving partnerships linking public and private sectors. The objective is to stimulate markets so that they would rapidly reach a critical mass.

The main recommendations to Member States from the Group are to:

- \* Accelerate the continuing process of liberalizing the telecom sector (opening up infrastructures and services still in the monopolies area to competition, removing non-commercial political burdens and budgetary constraints imposed on telecom operators);
- \* Implement the interconnection and interoperability of information infrastructures and services;

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network for universities and research centres, telematic services for SMEs, road traffic management, air traffic control, healthcare networks, electronic tendering, administrative networks and city information highways). Also the importance of linguistic and cultural aspects of the information society was stressed by the European Council.

The European Council, having noted the findings of the Bangemann Group, considers that the importance and complexity of the issues raised by the new information society justify the setting up of a permanent coordination instrument to ensure that the various parties involved - public and private - are working along the same lines. The coordination instrument, to be set up as soon as possible, should be based on the appointment in each Member State of a person responsible at ministerial level for coordinating all aspects of the subject (political, financial and regulatory) with a view *inter alia* to ensuring a co-ordinated approach in the Council. The Commission will act similarly.

At the level of the Community, the necessary regulatory framework has to be established as soon as possible. The European Council invites the Council and the European Parliament to adopt before the end of the year measures in the areas already covered by existing proposals. It also invites the Commission to establish as soon as possible a programme covering the remaining measures needed at the Community level.

The European Council will assess progress at its meeting in Essen."

## Liberalization for the information society (continued)

- \* Review the European standardization process so as to increase its speed and responsiveness to markets;
- \* Adjust tariffs (international, long distance and leased lines) in order to bring them into line with rates in other advanced industrialized regions. This should be accompanied by the equitable sharing of public service obligations among operators;
- \* Establish a common and agreed regulatory framework for the protection of intellectual property rights, privacy and security of information within Europe and, where appropriate, internationally;
- \* Make a swift decision on the Commission's proposed Directive setting out general principles of data protection, and to accelerate work at European level on electronic and legal protection as well as security;
- \* Pay special attention to competition rules - in particular on media ownership - to protect pluralism and competition within the European market.

The report also stresses the need for the Union to strengthen its existing networks and for the creation of new ones. Priority is given to the extension of Euro-ISDN and to implementation of the European broadband infrastructure. As far as mobile and satellite communications are concerned, the report recommends a reduction of tariffs for mobile communications, the promotion of global systems in Europe and internationally, and the establishment of a regulatory framework for satellite

communications. The European satellite industry is called upon to participate more actively in the development of worldwide systems.

The Group insists on the need to demonstrate immediate applications and mentions ten specific applications: teleworking, distance learning, a network for universities and research centres, telematics services for SMEs, road traffic management, air traffic control, healthcare networks, electronic tendering, trans-European public administration networks, and city information highways.

The Group believes that the creation of the information society in Europe should be entrusted to the private sector and to market forces. It is convinced that private capital will be available to fund new telecoms services and infrastructures providing that the conditions already mentioned are implemented. These are: market liberalization, setting up of rules for interoperability and reciprocal access, adjustment of tariffs, and the establishment of a regulatory framework. Public investment will still play a role, not by increasing the general level of public spending, but rather by refocusing existing expenditure. At the Community level, this could entail some reorientation of current allocations under such headings as the Fourth Framework Programme for research and development, and the Structural Funds.

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## European Council urges the adoption of RTD specific programmes.

At its meeting in Corfu on 24-25 June 1994, the European Council reviewed on the basis of a report from the Commission the initiatives under way in the Member States in accordance with the general objectives defined in December 1993.

The European Council noted progress in these areas but considered that the efforts undertaken so far, though appreciable, still fell a long way short of what was necessary. It encouraged Member States to take further steps to implement the objectives set out in December, in order to win the battle for jobs.

Regarding scientific and technological research, the European Council expects that the recent decision on the ambitious 1994-1999 Framework Programme, to which considerable funding has been allocated, will be followed up without delay by the rapid adoption of specific sector programmes. In this context the information sector and biotechnology are of particular importance. It also invited the Council to pursue a more systematic coordination of Community and national research policies and called upon the Commission to take any useful initiatives to promote such coordination.

# Council adopts specific programmes on industrial and materials technologies and communication technologies

A meeting of the European Research Council took place on 27 June 1994 in Luxembourg, under the Presidency of Mr. Constantin Simitis, Greek Minister for Industry, Energy and Technology.

## **Two specific programmes agreed**

The Council agreed on Decisions for the specific programmes on *Industrial and Materials Technologies* and *Communication Technologies*.

These are the first of 20 specific programmes to be agreed by the Council for the implementation of the Fourth Framework Programme and the Euratom Framework Programme (1994-1998). In order to implement these two programmes, the European Commission will be assisted by a committee composed of representatives of the Member States.

Formal adoption of the Decisions will take place after the finalisation of the texts.

## **Financial breakdown of the specific programme on Industrial and Materials Technologies:**

Production technologies: 36.5%  
Materials and technologies for product innovation: 35%  
Transport technologies: 28.5%  
Total: ECU 1,617 million.

## **Financial breakdown of the specific programme on Communications Technologies:**

Interactive multimedia services: ECU 162 million  
Photonic technologies: ECU 104 million

High-speed networks: ECU 75 million  
Mobility and personal communications networks: ECU 115 million  
Network intelligence and ingenuity of services: ECU 100 million  
Quality, safety and reliability of services and communications systems: ECU 43 million  
Horizontal actions: ECU 31 million  
Total: ECU 630 million

## **The Council also agreed common positions on:**

A Decision on rules of participation for enterprises, research centres and universities in the Community specific programmes on research, technological development and demonstration;

A Decision on rules for the dissemination of research results of Community specific programmes on research, technological development and demonstration.

A Decision on the rules of participation for enterprises, research centres and universities in the EAEC specific programmes on research and education.

The above three Decisions aim to establish horizontal rules for the implementation of all Community specific programmes on research, technological development and demonstration. Particular attention will be paid to small and medium-sized enterprises and to cooperation with third countries or international organisations.

These common positions will be formally adopted at a future Council

session, after finalisation of the texts. They will then be sent to Parliament in accordance with the cooperation procedure.

## **Cooperating with third countries**

Regarding other matters, the Council took note of the Commission's proposal for negotiating Directives for a scientific and technical cooperation agreement with Switzerland. The Council will discuss the proposed scientific and technical cooperation agreement with Israel at a future Council session.

The Council agreed on a Decision on the conclusion of an agreement for scientific and technical cooperation between the European Community and Australia. Areas for cooperation were agreed as follows:

- \* Biotechnology;
- \* Medical and sanitary research;
- \* Marine science and technology;
- \* Environment;
- \* Information technologies;
- \* Communications technologies.

The Council approved two proposals for Decisions concerning relations between the European Community and the Republic of San Marino. In addition, the Council agreed on Decisions concerning the conclusion of two exchanges of letters modifying agreements between the European Community and Bulgaria and the European Community and Romania.

