

Information Market Marché de l'Information Informationsmarkt

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Incorporating *EuroNet* **DIANE NEWS**

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Appel aux propositions

La Commission des Communautés Européennes lance un nouvel appel ayant pour but la promotion de trois priorités du programme communautaire pour le développement du marché spécialisé.

Information pour l'industrie par exemple, information sur les produits et prix, informations économiques y inclus le développement des marchés mondiaux et les droits de propriétés industriels.

Information sur la biotechnologie par moyen des services d'informations scientifiques, techniques ou commerciales.

Edition électronique: l'utilisation des médias optiques numérisées. Il peut s'agir de propositions en dehors des domaines de l'information pour l'industrie ou la biotechnologie.

La Commission a l'intention de co-financer certains projets sélectionnés pendant une période maximum de deux ans. L'appui financier, normalement jusqu'à 200 000 ECU, devrait couvrir environ 25% des coûts d'investissement.

Contacteur. M J G Fraser
CEC, DG XIII/B
Bureau B4/06
L-2920 Luxembourg

Downstream from research

Promoting the IMPACT of new information technologies

A new initiative is needed to continue the work of the European Commission as the prime innovator of the European electronic information market. Euronet DIANE and the Commission's specialised information market programme has encouraged the flourishing of some six hundred databases instantly accessible anywhere in Europe.

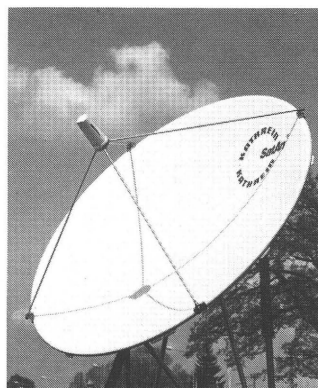
A wide range of electronic mail and publishing systems have sprung up, seizing the new opportunities that exists for Europe-wide digitised communications.

Future services will make such innovation appear pedestrian.

On the research side, the Community has already moved giant strides. The Milan Summit gave approval to the proposal for a European Research Coordination Agency, Eurêka, and initiated a follow-up conference in July.

But getting together European research collaboration is only part of the story. Competitor countries such as Japan and USA would hardly think of setting up regional research programmes or incomplete networks. What they emphasise is developing new products and industries for their own strong home markets.

The European "Common Market" has been divided against itself. That has made the marketing of products outside a single European country difficult. For the future the Community has three choices.



1. It can keep the present incomplete Common Market and pay lip service to the need to do something better.

2. It can begin to break down the barriers that block a real Common Market. To this end the Commission has published a "White Paper" listing some 300 specific measures that should be taken to unify a market of 320 million consumers. The proposals relate to the removal of negative physical, technical and fiscal barriers by 1992.

3. Alternatively, the **realisation of the Common Market could be accelerated through positive integration fostered by the creation of an entirely new electronic information services sector on a proper European base.** European scale market promotion could initiate revolutionary new knowledge based products.

Take a few examples.

Languages remain an important barrier to trade and the realisation of a Common Market. Translation services are expanding at a rate of 10

per cent a year. Fast main frame computers could increase the productivity of translators by between 10 and 50 per cent. Far from cutting out translators jobs such an innovation would create tens of thousands of new jobs. How?

Because the cost and the delay in receiving translations suppresses about a third of the potential market.

The prototype of a telephone interface to translate conversations has already been demonstrated - in Japan.

A recent decision to standardize formats for the transit of goods by international lorries is a step in the right direction for commerce. What is now needed is to fully automate this information exchange system. Red tape in this area is estimated to be costing two and a half times the total budget of the

continued on p 2

EUREKA



See Page 4

Call for Proposals for new information services

The European Commission (DG XIII) intends to publish a new call for proposals which would encourage three of the priority areas of the Community programme for the development of the specialised information market. The subject areas recommended by CIDST, the Commission's advisory committee are:

Information for Industry: for example, product and pricing information, economic news, including world market developments, trade regulations and industrial property rights.

Biotechnology information through specialised scien-

tific, technical and commercial information services.

Electronic publishing: use of digital optical media. Proposers may go outside the information for industry and biotechnology subject areas.

The Commission envisages co-financing selected projects over a maximum of two years. Aid, normally up to 200 000 ECU is intended to cover about 25% of the investment costs. The deadline for proposals is likely to be November.

Contact: Mr J G Fraser
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L-2920 Luxembourg

RACE proposal approved by EC ministers

For do-it-yourself enthusiasts who need immediately an explanation of how to change a washer on a tap or fix a fault on the car, new services will be available in the future. Once a broad band network is established in Europe, a video demonstration could be relayed on request to a television cassette player. A full text explanation could be sent at the same time over the same network.

If any parts were required, these could be ordered immediately and paid for at the same time from the tele-shopping service.

Such a network for the citizens of the Community interconnecting a multiplicity of new services and industries moved a step nearer when the Research Ministers reached substantial agreement on the definition phase of RACE, Research into Advanced Communications Technologies for Europe on 4 June.

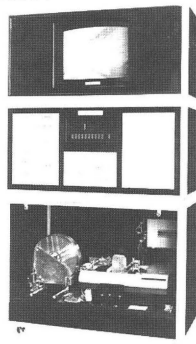
The Commission has proposed a programme costing 42.9 MECU of which 22.1 MECU would come from Community financing.

Promoting the IMPACT from p 1

European Communities. No wonder that the market is developing slower than it could.

Other barriers to the Common Market include those caused by traffic congestion. An electronic detection and warning system could save an estimated 2000 MECU.