An exchange of views was held on the European Assembly of Science and Technology, launched by the Commission in March 1994.

## R & D Funding from the European Union

The European Commission, Parliament and Council recently agreed that the next series of Research and Technology Development programmes, the Fourth Framework Programme, will involve European funding of 12.3 billion ECU.

The individual Specific Programmes for this period are being finalised now.

To help European research institutes and industries both to get involved in

and exploit the results of Community supported R&D projects, a network of 27 VALUE Relay Centres was established by the VALUE programme throughout Europe.

The local VRC is intended to be a window on European R&D funding and research results. They run information seminars, technology transfer days and other events, and are always available to answer questions and help you get started.

To find out more about the Value Relay Centres Network, or to receive a calendar of all events organised by the VRC see below.

### Contact:

Marinella Sardo  
Tel: +352 4301 34008  
fax: +352 4301 34009  
E-mail:  
SARDOM@MHSG.CEC.RTT.BE

## Towards a Community digital TV policy

Meeting on Monday 30 May 1994, the Telecommunications Council reached political agreement on a resolution establishing the framework for a Community digital television policy, but postponed a Decision on the proposal relating to transmission standards.

The final decision to drop D2Mac and HD Mac as compulsory transmission standards in favour of a new more flexible framework therefore depends on the technical work on standards; the Council took note of the state of the work on this subject.

The Resolution on the framework for a Community policy states that, in order to ensure the "harmonious development" of digital technologies, the Council "awaits with great interest" any agreement that could be concluded - on a voluntary basis - by those concerned, including broadcasters. In the absence of adequate consensus and should the necessity of guaranteeing fair and open competition require it, the Council is prepared to take regulatory measures to help this process.

The Council welcomed the Commission's plan to include actions in this area in its proposals for specific research programmes (fourth Framework Programme), to encourage the process of standardization of digital TV and the development of implementation scenarios for digital TV broadcasting, to support studies on the availability of frequencies and strategic questions related to these, and to maintain a political dialogue with other countries, notably the United States and Japan.

The Council also noted that the consultation with industry on conditional access to programmes was not yet completed and that the Commission and the Member States must undertake additional work to determine further measures.

## ISDN: Council debate suspended a decision on trans-European networks funding

Meeting in Brussels on Monday 30 May, the Telecommunication Council held a comprehensive debate on two proposals related to the development of ISDN (Integrated Service Digital Network) as a trans-European network. Three delegations (France, Germany and United Kingdom) maintained their reservations pending horizontal decisions on the trans-European networks, in particular their funding. The case was therefore sent back to the experts.

The two proposals aim to introduce ISDN in harmonized fashion in all Member States within the Framework of Title XII of the Treaty on European Union. The first proposal is a decision of the European Parliament and Council on guidelines for action. The second is a Council decision on the Community's contribution to implementing the network. On this, the Commission has proposed 10

millions ecu in 1994 and 19 million ecu in 1995.

The Council's work focused on the proposal defining objectives, priorities, major categories of measures and projects of common interest for the development of the network. The French, German and UK delegations considered it premature to take a stance before the publication of the Bangemann's Group report on information highways and prior to the end of work on the regulations governing the financing of trans-European networks.

The Council also approved conclusions on the 4th annual report on the state of progress of ISDN, encouraging public networks operators to continue their cooperation on providing common services. The Council invited the Commission to provide support for the European Forum of ISDN Users.

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## Council welcomes Green Paper on mobile communication

At the Telecommunications Council, held in Brussels on 30 May 1994, the European Commissioner Martin Bangemann presented Ministers with the Green Paper on mobile and personal communications, recently adopted by the Commission. President Ioannis Haralambous (Greece) said he welcomes the approach proposed by the Commission and that a majority of the delegation were in favour of speeding up the proposed work.

In a Resolution on the liberalization of telecommunications adopted in mid-1993 the Council stated that a Community policy in this area is one of the main short-term objectives of the European Union's telecommunications policy.

## Council agrees to apply ONP to voice telephony

The telecommunications ministers of the European Union confirmed at their meeting of 30 May their political agreement on the draft directive for applying the principle of Open Network Provision (ONP) to voice telephony. However, this will be without the amendments of the European Parliament, after the failure of the conciliation procedure with the Parliament. Official confirmation should follow at the next meeting of the Council, to leave the newly elected Assembly time to give its opinion at its first plenary session in July. The European Commission issued a declaration suggesting that this common position - which does not take into account any of the amendments of the Parliament, even those accepted by the Commission - should be confirmed unanimously. The Council, for its part, insisted on adopting the position by a qualified majority. The Council/Parliament dispute is now compounded by a new Council/Commission disagreement.

# Overview of activities

## European Commission activities in the telecommunications and information market during 1994

At the Europe/Japan Forum, held in Paris early June 1994, DG XIII presented an overview paper on the Commission's activities in telecommunications and the information market. It summarises the objectives and priorities of the Commission's action.

The European Union is currently going through various changes, including its own evolution, resulting from the implementation of the Maastricht Treaty, enlargement, global trade competition, and a crisis in traditional values. Making these changes more acute and compounding them is the fact that growing numbers of people and companies are increasingly able to benefit from fast and easy access to all types of information. In fact, information is becoming a new economic resource which at the same time modifies traditional types of interpersonal relations. This trend is prompting a transformation of European society which will ultimately result in the advent of an "information society". Moreover, as a result of the new role of information and fast communications, remaining economically competitive demands a new quality of communication among the institutions involved in the development and management of society.

To preserve and strengthen the **competitiveness** of the European Union, the European Commission has an important role to play in this new environment. In this respect, the Directorate-General responsible for Telecommunications, Information Market and Exploitation of Research (DG XIII) plays a leading role. DG XIII already has an outstanding record of activities in the sphere of information and communications achieved through the development of European-wide innovative and balanced policies in the telecommunications and postal services sectors and the launching of a series of original R&D programmes. It has also been very active in technology transfer, information market policy, and the exploitation and dissemination of research results, which is of particular interest to small and

medium-sized companies (SMEs). After achieving major breakthroughs in the field of voice telephony and postal services, the Commission's activities in the area of information and communication will focus on four major lines of action. The first priority is the **follow-up of the White Paper**. In this framework, the Commission will make preparations for the establishment of trans-European information infrastructures whose development will bring about a more competitive society as well as foster employment and economic growth. Second, the **liberalization of the telecommunications sector** will be pursued, with special emphasis on achieving full liberalization of voice telephony by the 1998 deadline and preparing the ground for a more competitive environment in the field of telecommunications infrastructure. Liberalization is also of major importance for securing an active participation of the private sector in the development of information infrastructures. The third priority will be to **direct its R&D activities towards developing the technology and applications** necessary to enable and support the emergence of the information society. Finally, the Commission will pursue its innovation policy and strengthen technology transfer particularly in favour of SMEs.

### *Follow up of the White Paper*

The Commission submitted its White Paper on Growth, competitiveness and employment: the challenges and ways forward into the 21st century to the European Council summit of December 1993. The White Paper presents a straightforward portrayal of Europe's difficult economic situation, consisting mainly of the highest unemployment rate since the Second World War, and a decline in Europe's position compared to its main trading partners (the United States and Japan) as regards market shares, R&D activities and the capacity to design and launch new products. It submits an action plan at both the national and Union level to get back to economic growth,

boost Europe's competitiveness, and create 15 million new jobs by the turn of the century.

The action plan is organised along the two following themes:

\* On the employment front, the White Paper identifies technological and structural unemployment as the main sources of today's high unemployment rate. It thus calls for an overhaul of Europe's employment system, which is only adapted to cyclical unemployment; a drastic reduction in the cost of non-qualified labour; life-long training and education; greater flexibility of the employment market and of internal business organization, and the investigation of new sources of employment.

\* As regards growth and competitiveness, the White Paper identifies an open economy, characterized by stability, budgetary discipline, low inflation and interest rates and convergence amongst EU Member States as a prerequisite for economic recovery. At the Union level, proposed action comprises full implementation of the internal market as well as its optimal use. To maximize the benefit of the internal market and boost competitiveness, the White Paper calls for a sound redirection of R&D activities and the building up of trans-European networks in the field of transport and energy as well as a special focus on biotechnology and audiovisual media. It also stresses the importance of setting up trans-European information infrastructures to get Europe back on track in the long run. The Union will provide pump-priming funding while the private sector will be in charge of the core investments.

Endorsing this analysis, the European Council has drawn up an action plan following the main lines of the White Paper. As regards the information society, it invited a group of prominent personalities representing all relevant industries in the Union to produce a report on specific measures to be considered by the Union and its Member States in this sphere. On the

basis of the report, presented at the next European Summit in Corfu, Greece, on 24 June, the European Council should adopt an operational programme defining the procedures for action and the necessary means for achieving the goal of setting up trans-European information networks.

The High-Level Group has met several times and is currently in the process of finalizing its report. Its work has been organized along the following lines:

- \* Identification of obstacles to be removed and actions to be launched at European level to set up a pan-European information infrastructure;
- \* Identification of a series of concrete projects and application fields of interest to the public.

### **Telecommunications policy**

The year 1993 was a landmark year on the way towards liberalization of voice telephony, in particular with the Council's commitment to liberalize fully the voice telephony market by 1998 (with a longer period left to Greece, Ireland, Portugal and Spain and, to a lesser extent, Luxembourg). The Council also reached a common position on a draft Directive to apply the Open Network Provision (ONP principles) to voice telephony, adopted a Resolution on universal service, and started discussing a Directive on satellite earth station equipment, which is a first step towards bringing the satellite communications sector in line with the general rules.

The strategy for 1994 is to pursue the removal of barriers in the European Union telecommunications market while maintaining a balance between liberalization and harmonization. The future evolution of telecommunications policy will follow the guidelines presented in the "1993 Telecommunications review". An important policy document, the **Green Paper on mobile and personal communications**, was adopted by the Commission in April.

The main aspects of the telecommunications policy in 1994 are described below:

- \* **Open Network Provision (ONP).** The regulatory aspects of liberalization

and harmonization measures will continue to be put into place. This consists specifically of the implementation of the ONP framework Directive for telecommunications. In addition, the Council and the Parliament are currently debating legislation on the application of ONP principles to voice telephony and on the mutual recognition of licences and other national authorizations for telecommunications services.

- \* **Satellite communications.** The following proposals are being discussed by the Council and the Parliament: a Directive on the mutual recognition of licences and other national authorizations for satellite networks and services, a communication on satellite communications, and the provision of, and access to, space segment capacity.

- \* **Mobile and personal communications.** Public consultation on the Green Paper on the development of mobile and personal communications approved in April took place in the second quarter of 1994. After this period of public debate, the Council is expected to adopt a resolution endorsing the goals of the Green Paper, and the Commission is expected to make formal proposals for new legislation.

- \* **Data protection.** A modified and simplified draft Directive on the protection of personal data and privacy in the context of digital telecommunications networks, in particular ISDNs and digital mobile networks, is being discussed by the Council and the Parliament.

- \* **Directory services.** The Commission is expected to approve a communication on telecommunications directory services during the year.

- \* **Frequencies and numbering.** Cooperation mechanisms with the European Conference of Postal and Telecommunications Administrations (CEPT) will be adapted towards a new approach to the management of radio frequencies. Specific work requirements resulting from the Green Paper on mobile communications and other discussions and the availability of radio frequency spectrums will then be undertaken. As regards numbering, the cooperation mechanisms with CEPT will focus on the promotion of European-wide cooperation on the numbering of telecommunications

services. Main issues here include equal access, fair interconnection and universal personal telecommunications, with the overall aim of ensuring that further development of the sector is not hampered on numbering grounds.

- \* **Implementation of telecommunications legislation.** The full implementation of Union Directives in the field of telecommunications is of crucial importance in the framework of the internal market. The scope of these Directives is wide and includes services (open networks and competition), terminals (mutual recognition and competition), terrestrial stations equipment for satellite communications (mutual recognition), harmonization of frequencies and numbering, as well as public procurement. An important task to be carried out is to control applications.

- \* **Structural aspects of telecommunications and posts.** The Maastricht Treaty places great emphasis on economic and social cohesion within the Union. Work in this field will encompass the adoption of the new operational programmes funded by the Structural Funds for the 1994-1999 period and ensure that there is continuity with the programmes and projects of the 1988-1993 period, both within the Community Support Frameworks and the Community Initiatives Programme.

### **Trans-European Networks**

- \* **Euro-ISDN:** Legislation on the convergence and interoperability of Euro-ISDN throughout the Union is currently being discussed by the Council and the Parliament. Furthermore, the preparation of the fourth annual progress report on the harmonized introduction of Euro-ISDN in the Member States is currently under way.

- \* **TEN-IBC:** In preparation for future Union actions to stimulate the emergence of high-speed trans-European networks, a number of feasibility studies and trials will be executed on TEN-IBC (trans-European networks integrated broadband communications). One of the main objectives is the development of an action framework for the sector's players, thus drawing the maximum benefit from the Union dimension.

## Advanced television services

All Member States and the Commission reached agreement in 1993 on the following elements: the launch of a four-year action plan worth ECU 228 million for the introduction of advanced television services in Europe, the revision of the existing Directive on TV standards and preparation for the future of digital television.

Priorities in 1994 include:

\* *The implementation of the action plan* for the introduction of advanced television services in Europe is expected to be finalized in June;

\* *The Directive on the use of standards for television broadcasting* which repeals and replaces the existing MAC Directive is being negotiated with the Council and the Parliament;

\* *The Commission communication on "Digital video broadcasting - A framework for Community policy"* is being discussed by the Council and the Parliament. It is envisaged that the Council will adopt a Resolution on this matter which the Commission will start implementing during the remainder of the year.