New impetus can be given to the free movement of citizens by the introduction of a European job opportunities register which includes details of costs of living and accommodation. Travel horizons could also be broadened with a user friendly European database facility that would not only provide hotel bookings but full details of exhibitions, museums and travel arrangements. The British Tourist Authority estimates that between 200,000 and 400,000 new jobs could be created in the UK tourist sector by 1990. How many more could be created across Europe by supplying the right infrastructure?



Un système de vidéo disque à laser, qui se trouve actuellement dans des super-marchés en France, en Belgique et en Suisse, et en Suisse, offre au public un système pédagogique pour le bricolage. Cette sorte d'information pourrait être transmise par le moyen des futurs réseaux.

A further dimension of promotion activities is required to encourage entrepreneurs to build new businesses based on a European size market. A complementary initiative is necessary to encourage consumers to buy products beyond their national boundaries. An example of such a new sector would be a European brokerage service for house loans.

In fact, more than three out of five Europeans are involved at work with information services. Their resources are now being slowly updated. How can new techniques, services and entirely new electronic information sectors be promoted across the European Market?

Totally new concepts of marketing and innovation are necessary to help entrepreneurs develop brand new services such as value added networks (VANs). These could for example offer on line accounting and stock control systems for small businesses, other financial and business services and a new advertising medium.

No doubt such services will be introduced in the next few years, but will their promoters think European?

A computer aided design (CAD) database containing specifications of building materials and parts could help architects design houses and buildings with the best European products.

Educational networks for schools could help provide teaching tools and resource databases and even arrange sports fixtures. A European network extending from Aarhus in Denmark, to Algeciras, Spain could stimulate a livelier interest in geography, history, languages amongst the computer literate school children of Europe.

Conceptual marketing could be done on hardware. European computer companies have agreed on a system of interconnecting their products that eliminates the need for a multiplicity of interfaces. Groups of companies promoting European harmonisation and interconnection of their equipment will help consumers opt for European products.

Such concepts would require a promotion effort that would educate and encourage the European public to new possibilities of advanced technologies. Such an IMPACT¹ programme for the Information Market would be aimed at the Promotion and Application of Common Technologies. Consortia of professional associations, hardware and software manufacturers and marketing agencies would be needed to assure its success.

Internal market promotion and stimulation is the most important aspect of the Community's economic future. Europeans, who have never been slow in developing new ideas, need to give a new imperative to marketing them.

¹ En français: L'Introduction dans le Marché des Produits et des Applications Communs des Technologies nouvelles.

IM

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Marché de l'Information
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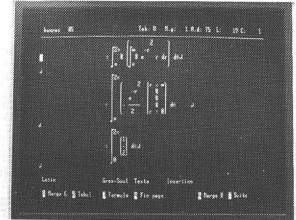
Incorporating **EuroNet** **DIANE NEWS**

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Commentaires et renseignements à:
Fragen und Bemerkungen an:
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Mathor – mathématiques sur l'écran

Le logiciel MATHOR permet la saisie et la correction des parties de textes et de formules. Il est totalement interactif, permettant à l'utilisateur d'exercer en permanence un contrôle visuel sur le document. Les textes mathématiques comportent, en plus des alphabets français et grecs, un très grand nombre de symboles particuliers à la notion mathématique. Le logiciel met à la disposition de l'utilisateur 10 jeux de 96 caractères chacun.



Mathor is an easy-to-use micro software for composition — what you see is what you get.

La fonction Imprimeur exploite le fichier saisi pour en faire un document justifié et paginé. Une des originalités de ce système est de constituer le fichier document sous une forme exploitable par les systèmes de photo-composition.

Contacteur: Novédit
 Avenue de Hogar
 Z.I. de Courtaboeuf
 B P 112
 F-91944 Les Ulis Cédex
 Tél: 33 6907 3688

Les expressions mathématiques sont représentées à l'aide des constructions de base suivantes: racine, fraction, indice, exposant, indice-exposant, intégrale, somme/produit/union, blocs, blocs superposés, vecteur, matrice.

Benson traceur ligne

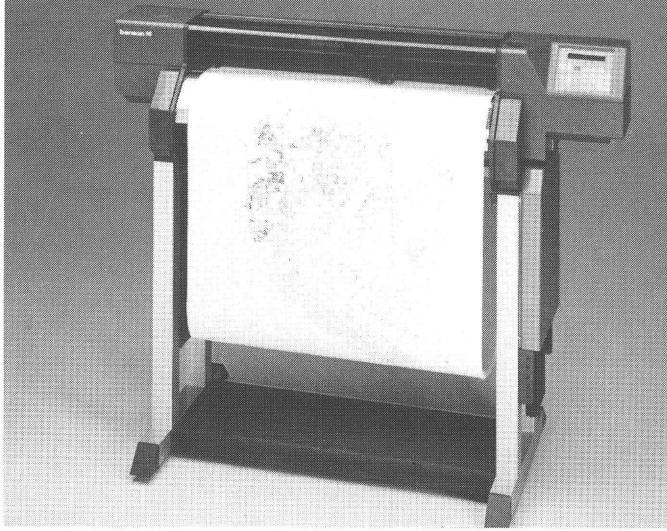
Besoin d'une carte ou un plan? Vous pouvez recevoir en ligne un diagramme ou une carte soit sur papier rouleau soit feuille à feuille du format A4/A ou AO/E.

Même en couleur! Le Benson traceur ligne modèle 16 sont équipés d'un carrousel contenant 8 outils d'écriture de type, couleur et épaisseur différents.