## Postal services

Following the end of public debate on the Green Paper on postal services, in February 1994 the Council adopted a Resolution on postal services. The Commission will present draft measures necessary for setting up a European Union postal policy, in particular on the definition of the concept of universal service, quality issues and the separation between public regulators and public operators.

## International cooperation

Top priority in 1994 will be given to international negotiations on the **worldwide liberalization of the telecommunications sector** following the successful completion of the Uruguay Round, in particular with other industrialized countries, with a special emphasis on market access, public procurement and standards.

At all levels, particular attention will be devoted to **relations with the United States and Japan**. Consultation mechanisms will be used to their full extent with EU partners, including, for example bilateral negotiations with Australia, Canada, Israel, Switzerland, the countries of Central and Eastern Europe and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS).

Science and technology cooperation in the field of telecommunications and telematics applications will continue to take place with Central and Eastern Europe and the CIS countries, and other developing countries such as China, India, the Mediterranean countries and Latin America.

## Research and development policy

### The Framework Programme

Under the third Framework Programme (1990-1994), specific programmes in the field of information and communication consisted of communications technologies (RACE), telematics systems of general interest, the exploitation and validation of R&D results (VALUE II), and information technologies (ESPRIT).

The new programmes under the fourth Framework Programme adopted in March 1994 are:

- \* Telematics applications of common interest (TELEMATICS);
- \* Advanced communications technologies and services (ACTS);
- \* Information technologies (IT);
- \* Dissemination and optimization of R&D results.

Under the Fourth Framework Programme, TELEMATICS and ACTS will constitute a major part of the R&D basis for the implementation of the White Paper's policies for growth, competitiveness and employment. In particular, they will provide the R&D basis for the development of trans-European high-speed information infrastructures, digital video services and telework.

### Advanced telecommunications technologies and services

Until this year, research and technology in advanced communications (RACE) within the third Framework Programme was organized along the following lines:

- \* Verification of high-speed network interoperation;
- \* Development of personal and mobile telecommunications;
- \* Development and demonstration of integrated service engineering;
- \* Digital image communications;
- \* Open network security;
- \* Advanced communications experiments in the car industry as well as in rural areas.

A number of accompanying measures were launched in January 1994 with the aim of:

- \* Stimulating the development of telework in Europe;
- \* Ensuring a rapid development of digital video services and television;
- \* Facilitating the participation of organizations from less-favoured regions in future Union R&D activities in advanced communications and telematics;
- \* Promoting the mobility of researchers in advanced communications through fellowships for visiting researchers to work with RACE project teams.

## Telematics applications

Telematics applications are the result of a growing convergence between telecommunications, computer and broadcasting technologies. The successful introduction of telematics applications throughout Europe will make a major contribution to consolidating the internal market, improving the quality of life and working conditions of European citizens, increasing business and administration management efficiency, stimulating economic growth, and boosting employment in new service markets.

The following seven domains were covered by TELEMATICS under the third Framework Programme:

- \* Road transport with the Dedicated Road Infrastructure for Vehicle Safety in Europe programme (DRIVE);
- \* Health care with the Advanced Informatics in Medicine programme (AIM);

\* Distance education and training with the Development of European Learning through Technological Advance programme (DELTA);

\* Administration with the European Nervous System programme;

\* Rural areas with the opportunities for application and communication technologies in Rural Areas programme (ORA);

\* Linguistic research and engineering;

\* Libraries.

To the seven domains already covered, the new TELEMATICS programme will add the following under the new Framework Programme:

\* The Technology Initiative for Disabled and Elderly People (TIDE), which will be integrated in the fourth Framework Programme;

\* Tele-management of European air traffic;

\* Extension of the Rural Areas programme to urban areas;

\* Telematics for the environment, such as monitoring of air and water pollution as well as surveillance of nuclear and chemical plants;

\* Telematics engineering, which will consist of application engineering (optimal integration of generic equipment, networks and services with specific equipment and software) and process engineering (identification and analysis of changes to be made to the user's environment to successfully introduce telematic applications);

\* Information engineering, which will cover advanced electronic publishing systems, new database structures to improve access to and usability and management of information, as well as cooperative R&D networks.

## ***Exploitation of research and innovation***

### *The VALUE programme*

VALUE II, the programme for the dissemination and use of scientific and technological research results, is responsible for disseminating these through publications and databases, and protecting them through patents. It thereby enables businesses to exploit research results to the full, thus encouraging business innovation. In 1993, the efficiency of these actions was improved with the development of the CORDIS information service

comprising nine databases and the establishment of a relay centre network in Member States to promote R&D activities and the dissemination of their results.

VALUE is now focusing on the following activities:

\* Financing the selected offers for the new interfaces;

\* Evaluating proposals for the validation action and submitting a selection to the Commission;

\* Reviewing a Commission draft Decision on the rights and obligations of partners in Union R&D actions in the field of dissemination and validation, to be submitted to the VALUE committee for eventual adoption.

\* Improving the efficiency and user-friendliness of CORDIS.

### *The SPRINT programme*

In 1993, the aims of SPRINT (Strategic Programme for Innovation and Technology Transfer) were:

\* To facilitate the diffusion of new technologies to companies through projects and research and technology organizations (RTOs) networks;

\* To launch a new scheme, "Managing the integration of new technology", to promote the absorption of new technologies by SMEs;

\* To encourage the use of management techniques by decision makers.

SPRINT's three main lines of action for 1994 are:

\* To develop European innovation services infrastructures through the strengthening of technology transfer networks such as RTOs and science parks as well as accompanying measures;

\* To pursue the 21 specific projects for transnational technology transfer currently under way;

\* To monitor cooperation between the Commission and the Member States in the field of innovation and technology transfer.

## ***Information market and systems***

### *The IMPACT programme*

The IMPACT II programme aims at

developing the information industry in Europe by removing barriers of all natures and stimulating European initiatives. In 1993, the information market observatory reported a continued high growth in the information market, especially in the multimedia sector. To encourage this trend, IMPACT has supported over 80 feasibility projects in multimedia and geographical information systems, and the legal advisory board was strengthened. Awareness and user training also continued to grow: the ECHO host generated around 5,000 connect hours per month.

The main priorities are:

\* To pursue the work of the Legal Advisory Board (LAB), especially on the Council draft data protection Directive and on the legal protection of databases. Furthermore, a White Paper on the legal issues affecting

\* To improve the achievements of the information market observatory;

\* To stimulate the standardization process;

\* To prepare for post-IMPACT activities (beyond 1995).

### *Security of information systems*

The legal base for the action plan in the area of the security information systems expires in 1994 and a proposal for a further phase of actions will be drafted. A wide consultation on a draft Green Paper on information security issues will also take place.

Main areas of activities will cover:

\* work on electronic signature applications using networked trusted third-party services;

\* continued work on the 1993 programme activities, which aim to promote the information technologies security evaluation criteria (ITSEC) approach to a wider audience as well as proposing improvements;

\* co-operation with our North American partners, especially for the development of common security evaluation criteria, for which a draft for public comment could be issued during the second half of 1994.



# PROGRAMMES IN ACTION

## Information society and employment discussed at the 1994 European IT conference

The European Information Technology Conference - EITC '94 - organised by the European Commission on 6-8 June in Brussels coincided with several important events. The Fourth Framework Programme for Community Research and Technological development has just been approved. The launch of the specific R&D programme in the field of information technologies is not far off and the High Level Group on the Information Society, chaired by Commissioner Bangemann, has just announced its follow-up report to the White Paper on Growth, Competitiveness and Employment.

These events will set the scene for many of the coming debates concerning industry, IT and R&D, starting with the discussion on the Report on the Information Society, at the next European Council meeting on 24 and 25 June in Corfu.

"Dissemination of new technologies will contribute to job creation in Europe", said Commissioner Martin Bangemann, at the conference. "The most convincing way", he continued, "is to compare this scenario with an alternative one in which the European Union would be late using new technologies and would consequently lose competitiveness and undoubtedly destroy employment. Job creation will occur mainly in new services and the "content" industries such as information services and audio-visual programme production. At the same time, this evolution will help preserve the diversity of European culture".

Mr. Bangemann expressed the hope that the Corfu Summit would react positively to the recommendations of the report of the high level group on the information society.

"We must keep up the momentum", said the Commissioner. "Three specific actions are expected to be developed on the basis of this report during the German Presidency: the acceleration of the current deregulation of telecommunication; the preparation in areas such as intellectual property

rights, privacy and security; and the promotion of experimental applications".

In his speech on the final day of the conference, Mr Riccardo Perissich, Director-General of Directorate General III responsible for Industrial affairs, said: "If we agree that we are in the midst of a revolution, this means that we are in an situation of discontinuity. In this case, the costs of inaction are higher than the costs of action. It is for this reason that I look to the European Council meeting in Corfu, as the occasion where the necessary mechanisms for action should be set in motion".

"Action means: adapting existing policies to change. That is what we have done for the area of information technology in the 4th R&D Framework Programme, and now we must follow a similar approach for other policies", added Mr Perissich.

The 1,900 participants in the conference, from 33 different countries, listened to a wide-ranging programme of speeches and panels presented by a range of top-level speakers. Opening addresses were given by Martin Bangemann, Member of the Commission, and Kostas Simitis, President of the EU Council for Industry, Research and Energy.

The IT Forum saw a lively debate on information technologies and the transformation of business. Leading personalities taking part in the forum included Mr R. Perissich, the Commission Director General responsible for industrial affairs, Mr P. Barnevik, of ABB, Mr P. Bonfiel, Chief Executive of ICL, Mr J. Cornu, President of Alcatel Network Systems; Mr M. Dertousos, Director of MIT Laboratory for Computer Science; Mr C. Desama and Mr A. Goedmaker, members of the European Parliament; Mr K. Seitz, German Ambassador to Italy and Mr N. Ross, the forum moderator.

Most of the conference participants visited the accompanying IT

exhibition, which featured twelve demonstrations focused around three main themes, with contributions from 59 IT projects co-financed by the EU.

## RACE/ACTS participation and presentation at SMAU

Race demonstrations will be presented at SMAU 94 (Salone internazionale dell'informatica, delle telecomunicazioni e dei prodotti per l'ufficio) which will take place in Milan on 13-18 October. These demonstrations will highlight some results of advanced communications systems prototypes.

R2008 Eurobridge and R2060 CIO will demonstrate:

- \* The Multimedia Mail service between different systems. PC based integrated
- \* ISDN communications system comprising videotelephony, collaborative software for document remote sharing, fast file transfer, G3 fax, access to CompuServe, etc.

R2112 SMAC will demonstrate collaborative/concurrent engineering between automotive manufacturers and their component suppliers. The Commission will also present the recently adopted ACTS (Advanced Communications Technologies and Services) programme, covering RDT actions which will provide funding support to projects starting in 1995.

### Contact:

C. Vargiolu  
CEC DG XIII/7 (BU 24 -1/68)  
200 rue de la Loi  
B-1049 Brussels  
Tel: +32 2 2969017  
fax: +32 2 2969037

# AIT (Advanced Information Technology in Design and Manufacturing)

Europe's major automotive and aerospace companies have joined forces in AIT, a large and ambitious project within the ESPRIT programme.

It is headed by Daimler-Benz of Germany, which is co-ordinating the project, and involves 30 other companies from 7 European countries (see box). All make vehicles, aircraft or their components. Significantly, no IT vendors or academic institutions are included in the main consortium. The participants believe that by combining their resources they can not only address many of their common IT problems but also reach a consensus on their future requirements.

The consortium's aim is to have standardised IT tools and systems available, which can be configured to meet each company's specific requirements and can easily be implemented. It wants to use existing, industrial IT more effectively and establish a migration strategy towards tools that are more generic and less specific to either the automotive or aerospace industries.

The consortium publicly aired the objectives of the project at the AIT Forum in Brussels in April. The next Forum is scheduled to take place in late October 1994. It will take the form of a working meeting between the consortium partners, other IT users and the IT vendor community.

## AIT Consortium

### Founder members

Daimler-Benz, Germany  
AEG, Germany  
Audi, Germany  
BMW, Germany  
DASA, Germany  
Mercedes-Benz, Germany  
VW, Germany  
Aerospatiale, France  
Dassault Aviation, France  
PSA, France  
Renault, France  
British Aerospace, UK  
Rover Group, UK  
Alenia, Italy  
Fiat, Italy  
Magnet Marelli, Italy  
Saab Military Aircraft, Sweden  
CASA, Spain

#### Contact:

Mr. Ronald Mackay  
European Commission  
DGIII/F BU31 00/52  
Rue de la Loi 200,  
B-1049 Brussels,  
direct line +32/2 296 81 28,  
secretariat +32/2 296 81 13,  
fax +32/2 296 83 65

### Other members

Bosch, Germany  
Siemens Automotive, France  
Reydel, France  
Labinal, France  
Sedicap Technology, France  
Lucas, UK  
Motorola, UK  
Clearplas, UK  
Comau, Italy  
Stola, Italy  
Fatronik, Spain  
Danobat, Spain  
AMT Ireland, Rep. of Ireland

#### Contact:

Mr Stefan Heiss  
Daimler Benz AG  
TEI  
Epplestrasse 225  
D-70567 Stuttgart  
Germany  
Tel: +49/711 17 931 16  
Fax: +49/711 17 948 57

## Advanced Communications technologies and services (ACTS): Call for Expression of interest

Following the Council Decision adopting the specific programme on Advanced Communications Technologies and Services (ACTS), and in preparation for a Call for Proposals, the Commission is launching a call for expressions of interest of potential applicants. The specific programme consists of work addressing the following areas of Research, Technological Development and Demonstration.