Les traceurs sont dotés, en standard, d'une intelligence graphique évoluée qui décharge l'ordinateur de nom-

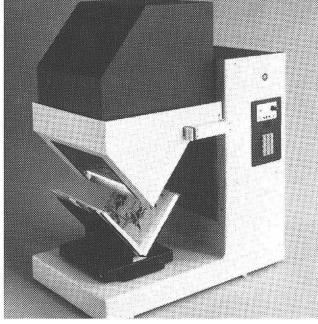
breux calculs. L'intelligence gère l'épaissement des traits, le frottement des axes, une multitude de types de traits, la génération automatique des cercles, remplissage de polygone, le placement des chaînes de caractères ainsi que leur centrage et justification, et bien d'autres fonctions d'optimisation de tracé.

Contacteur: Benson
 1 rue Jean-Lemoine –
 Z.I. des Petites Haies
 F-94015 Créteil, France
 Tél: +33 1 898 9205



British Library's book scanner

Urgent or precious books can be converted into electronic form with the aid of a scanner developed by the British Library. Conversion of a page to digitised form takes between five seconds and a minute and can be achieved without damaging the original.



or processed at leisure. The model now commercially available scans 200 dots per inch. A model at 300 dots per inch will be available soon.

Contact: Optronics Ltd
 Cambridge Science Park
 Milton Road
 UK-Cambridge CB4 4BH

The Barons could have transmitted illuminated manuscripts like the Magna Carta around the country with this equipment, but receipt on electronic printer, Group 3 facsimile or computer Output Microfilm is in black and white only!

Pages can be received in an buffer store and then be examined on a screen, printed

IAN GEO. BIIPAM. BIOSIS. CAB. CBA. CEA. CETIM. CHEMABS. CHEMABS TRAIN
 NDEX. COSMIC. CPI. CURRENT BIOTECH. EDF-DOC. EDIN. EI MEETING
 ENERGINET. ENVIROLINE. EUDISED. FOOD SCIENCE. FLUIDEX. HSELINE. INIS

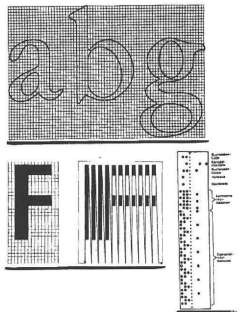
The European approach to Online Information

ESA-IRS, the European Space Agency's Information Retrieval Service, offers the widest scientific and technological information coverage, with over 70 databases containing 30 million references, worldwide access possibilities through national and international data transmission networks, and many other services...

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Micro diagrams

This page was stored electronically using an experimental system aimed at standardising storage formats. A consortium of six companies including GID and VTR, the publishing subsidiary of DIN, are developing the means to provide a single text storage, formatting and coding system which will work independently of the type of text processor input.



be displayed on a micro-computer screen, a part at a time. It can then be printed on a facsimile machine.

Contact: Arbeitsgemeinschaft Fachinformation e.V.
 Herriotstraße 5
 D-Frankfurt am Main 71
 Tel: 49 69 6687 320

The first step is to store such pages on a micro through a facsimile machine. Text can

without commitment, I should like to know more about
ESA-IRS

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Company

Address

.....

and send to:

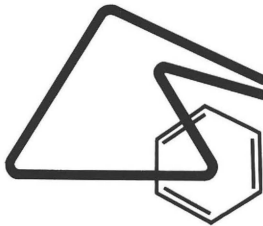
esa ESA Information Retrieval Service
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- Oder wollen Sie Informationsmaterial über bestimmte Datenbanken anfordern? Der Datenbankführer DIANE-GUIDE bietet Ihnen die Möglichkeit alle diese Fragen zu lösen.

Wie?

Schließen Sie sich an Ihr Paketvermittlungsnetz an. Die Netzadresse für diesen Führer ist 270448112

Verwenden Sie als Passwort: DIANED

Alles weitere wird im System erläutert. Falls Sie doch noch Fragen haben wenden Sie sich an:

Euronet DIANE/ECHO
 177 Route d'Esch
 L-1471 Luxembourg
 Tel: +352 488041
 Telex: 2181

Eurêka -- now on ECHO

European integration research is now available online with the recent acquisition of the Eurêka database on ECHO.

The free database is the product of suveys conducted at a number of universities who have professors or researchers conducting work into European history, foreign policy, aspects of European law or monetary affairs.

Other subjects such as the Common Agricultural Policy, competition policy or industrial policy are covered as they are being dealt with at research institutions.

Currently there are references to over 9 000 studies and research projects and more than 5 000 individual professors or researchers.

The database is updated on a quarterly basis. Recent additions deal with such topics as pacificism, biotechnology and robotics.

Contact: ECHO
 177 Route d'Esch
 L-1471 Luxembourg
 Tel: +352 488041



Electronic Publishing für Wissenschaft und Technik

Die Europäische Kommission (DG XIII) hat viele Initiativen im Gebiet der elektronischen Information in Bewegung gesetzt. Euronet war ein erster Schritt mit der Einführung eines europaweiten Standards für Netze zum Online-Retrieval.

Benutzerfreundliche Lösungen für Endbenutzer wie z. B. die gemeinsame Befehlssprache, Verbund zwischen Wirtsrechnern und eine intelligente Schnittstelle helfen, den Informationsmarkt zu entwickeln. Das DOCDEL-Programme for-

dert die elektronische Dokumentlieferungen und elektronische Veröffentlichungen.

Der Text einer Rede von Herrn Carlo Vernimber der KEG, die bei Infobase 85 zu diesen Themen und den Prioritäten des neuen 5-Jahresprogrammes für die Entwicklung des Fachinformationsmarktes gehalten wurde, ist jetzt verfügbar.

Kontakt: Gruppe für die Förderung des europäischen Fachinformationsmarktes
 177 Route d'Esch
 L-1471 Luxembourg
 Tel: + 352 488041

Oriental move by Finsbury and Datasolve

Japanese clients have already been signed by Nihon Kezai Shimbun, who are acting as an agent for Finsbury in that country. Japanese users can access such sources as the Japan Economic Journal and the Japanese news agency, Jiji Press, as well as the Asian Wall Street Journal, Straits Times and the BBC Monitoring Service.

Datasolve has signed up Mitsui to act as its agent in Japan for the World Reporter service. The Japanese online market is worth some

160 MECU per annum and growing at 50 per cent pa.

On the home front, Datasolve is advertising its service on British television. "The business executive is the most important market for online services in the UK," says Datasolve's Margaret Fawcett, "and it will ultimately dwarf the information specialists market in which our industry started".

Contact: Finsbury
68-74 Carter lane
London EC4V 5EA
Tel: +44 1 248 9828
Datasolve
4-7 Station Road
GB-Sunbury on Thames,
Middlesex TW16 6SB
Tel: +44 9327 81266

Inside information

All the sort of information that a salesman needs before visiting an industrial company: type of activity, number of personnel as well as such details as canteens, vending machines print rooms, air compressors and computers is found in a new database. **Industrial Market Location Database**, a recent addition to Pergamon Infoline's range of business services, covers some 130 000 UK industrial establishments.

The **Fine Chemicals Directory** is a source on 80 000 research chemicals available from suppliers of organics, biochemicals, dyes and stains plus small specialised classes of compounds.

Three US based information files have also been added: **Industrial research laboratories**, **Litalert**, on patent and trade mark litigation, and a health and safety database, **NIOSH**.

Contact: Pergamon Infoline
12 Vandy Street
London EC2A 2DE

Brix and labour at ESA

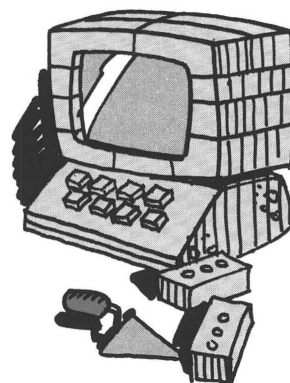
The European Space Agency's files reach 70 with the addition of the Building Research Index file, **BRIX**, and the International Labour Office. **LID**, Labour Information Database. The former covers worldwide references collected by the UK Building Research Institute, while LID deals with major trends as covered in the ILO quarterly "Social and Labour Bulletin" with some two fifths of the material coming from western European sources.

Contact: ESA/IRS
C P 64
I-00044 Frascati, Italy

Annuaire juridique

L'Annuaire des banques de données juridiques vient d'être publiée par FLA La Créatrice et présente le contenu, la périodicité de mise à jour, les modes d'accès, le nombre de documents et les tarifs.

Contact: FLA La Créatrice
56 ter rue Perronet
F-92200 Neuilly-sur-Seine
Tél: +33 1 738 6650



Legal take over

European users of the Eurolex databases on European, English and Scottish law will make their enquiries in the US. This follows the purchase of Eurolex by Butterworth, the British agent for the US legal service Lexis. The Lexis computer is based in Dayton, Ohio.

Eurolex had successfully carved out a market which was larger than that of Lexis on this side of the Atlantic. Lexis, on the other hand, has a solid and much larger base of users in the US. It is not clear what will become of Eurolex plans to establish a legal information gateway in Europe.

The Search is Over

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Displayphone – Multifunktionsterminal für den Manager?

MICROS



Datenbankabfrage und Telefonieren – dies waren bisher zwei Tätigkeiten, die auch zwei Geräte am Arbeitsplatz voraussetzten: ein Telefon und ein Terminal. Ein Gerät, hergestellt von Northern Telecom in Kanada und für den deutschsprachigen

Raum vertrieben und abgeändert von der Deutschen Fernsprecher Gesellschaft (DFG) in Marburg, bietet die Kombination von beiden Kommunikationsarten. Völlig neu, und für die Deutsche Bundespost auch Umdenken erfordernd, ist das in diesem Gerät eingebaute Modem (300 und 1200/75 Band) zur Datenübertragung.

Im Rufnummernspeicher können sowohl normale Verbindungen als auch Datenverbindungen gespeichert werden – Parameter können intern dazu abgelegt werden. Erkennt das Displayphone nach Anwahl den Datenton, wird automatisch auf den Terminalmode umgeschaltet. Die Login-Prozedur kann nun eingegeben werden und dabei gleichzeitig mit abgespeichert werden, um bei folgenden Verbindungen mit dem gleichen

Host, dann automatisch, Schritt für Schritt, abgerufen werden zu können. Nützlich wäre es, wenn die abgespeicherten Angaben auch ohne bestehende Datenverbindung abgerufen werden könnten. Eine Änderung von Teilen der Login-Prozedur ist leider nicht möglich, nur eine Neu-Einspeicherung.

Die Übertragung der Recherchestrategie an den Host ist über die aus dem unteren Teil des Gerätes ausziehbare alphanumerische Tastatur möglich – allerdings darf der Rechercher dazu nicht allzu große Finger haben. (Vielleicht nur für Damen gedacht?) Die Tastatur läßt keine Eingabe im Zehn-Finger-System zu, sondern durch die Größe der Tasten ist es nur möglich, mit zwei Fingern zu arbeiten. Aber das Displayphone ist für größere Dateneingaben wohl auch nicht gedacht.

Die Datenübertragung kann auch mitgedruckt werden – ein Drucker mit serieller Schnittstelle (V24/RS232C) oder auch mit paralleler Schnittstelle (Centronics) kann angeschlossen werden.

Was bietet das Displayphone neben der Datenbank-Abfrage-Möglichkeit weiter?