#### Areas:

1. Interactive digital multimedia systems and services
2. Photonic technologies
3. High-speed networking
4. Mobility and personal communications networks

5. Intelligence in networks and service engineering
6. Quality, security and safety of communication services and systems
7. Horizontal actions.

The ACTS Proposers/National Host Conference will take place on 19-20 October 1994 in Madrid. If you wish to participate please register with the ACTS central office for the conference before 31 August 1994.

Persons who are interested in the ACTS programme and have previously been registered for the RACE programme are kindly requested to send their contact details before 31 August 1994 to the address below:

#### IMPORTANT NOTE:

*Participants are expected to be able to make use of electronic communication services, particularly Email and Electronic file transfer. As a last resort, initial enquiries may also be addressed to:*

ACTS Central Office  
European Commission DG XIII/B  
200 rue de la Loi  
B-1049 Brussels  
Tel: +32 2 2963415  
fax: +32 2 2950654

#### Contact:

ACTS Central Office  
E-mail via Internet:  
ACO@postman.dg13.cec.be  
or: 100302.2607@compuserve.com  
E-mail via Compuserve: 100302, 2607

## Interworking via optical networks

In a specific action, the European Parliament took the initiative to stimulate the demonstration of optical fiber-based communications for illustrating the interworking between centres of excellence. This action was to be seen in the context of preparing for trans-European broadband networks.

Following a call for proposals, four projects have been selected: 12001 Isabel, 12002 Tironet, 12003 Betel and 12004 HPC-Vision.

### 12001 Isabel

Isabel has interconnected two existing IBC islands, RIA in Aveiro (Portugal) and RECIBA in Madrid (Spain), in two successive steps.

\* The first step made available two 2 Mbits/s links from the beginning of the project.

\* The second step introduced ATM between the two cities, transporting the ATM cells through a plesiochronous link working at 34 Mbits/s.

### 12002 Tironet

Tironet has implemented a broadband service connection between a metropolitan area network in Dublin and an SDH network in Northern Ireland, based on the existing optical infrastructure, with enhancements to existing nodes to ensure a minimum throughput of 4 Mbits/s. British

Telecom Northern Ireland owns the optical link to the South and was responsible for the transnational link. The link has a minimum capacity of 4 Mbits/s with a further increase to 34 Mbits/s.

### 12003 Betel

Betel has established a 34 Mbits/s cross-connected platform over trans-European borders. This platform has interconnected FDDI LANs in Geneva, Lyon and Sophia-Antipolis. A Connectionless Broadband Data Service was provided and each end terminal connected to BETEL using an E.164 addressing scheme.

### 12004 HPC-Vision

HPC-Vision has setup a 34 Mbits/s link over trans-European borders using existing facilities between Strasbourg and Karlsruhe. The project has used the connection to join existing systems installed in both locations.

#### Contact:

Michel Roy  
CEC-DG XIII/B2  
200 rue de la Loi  
B-1049 Brussels  
Tel: +32 2 2966321  
fax: +32 2 2961786  
e-mail:  
MRD@POSTMAN.DG13.CEC.BE

## Third RACE Mobile Telecommunications Workshop

Organized by the RACE Mobile Project Line and hosted by Royal PTT Netherlands NV with the support of the European Commission, the third RACE Mobile Telecommunications Workshop took place in Amsterdam, from 17 to 19 May 1994.

The workshop, attended by more than 250 people, focused on the evolution from current mobile communication systems (second generation) to the third generation of mobile systems (UMTS, FPLMTS of IMT 2000) and MBS (mobile broadband systems). Issues such as interoperability, standardization and the future of mobile communications R&D were also debated by representatives of all sectors.

#### Contact:

Bartolomé Arroyo  
CEC DG XIII/B  
E-Mail: bar@postman.dg13.cec.be

## Library systems market in Europe

Prior to the European Conference on Library Networking in Europe (12-14 October 1994), the Community's LIBRARIES programme will hold a workshop on the "Library systems market in Europe" on 11 October 1994 in Brussels.

The workshop will present the results of a study currently being conducted by KPMG Management Consulting on the library systems market in Europe. The study will analyse the size and evolving potential of the European library systems market with particular

emphasis on the involvement and attitudes of library systems suppliers.

The study is based largely on interviews with a cross-section of forward-looking libraries of various types throughout Europe regarding their current and prospective use of library systems. It includes a survey of library systems suppliers in order to identify potential areas of collaborative research and development.

The workshop will also provide librarians and suppliers with

opportunities for expanding on their future plans and answering questions from the floor.

#### Contact:

European Commission  
CEC-DG XIII - Library Networks  
and Services  
Ellen Pedersen (C5-63)  
Jean Monnet Building  
L-2920 Luxembourg  
fax: +352 430133530



## EPHOS

### Phase 2C of the European procurement handbook for open systems

The European Commission has published an open call for tenders for phase 2c of the European Procurement Handbook for Open Systems (EPHOS). (OJ No S 115 of 17.6 1994, p.92.).

The tenders will cover:

#### **Group A - Technical tasks:**

- \* Authoring of texts covering new technical areas to be proposed by the tenderers;
- \* Authoring of texts covering the following specific technical areas:
  - \* Client-server architectures;
  - \* Programming languages;
  - \* Use of CD-ROMs
  - \* Object-oriented environments;
  - \* High-speed media and networks;
  - \* Computer graphics;
  - \* Electronic commerce and CALS;
  - \* Maintenance of existing EPHOS texts.

#### **Group B - Project coordination tasks:**

- \* Management of the project review cycles;
- \* Performing editorial coordination tasks;
- \* Management of electronic document flow and the EPHOS document repository;
- \* Support for multilingual availability of EPHOS:
  - \* Administration of the EPHOS key-concepts thesaurus;
  - \* Coordination of the translation of EPHOS texts.

#### **Group C - Promotion, awareness and dissemination of information tasks:**

- \* Expansion of the existing promotion and awareness mechanism;
- \* Awareness and dissemination of information to EFTA countries;
- \* Awareness and dissemination of information to Eastern European countries;
- \* Organisation of an EPHOS event (e.g. conference).

Any organisation wishing to prepare the various component work tasks will need to show active participation in similar activities at Community and worldwide levels.

The final date for requests for information is 10 August 1994. Tenders must be submitted by 16 August 1994.

#### Contact:

CEC-DG III/B/2  
(Standardization)  
Mr. K. Thompson or Mr. C.  
Paleologos (RP 3 4/21)  
200 rue de la Loi  
B-1049 Brussels  
Tel: +32 2 2968985  
fax: +32 2 2969500

#### Tenders must be delivered to:

CEC-DG III/B/2  
(Standardization)  
APITS Secretariat  
200 rue de la Loi (RP 3 4/21)  
B-1049 Brussels

## CORDIS

### RTD - Contacts Database

The new CORDIS RTD Contacts database was launched on the ECHO Host on 16 May 1994. This database provides contacts throughout Europe which can provide information on EU research and technological development.