- Zwei Fernsprechamtsleitungen, die neben dem Wahlverfahren IWV auch das Wahlverfahren MFV nutzen können, also für die in Aufbau befindliche EWSD – Technik der Bundespost ausgerüstet sind.
- Rufnummernspeicher mit 9 x 9 Speichermöglichkeiten auf zwei Ebenen. Sowohl der Name des Teilnehmers wie auch die Rufnummer können abgespeichert werden. Bei Aufruf des Inhaltsverzeichnisses erscheint dann erst der gewünschte Name auf dem Bildschirm, dann wird die eingespeicherte Nummer angezeigt und anschließend gewählt.
- Makeln zwischen zwei Amtsleitungen: Es können sowohl zwei ausgehende Gespräche wie auch ein ausgehendes und ein kommendes Gespräch geführt werden – nicht mit zwei Hörern, aber es kann zwischen den Gesprächen gewechselt werden. Eine der beiden Verbindungen kann dabei auch eine Datenverbindung sein.

- Terminkalender: Es können 70 Termine abgespeichert werden, die über die ständig mitlaufende eingebaute Uhr abgerufen werden. Ist der Termin da, erinnert das Displayphone durch optisches und/oder akustisches Signal diesen Termin und zeigt dabei das zu diesem Termin gewählte Stichwort an. Eine weitere Verfeinerung wäre bei dieser Einrichtung vielleicht die Verknüpfung der Technik des Terminkalenders mit dem Rufnummernspeicher – aber dann arbeitet vielleicht das Displayphone eigenständig: ohne die Person am Schreibtisch?

Die Benutzerführung dieses Terminals erfolgt über „Soft-Keys“, d. h. es wird über ein existentes internes Ablaufprogramm die Funktion von 5 Tasten auf dem Bildschirm – mit deutschen Texten – angezeigt. Die gewünschte Funktion kann dann durch leichte Berührung mit dem Finger auf der unter dieser Anzeige liegenden Taste ausgewählt werden.

Der Bildschirm des Displayphone ist 18 cm diagonal groß. Weiße Anzeige folgt auf schwarzem Hintergrund. Bei einer Kommunikation mit einem Host schaltet das Gerät, abhängig von dem intern abgespeicherten Parameter, auf die Anzeige von 80 Zeichen pro Zeile um und zeigt dabei 25 Zeilen an. Dieses Verfahren ist beeindruckend, jedoch sind die Schriftzeichen nun äußerst klein und nur mühsam zu lesen. Aber bei der Verknüpfung verschiedener Funktionen in einem doch kleinen Gerät können nicht nur positive Ergebnisse zustandekommen.

Ist dieses Gerät auch bildschirmtextfähig? Ja, die 2. Version soll noch in diesem Jahr die CEPT-Norm darstellen können – getestet werden konnte dies noch nicht. Eine weitere Funktion, die den Nutzungseffekt sicher erhöht.

Gesamteindruck: Ein nützliches Gerät, welches viele Hilfen am Arbeitsplatz bietet und Terminkalender und Telefonregister gleich integriert.

Kontakt: Deutsche Fernsprecher Gesellschaft (DFG) mbH
z. H. Herrn Wulff
Postfach 1240
D – 3550 MARBURG
Tel: 06421-4021
Telex: 04-82326 dfg ma d

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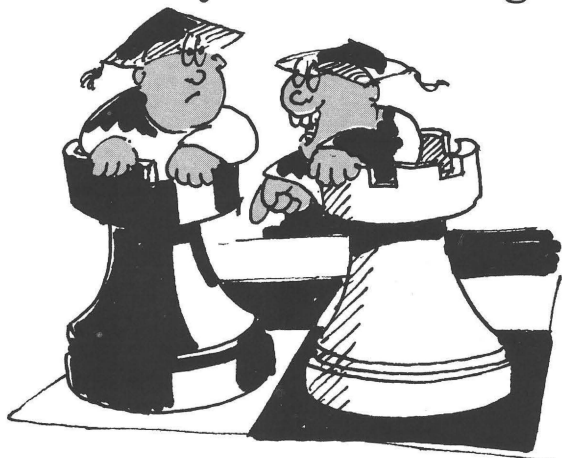
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Station House, Nightingale Road, Hitchin, Herts. SG5 1RJ, United Kingdom
Tel: (0462) 53331

Academically communicating



Universities and centres of research have special telecommunications needs: file transfer often involves high volume of traffic between centres, which may not have large financial resources. Moreover a number of different networks have developed.

During 1984, at the initiative of Professor Zander of HMI in Germany, a European effort was launched to harmonize communication standards to promote collaboration and the exchange of information within the academic world.

Harmonization of practice between different academic

networks in particular the move towards OSI standards is the next step in this process. It was the main theme of a "European Networkshop" held in Luxembourg on 13-15 May.

Specialised requirements of academic institutions and their ability to generate a new telecommunications demand should encourage the PPTs to negotiate special terms with this user group.

Contact: P F Linnington
 Joint Network Team
 Rutherford Appleton
 Laboratory
 Chilton, Didcot
 GB-Oxfordshire OX11
 OQX
 Tel: 44 235 44 6737

Luxpac pack for visitors

The Luxembourg network, Luxpac, has shown it welcomes visitors by proposing a deal for telecoms users. For 1000 FLUX the network will provide an NUI and one month's subscription to the network costs 250 FLUX. Traffic costs are charged according to use against a guarantee.

In default of an international reverse charging system, such a service is a boon to those with portable equipment. For users who need to hire a modem from the PTT,

three weeks notice should be given.

Contact: Administration des P et T
 Division des Télécommunications
 SAT
 L-2999 Luxembourg
 Telex: 3410 ptdt lu

Materials databanks network call

The Commission has published a call inviting a number of materials databanks to cooperate in a 'demonstration network' to be set up on the basis of standard specifications. The network will provide a uniform on-line appearance to users on the basis of a user guidance system. The scope is to be limited to technically relevant materials data for engineering.

The demonstrator programme will investigate the requirements of a future European system, develop the market for materials databanks in the Community, conduct research into user needs and raise awareness of availability and potential of materials databanks.

Contact: Mr G Steven
 Office C4/011
 CEC, DG XIII/B
 L-2920 Luxembourg

Network questions

What would you like from the networks and what problems are you having. These are the two broad areas of a questionnaire being prepared by Eusidic for their chapter on Public Data Networks.

Those who would like to take part in this exercise to improve communications in Europe should

Contact: Ms Helen Henderson
 Eusidic
 P O Box 429
 London W4 1UJ

Chemical Industry Data

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Data-Star now has the most attractive package of databases covering the business aspects of the European Chemical Industry. Business departments in Pharmaceutical, Petroleum and Chemical companies will find increased benefits from using Data-Star. Recent changes include the addition of the Chemical Business Newsbase, improvements in Predicasts, and further new European data. Prices have remained unchanged for the fourth year in a row.

Chemical Business Newsbase

The Chemical Business Newsbase has been added to Data-Star. This database is produced by the Royal Society of Chemistry in England and is the result of detailed analysis of the needs of Europe's process industries. It concentrates on the aspects of market, product and competitor information not previously covered by other databases. It is the first business database specifically for the chemical industry with the majority of the data collected from Western Europe. Chemical Business Newsbase includes data from press

releases and promotional material published by major chemical and pharmaceutical companies, much of which never appears in journals.

Predicasts Upgrade

The major international database, Predicasts PROMT, incorporating the former Chemical Industry Abstracts, has recently been upgraded. The collection of European sources for this service has been improved and the speed of updating is faster than at any other time.

With its collection of data from outside the generally recognised chemical industry sources, this database is an excellent complementary service to Chemical Business Newsbase. Data-Star is the only service to provide access to both Chemical Business Newsbase and Predicasts.

European Emphasis

Data-Star now offers the most comprehensive group of specifically European data for the Chemical Industry. The Financial Times Abstracts database has been revised and is updated daily. There are now company directories covering Germany, the Netherlands and Austria, with others to follow in the near future, including a directory of all U.K. companies. Data-Star is the only service to have recently introduced databases on both the business and technical aspects of Biotechnology.

For details of these and all Data-Star's databases in the fields of Medicine, Commerce, Chemistry and Engineering, please contact Sarah Jordan, on 01-930 5503 or return the coupon to Data-Star, The Plaza Suite, 114 Jermyn Street, London SW1Y 6HJ, United Kingdom.

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Télécommunications pour les PVD

Une Commission de l'Union Internationale des Télécommunications sous la présidence de Sir Donald Maitland a remis un rapport intitulé «Un chaînon manquant» sur des méthodes permettant de stimuler le développement des télécommunications dans le monde entier. Les mesures proposées pour briser l'isolement des pays en développement concernent essentiellement: le choix de technologie appropriée, l'organisation et la gestion des télécommunications, la formation professionnelle, la recherche, le développement et la fabrication locale, la mise en place

d'un centre pour le développement des télécommunications.

Les nouvelles technologies doivent être exploitées à fond, dans la mesure où elles sont appropriées et adaptables aux besoins de ces pays. Le rapport est disponible en français, anglais et espagnol.

Un programme vidéo (PAL U-matic) sur l'histoire de l'UIT est également disponible.

Contact: UIT, division des relations publiques
Place des Nations
CH-1211 Genève 20

Eurobrokers

The Luxembourg information brokers, Eurobrokers, are aiming their service at small and medium sized enterprises who need help in setting up their own information systems or require specific studies undertaken.

The services they offer include management of information as well as consultation or studies on specific subjects. The initiators of the new company, Alice Stern

and Nicolas Paulus, have put the accent on the advantages of the latest techniques and equipment for access to modern online resources.

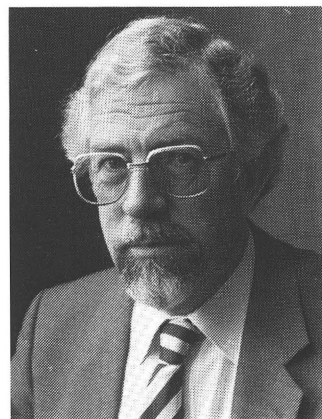
Centrally located for companies in France, Germany and the Benelux, the company intends to emphasize the European dimension of the information at its disposal.

Contact: Eurobrokers
139 Rue Ernest Beres
L-1232 Howald
Tel: +352 492869

IT state aids

No major western state seems able to get by without a policy and increased financial aid for promoting technical innovation, says a study on **State promotion of information technology in France, Britain and west Germany** (Strathclyde Government and Politics Paper No 33). However each of these states is tackling the problems differently. Informative though the study is, a little more analysis of the problem might have shown if this was one of the reasons for Europeans mediocre performance.

Contact: Politics Department
Strathclyde University
16 Richmond Street
Glasgow G1, 1XQ,
Scotland



1984 + 1

The wide variety of topics of the 1984 IIS conference on **Information comes of Age** is presented in hard copy for detailed reflexion by the editor, Charles Oppenheim. There is Sir Fred Hoyle talking about computers the size of Waterloo station and recent information explaining the demise of the Vikings in 937 AD. Duncan Campbell uncovered several government computers large enough to keep records on the entire adult population of the UK, Harry Collier explained why many politicians were against the free flow of information and Peter Heims gave a few tips on either keeping or stealing company secrets. Other contributions include Marino Saksida's proposal for a European Host Network, the problems of making online systems more friendly and the challenges of new developments in technology.