Information will be provided on individuals from the Commission and individuals from other European institutions responsible for developing EU policies and the day-to-day management of individual research programmes. The names of national representatives on programme steering committees as well as the nominated contacts for EU RTD programmes at national level will also be included.

Other contact points covered in the CORDIS RTD-Contacts database include:

- \* Commission RTD help desks;
- \* Programme information points;
- \* VALUE Relay Centres;
- \* CORDIS Correspondents;
- \* IMPACT National awareness partners;
- \* EURO INFO Centres;
- \* Members of SPRINT networks.

The database will also contain non-EU contacts such as national contacts for EUREKA, COST and the European Space Agency.

The database is designed to assist users in locating contacts in their own area who have the required expertise as well as those who can provide help with administrative matters. It provides all the necessary contact information and will be a valuable aid for participating in EU research and technological development projects.

The CORDIS RTD-Contacts database will be available via the CORDIS Menu System and will also be incorporated in edition III of the CORDIS CD-ROM.

#### Contact:

European Commission Host  
Organisation  
CORDIS Customer Service  
B.P. 2373  
L-1020 Luxembourg  
Tel: +352 34981240  
fax: +352 34981248

## DELTA: Good response to the call for proposals

The deadline for the last call for proposals published by the Telematics networks and services for flexible distance learning programme (DELTA) was June 1994.

In total 126 proposals were received and evaluated by a group of independent experts. The total budget available is 3 million Ecu. The results of the evaluation have been available since mid-July.



#### Contact:

DELTA Central Office  
Rue de la Loi, 200 - BU29 04/05  
B-1049 Brussels  
Belgium  
Fax: +32 2 296 23 92

## 3rd International Conference on Intelligence in Networks

The ICIN 94 conference to be held in Bordeaux (France) from 11-13 October 1994, will bring together world-wide specialists in communications, computing and services to consider current developments and future directions. Topics will include intelligent network applications, intelligent network architecture, mobile networks, current implementation and experience, service creation and management. The views of users, vendors and operators will be represented.

Two tutorials are organized in parallel on Monday 10 October 1994:

### Network Management, Network Security, by:

\* Prof. J. Labetoulle, Eurecom Institute (France)

\* Mr. R. Molva, Eurecom Institute (France)

### Intelligent Network Standards, Personal Communications and UPT, by:

\* Mr. R. Kung, France Télécom/CNET (France)

\* Prof. B. Jabbari, George Mason University (USA).

Sponsored by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the conference is organized by SEE (Société des Electriciens et des Electroniciens), IREST (Institut des Recherches Economiques et Sociales sur les Télécommunications, ADERA (Association pour le Développement de l'Enseignement et des Recherches auprès des Universités, des Centres de Recherche et des Entreprises d'Aquitaine) and supported by France Télécom.

#### Contact:

ADERA ICIN 94  
Secretariat  
BP 196  
F-33608 PESSAC Cedex  
France  
Tel: +33 56151151  
fax: +33 56151160

## EDIFACT

### Messages for Social Security

In the framework of the Community programmes IDA (Integration of Data between Administrations) and TESS/BOSENET (Telematics for social security), the European Commission has published a call for tender for the construction of a conceptual data model and a glossary of terms, and the development of EDIFACT messages. (OJ No S 115 of 17.6 1994, P. 94).

The call for tender covers two lots:

#### Lot 1

\* Construction of a conceptual data model and a glossary of terms for the exchange of information between social security institutions within the European Union.

The development of a conceptual data model consists of the establishment of a list of all the terms used for the application of Regulation (EEC) No 1408/71. This list will identify the nature (entities, attributes and qualifiers) of each term as well as the relations between them. The development of a glossary of terms concerns a functional definition, in each Member State, of each term identified within the data model.

## Telematics for education and training

A DELTA conference on "Telematics for education and training" will be held on 24-26 November 1994 in Dusseldorf, Germany. The conference will provide an overview of the most advanced telematics systems for education and training at both the European and worldwide level.

The aim of the conference is to present:  
\* The results of projects supported by the 1990-1994 DELTA programme  
\* The new workplan for the third phase of the programme under the Fourth Framework Programme.  
Other related initiatives such as the new SOCRATES and LEONARDO DA VINCI programmes will be included. The conference will highlight the results of research carried out under the Third Framework Programme.

#### Lot 2

\* Development of EDIFACT messages, based on Lot 1, and for the same purposes.

The development of EDIFACT messages will be approached by defining message segments and data elements either common to more than one sector of social security, or specific to a particular message.

Work will be carried out in each Member State of the European Union. Meetings and formal delivery of results will take place in Brussels under the responsibility of Directorate-General V (Social Affairs and Employment).

The final date for information requests is 25 July 1994. The deadline for submission of tenders is 8 August 1994.

#### Contact:

CEC  
DG III/B-5  
200 rue de la Loi  
B-1049 Brussels  
Tel: +32 2 2990282  
fax: +32 2 2990286

Anticipated trends under the Fourth Framework Programme will also be examined. A primary objective will be to demonstrate to key user groups, such as SMEs and educational institutions, the benefits of using telematics in education and training.

There will be both plenary and theme-based sessions focusing on the following:

- \* Systems applications;
- \* Implementation issues;
- \* Pilot experiments;
- \* Delivery services.

#### Contact:

FIM-Psychologie  
Paul Held  
Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg  
Maximilianplatz 3  
D-91054 Erlangen  
Germany

# PUBLICATIONS

## Panorama of EU Industry

The 1994 edition of the PANORAMA of EU INDUSTRY, which is now available, gives its readers an overall picture of the present position of European Industry. The publication provides an overview of the main factors affecting almost 200 manufacturing and service sectors. Several "horizontal" issues (which are relevant for a number of different sectors) are discussed in the first part of the book. These cover a wide spectrum of subjects such as:

- \* an analysis of recent patterns in strategic alliances
- \* employment and structural change in the EU
- \* the economic importance of total quality management
- \* a review of the eco-industries in the EU.

The book was prepared during the second half of 1993, in the midst of the most severe recession to hit European economies since the oil crisis of the 1970s. Output suffered its biggest decline for nearly 20 years, and profits fell almost everywhere in Europe, while unemployment continued to increase, reaching 10.6% of the labour force in the EU-12, compared to 8.8% in 1991. Ireland and Spain presently report the worst employment situations, with their 1993 unemployment rates at 18.4% and 21.1% respectively. In 1994 it is expected that a timid recovery will eventually take place. However, the effects of the currency turmoil of 1993 combined with competitiveness problems and political uncertainty in some Member States still cast a shadow over the future of the EU economy.

Some important pending issues were resolved during 1993, the combined effect of which should help pave the way for positive economic and political developments in the EU and internationally. These included:

- \* At the political level, the ratification of the Maastricht Treaty by all Member States



\* At the trade level, the positive conclusion of the GATT Uruguay Round and the decision to create a new institution intended to regulate trade issues (WTO)

\* At the exchange rate level, the widening of the ERM bands and the creation of the European Monetary Institute.