Contact: Rossendale Publishers
500 Chesham House
150 Regent Street
London W1R 5FA

Robert Weir, director of international corporate development for A C Nielson Company Oxford, has been elected chairman of Euripa.

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Further information from: Jean Mulligan, Conference Organizer



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Legal Observatory for the Community Information Market

A Community workshop which took place in Luxembourg on 6th May 1985, experts from the Community Member States expressed the view that it is necessary to review the adequacy of the legal infrastructure in the light of the changing information environment in order to facilitate the creation of a Community-wide information market. They considered that Community initiatives were necessary and recommended the creation of an informal advisory group on legal issues related to the information market.



This group, consisting of experts from the Member States, would act as a 'Legal Observatory', with the following objectives:

- to help legal and judicial authorities in Member States keep aware of the issues and informed on developments in other Member States and on Community initiatives;
- to complement activities undertaken by academic, professional or legislative bodies in Member States, concerning relevant issues, as well as the work of other international bodies;
- to provide the Commission with an instrument of observation and monitoring that would increase its capacity for initiative and action in responding to the needs of the information market;
- to provide the Commission with expert consultation and proposals aiming at preventing divergences and enabling the convergence of national laws.

In pursuit of these objectives, the Legal Observatory

would perform the following functions:

- observe and monitor existing legal frameworks, emerging problems, prospective developments, in view of developments in the information market;
- consult and assist the Commission by identifying areas in which Community initiatives would be desirable;
- circulate information on developments in the various Member States and Community initiatives with a view to stimulating

compatible Community-wide action.

It was recommended that the Commission proceeds with the organization of the Legal Observatory as soon as possible. In this context, the workshop participants recommended to follow the guidelines formulated in the papers: (i) "Working paper on a proposed Legal Observatory for the European information Market" and (ii) "Draft terms of reference for a Legal Observatory for the European information market", prepared for the Workshop on 6 May 1985.



Joint barriers to growth study

Two European associations have joined forces to tackle the serious and potential barriers to growth of the European electronic information market. Eusidic, the European Association of Information Services, and Euripa, the European Information Industry Association, which emphasises the private sector.

The joint committee on barriers will be an open ended arrangement and continue for as long as there are perceived barriers. The Data-mail system of Radio-Suisse will be used as the communication medium.

A recent survey commissioned by the EC from Euripa came up with these disturbing views from Euripa members.

50% claimed to have been deterred from getting involved with new products because of government action

70% were concerned about the effect of copyright

50% were concerned about the effect of privacy legislation

80% considered language a significant barrier

Only 8% thought the networks easy to access.

In a complementary study, Euripa categorised barrier problems into two categories: operating problems relating to the introduction of a new industry and artificial

barriers arising from the direct or indirect effect of public policies. Generally they represent impediments but not total blockages to trade.

Operating problems

Incompatibility of systems: a minimum level, at least, of harmonisation is required

Lack of skilled personnel: this is a result of inadequate training and education on new systems

Shortage and high cost of capital: an added burden for high risk companies

The major problems relate to the second category.

Artificial barriers requiring official action

Electronic information industry is an international industry forced to live with policies and attitudes constructed for a different age and industry.

Copyright: represents both "uncharted territory" and a "minefield" of conflicting interests

Nationalism: the desire for a strong "national" information industry is at the root of a number of discriminatory policies in favour of local companies. Euripa maintains that the European information industry only has a chance if all artificial obstacles to free competition and to the creation of a single European market are removed.

Competition by the public sector: this is related to the issue of nationalism and reduces the room for private enterprise

Privacy legislation: the trends in a number of countries, rather than just protecting the individual, may result in hampering the development of innovative information systems. Better European coordination is required.

Telecommunication: a review of PTT policy is required to ensure reliability of services, reasonable tariffs, and the availability of lines for new services.

Strategic coordination: full and open coordination of these policies by European governments is necessary to remove political uncertainties.

Barriers committee

The members of the joint committee are

David Warlock	European Law Centre, UK
Alain Durand	Groupement Francais des Producteurs des Bases et Banques de Données, France
Bernardo Stengel	Asociacion Espanola de Proveedores de Servicios Videotex
Garth Davies	DG XIII, Commission of the European Communities, Luxembourg
Derek Nicholas	Citibank, Belgium
Harry Collier	Learned Information, UK

The Stars in Spain



Present at the inauguration of the Isaac Newton telescope at La Palma were King Karl-Gustav of Sweden (partly hidden), Mr Patrick Hillery, President of Ireland, Queen Margaret of Denmark, Mr Richard von Weizsäcker, President of the FRG, the King Juan Carlos and Queen of Spain, Prof Alec Boksenberg of the Royal Greenwich Observatory, the Duke of Gloucester, representing Queen Elizabeth, and Queen Beatrix of the Netherlands.

Ten million years may seem a little long delay for receiving a message online, but it's everyday business at La Palma in the Spanish Canaries.

The messages in question come from remote stars throwing out some of the early illumination at the beginning of the universe. And with the delay covering the vast distances of space, light is only just now penetrating the brand new telescopes at the international observatory.

On 29 June King Juan Carlos inaugurated an international observatory in La Palma, in the presence of six heads of state (or their representatives), government ministers and leading astronomers.