1994 will be a year of transition, as the European economies gradually move from recession to recovery. To complete the global picture, recession is also looming in Japan, while the USA is entering its third consecutive year of (slow) growth. In 1994, the Commission services expect GDP growth of 1.3% in the European Union, followed by 2.1% in 1995.

The second part of the publication analyses the position of over 190 individual sectors. Each sector is examined under a series of headings including the industry structure,

market forces, recent trends in demand, production and trade, international comparisons, employment, regulatory framework, environment and future outlook.

The PANORAMA OF EU INDUSTRY 1994 is now available in English, German and French at all the distributors of EU publications or it may be ordered through any bookseller, at the price of ECU 130. In addition to the paper version, the PANORAMA will also be available for the first time on CD-ROM from August, 1994, at ECU 300.

Contact:

Office for Official Publications  
of the European Communities  
L-2989 Luxembourg

# AGENDA

## First World Congress on Applications of Transport Telematics and Intelligent Vehicle-Highway Systems

Organisations in Europe (ERTICO), North America (IVHS AMERICA) and Pacific Rim (VERTIS), with interests in the Applications of Transport Telematics and Intelligent Vehicle-Highway Systems, have joined to sponsor a series of ATT/IVHS World Congresses. The first ATT/IVHS World Congress will take place from 30 November to 3 December 1994, at the Palais de Congrès in Paris, France.

The theme of the Congress is "*Towards an Intelligent Highway Transport System*". It will provide for the presentation and discussion of advanced concepts and deployment activities, and it will be the site of a major international exhibition of new equipment and systems. The Plenary and Executive Sessions will include invited speeches and panel discussions targeting political and strategic issues. The Technical Sessions will focus on applications and technology developments; test and evaluation results; and institutional, legal, safety and market issues.

The EC's Advanced Transport Telematics Programme (DRIVE) is sponsoring a major part of the Technical Sessions, where the achievements of its 65 projects will be presented.

### Contact:

C. Vargiolu  
CEC DG XIII/7 (BU 24 -1/68)  
200 rue de la Loi  
B-1049 Brussels  
Tel: +32 2 2969017  
fax: +32 2 2969037

## The implementation of European telecommunications law

A conference entitled "Implementing Telecommunications Law" will be held in Brussels on 21-22 November 1994. It is organized by the European Commission (DG XIII).

The conference will focus on the economic and social importance of telecommunications within the European Union policy, the way the EU institutions and Member States interact when formulating and implementing Community telecommunications measures, and the options available at Community and national levels to enforce the implementation of telecommunications legislation.

The event will bring together representatives of the European Commission, national regulatory authorities, telecoms operators, telecoms manufacturers, service providers, consumers and law firms.

The sessions will focus on the following items:

- \* Existing telecommunications measures in perspectives;
- \* The opening of the terminal equipment market;
- \* Liberalizing services;
- \* Opening networks;
- \* Competition and cooperation in the services fields;
- \* Procuring telecoms equipment and services and areas identified for further Union action.

### Contact:

Mr. P. Ravaioli  
CEC-DG XIII/A2  
200 rue de la Loi (BU 9 0/01)  
B-1049 Brussels  
Tel: +32 2 2968498/8446  
fax: +32 2 2961713

## Applied natural language processing Stuttgart, 13-15 October 94

The Fourth Conference on Applied Natural Language Processing will take place in Stuttgart, Germany, on 13-15 October 1994. It is sponsored by the Association for Computational Linguistics and will bring together international researchers and developers to focus on the application of natural language processing to real problems. The Commission's LRE (linguistic research and engineering) programme will participate in the event. The programme will include contributed papers, an industrial exhibition and demonstrations.

The conference will focus on the following issues:

- \* Dialogue systems;
- \* Integrated speech and natural language systems;
- \* Machine translation;
- \* Explanation and generation;
- \* Database interface systems;
- \* Tool development;
- \* Text and message processing;
- \* Automated document management;
- \* Grammar and style checking;
- \* Corpus development;
- \* Knowledge acquisition;
- \* Lexicons;
- \* Language teaching aids;
- \* Evaluation;
- \* Adaptive systems;
- \* Multilanguage, multimedia and help systems.

### Contact:

European Commission  
DG XIII/E4  
Mr. R. Cencioni (B4-002)  
Jean Monnet Building  
L-2920 Luxembourg  
Tel: +352 430132886  
fax: +352 430134991

# RIAO'94 Conference

## Intelligence multimedia information retrieval systems and management

The RIAO '94 Conference on intelligence multimedia information retrieval systems and management will be held in New York, at Rockefeller University, on 11-13 October 1994

RIAO is sponsored by the European Union and organized with the participation of I.N.R.I.A., France Telecom and the American Society for Information Science (A.S.I.S.).

The conference will discuss items such as:

- \* linguistic analysis for automatic treatment
- \* large knowledge databases
- \* digitalized document understanding and retrieval
- \* information reading
- \* new paradigms for information retrieval
- \* openness, interoperability and integration

- \* multimodal interfaces
- \* measure and large-scale evaluation
- \* experimental applications.

Special sessions will review research and development programmes in Europe and North America. Prototypes of systems described in conference papers will be demonstrated.

### Contact:

CID  
36 bis Rue Ballu  
75009 Paris  
France  
Tel: +33 1 42850475  
fax: +33 1 48784961/+33 1 45268445  
E-mail: CID@NURI-INRIA-FR

# Libtech International 94

Libtech International will be held on the Hatfield Campus of the University of Hertfordshire on the 7-8 September 1994. It consists of about one hundred exhibitors of library systems and database products - from online to CD-ROM - plus nearly fifty seminars, conferences and other meetings. These are organised by the Library Association, Aslib, the Institute of Information Scientist and other leading special interest groups of library and information professionals.

Proposals are invited from librarians and information professionals in Poland, Hungary, the Czech and Slovak Republics, Romania, Bulgaria, Estonia, Lithuania and Latvia to attend Libtech 94.

### Contact:

Libtech International, Library & Media Services  
University of Hertfordshire  
College Lane  
Hatfield, AL10 9AB  
United Kingdom  
Tel: +44 707 284665  
fax: +44 707 284666

## DG XIII participation in technology exhibitions

IBC	(RACE)	Amsterdam	Sept 16-20
ECOC '94	(RACE)	Florence	Sept 26-30
SMAU '94	(RACE)	Milan	Oct 13-18
ATT/IVHS	(DRIVE)	Paris	Nov 30-Dec 2
AIM	(AIM)	Lisbon	Dec 7-10

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Office for Official Publications of the EU  
EUR-OP  
MER 193-195  
2 rue Mercier  
L-2985 Luxembourg  
fax: + 352 40 75 85

Any other correspondence should be addressed to:

The Editor,  
*I&T Magazine & News Review*  
CEC DG XIII/7  
BU24 -1/11  
200 rue de la Loi  
B-1049 Bruxelles  
Belgium