The galaxy of personalities emphasises the value of the site to many different astronomers around Europe. For, not only can they visit the observatory with its ideal clear skies but they can take advantage of the facilities from their own offices. With clouds or rain in England or Holland, powerful computer systems will permit the setting up of observations and the resultant observations can be transmitted back using the European networks.

The "Observatorio de Roque de los Muchachos" contains the 2.5 metre Isaac Newton Telescope and the 1.0 metre Jacobus Kapteyn Telescope. A 4.2 metre William Herschel Telescope is under construction and expected to be operational in 1987.

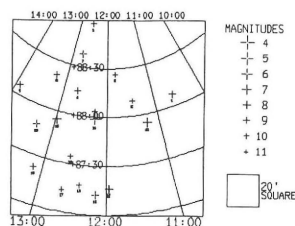
The Newton and Kapteyn telescopes have been operational since 1984. At Christmas last year the Isaac Newton Telescope was used to

observe Halley's Comet and also a black hole related phenomenon, a quasar, near the edge of the observable universe, 800 million light years away.

At the Royal Greenwich Observatory at Herstmonceux in Sussex, besides keeping track of the time, astronomers are able to receive optical digital information. Equipment on the telescopes permits the selection of the exact wavelength to be analysed. A detector converts this signal into an electric pulse stream which can be sent via the networks for later analysis. The detector is super cooled enabling it to keep the background electron noise down to 5 or 10 electrons. It is therefore possible to read off when only a very few light particles, photons, impinge on the telescope.

Data is transmitted on a 9 600 baud line and takes only a few seconds to transmit a half hour or even a few hours careful observation.

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Computer read-out of star chart.

Information handling involves a data compression technique, though a different concept from that employed in videoconferencing, as each "picture" is different.

The collected data can be transmitted throughout the

UK on the Starlink system of the Joint Academic Network, the UK universities' network which is known as Janet. This is linked into the PSS of British Telecom and electronic mail is provided at the Rutherford Laboratory of Oxford University.

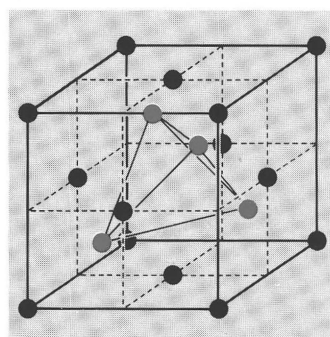
At Greenwich, the VAX computers provide the means to access electronic forms of the star catalogues that have been compiled over the centuries. Satellite

technology now permits the very rapid collection of star information for example by the infra red astronomical satellite, IRAS.

Colourful star patterns are viewed on Sigma terminals which cost about £25 000 each. However less detailed charts can now be shown on BBC micros at about one twenty-fifth of the price. Work is now advanced on the possibilities of using this Graphic Kernel System (GKS) based system to be able to send online extracts from the catalogues to micro users.

Star charts are normally transmitted on the Starlink system. However the problem of storing such a vast quantity of astronomical data is now reaching a critical stage. At present tapes are loaded on request. With about 1 000 tapes added each year, the observatory may have to resort to techniques such as optical disc storage.

Such capabilities could encourage the enthusiast spending night hours with his micro to call up the star charts to pursue a parallel hobby.



ICSD DATA BASE

Inorganic Crystal Structure Data

The database contains the following data of 32000 inorganic compounds. Name, trivial or mineral name included, formula, crystallographic data (lattice constants, space group, atomic coordinates, temperature factors, R-value), experimental conditions and peculiarities of the structure. The data have been taken from the literature, most of the material coming from 1960 to today. Besides the possibility to search for these data one can also calculate interatomic distances and bond angles and generate graphical representations of a crystal structure. ICSD are online available via INKA.

For more information write to:



D-7514 Eggenstein-Leopoldshafen 2
Telephone (+49) 7247/82 45 66
Federal Republic of Germany

Library Association, Joint Consultative Committee, 7 Ridgmount Street, London WC1E 7AE, tel: 01 636 7543.

16-19 Septem- Bournemouth, UK **Information 85:** Using knowledge to shape the future. Speakers include Dr R Appleyard, DG XIII, S Chambaud, Earl of Gowrie.

Aslib 26-7 Boswell Street, London WC1N 3JZ, tel: *44 1 430 2671

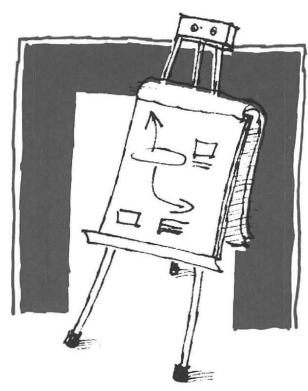
14-5 Novem- London **Seventh conference on Translating and the Computer**

DBMIST, Ministère de l'Education Nationale, 3 Blvd Pasteur, 75015 Paris.

4-13 sep- Poigny-la Forêt, Yvelines, France **École d'Été: l'information scientifique et technique, méthodes d'aide à la décision pour les sciences et l'industrie**

MARC Users Group, Winifred Abbot, PCL Library Services, Polytechnic of Central London, 309 Regent Street, London W1R 8AL; tel: +44 1 580 2020 ext 38

10-12 Sept Lancaster, UK **MARC and the 5th generation: The problems of planning for library and bibliographic systems in a time when major changes in hardware and software are imminent.**



Groupement Français des Fournisseurs d'Information en ligne, 4 Place de Valois, 75001 Paris. Tel: (1) 261 5242

16-20 sep- Paris **tembre 1985**

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Eusidic, PO Box 429, London W4 1UJ England. Tel: +44 1 546 7968

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Telex: 610070 GENTEL I

Fault reporting: tel: 189

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Telex: 31111

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Telex 15700/18004

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Telex: 71203 GENTL NM

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