

NEWSLETTER

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APRIL 1982

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from the Department for Scientific and Technical Communication

Prestel: * 24845 # , Viditel: * 5213 # , Bildschirmtext: * 24845 # .

VIDEOTEX AND THE PRESS

Videotex is one of the best examples of innovative thinking applied to the dissemination of information. The innovation consists of using existing equipment (TV sets, telephone lines, computers, etc.), for a new purpose, i.e. making up-to-date information available around the clock to the general public.

Great interest was displayed in Videotex from the beginning because of its market potential. Public Videotex services were launched in Europe: Prestel in the United Kingdom in September 1979, Viditel in August 1980 in the Netherlands and in 1981 Bildschirmtext in the Federal Republic of Germany and Télétel in France. Experiments are under way in many other countries: Austria, Italy, Sweden, Finland, Norway, Spain, Switzerland, Japan, Canada and the USA.

After these few years of public experimentation, Videotex has arrived at a crossroads; it is in search of its identity. What was born as a means of information diffusion to the general public is now in the majority of cases exploited in the business and public information sector. Videotex has so far failed to reach the large public that was expected. One reason for this might be the still relatively high cost of the equipment. Hardware producers are reluctant to invest in the production of user's terminals in a field still in its infancy; we are therefore trapped in a vicious circle:

- high costs mean few users;
- few users mean low market penetration;
- low market penetration means few information providers;
- few information providers (also) mean few users;
- few users mean low production runs;
- low production runs mean high costs, and so on.

On the other hand, the acceptance of Videotex by the general public will not only be affected by economic factors and by the improvement of techni-

cal means and information retrieving methods, but will depend above all on the ability that it will show in exploiting its distinctive features that make it different from the traditional information medium: the press.

The great advantages of Videotex are the possibility of making up-to-date information available at all times of the day, shopping by catalogue order, making travel and hotel reservations, etc., while payments can be made by charging a credit card account. Future scenarios include the delivery of a personalised newspaper, holding opinion polls and even voting over local administrative issues.

These features are unique to Videotex and have very little in common with newspapers. Reading is not only getting information but it is also a pleasure, it is setting down in one's preferred armchair, it is reading at leisure (you cannot stare for hours at a screen).

There is therefore little reason for antagonism between Videotex and the press. Rather one could say that they are different means which are complementary in their purpose and social function.

Because of its topical interest and appeal to the large public, VIDEOTEX AND THE PRESS has been chosen as the subject of a seminar held in Luxembourg on 14 January 1982 and organized by the Directorate-General Information Market and Innovation of the Commission of the European Communities.

Learned Information, Oxford, will publish the proceedings of the seminar, complemented by a paper of R. HABER on the interfacing of Euronet and Videotex networks in Europe and a glossary of the most common terms used in telematics jargon.

Legislative, economic and social issues are raised by the introduction in daily and business life of telematics in general and of Videotex in particular. They are presented and discussed by representatives of the press from four countries in which Videotex plays a major role (U.K.; the Netherlands; Federal Republic of Germany, France).

While specialists and businessmen are more concerned with technicalities and cost/profits analysis, the man-in-the-street, ranging from the greengrocer at the street corner to the decision maker (for instance a member of parliament) without the necessary technical background, does not often know how his social habits will be affected by the introduction of such new technologies and is often at loss when confronted with a completely new jargon which he does not understand.

This publication, by no means exhaustive in whatever respect, is meant as a contribution to a general awareness of our changing technological environment and its influence on every day life, and will be announced in a future issue of this Newsletter.

People interested in receiving a copy of the proceedings, send their order to R. RAPPARINI at the address shown on the back page.

SELECTED RECENT PUBLICATIONS

1. Energy from biomass(2)

The present book starts with a review paper on the state of art as it appears presently in Europe. Furthermore, the book reports on the workshop which has been held at the Commission in Brussels on 22 October 1981 and at which 9 proposals on the subject of methanol production from wood were presented. The papers give a comprehensive overview of the various technologies presently considered in Europe on the subject of methanol production from wood.

EUR 7667 EN ISBN 90-277-1370-7
pp. : viii + 183
Price: Dfl. 60,-
Order from: D. REIDEL Publishing Company, POB 17, 3300 AA DORDRECHT

2. Applied thermoluminescence dosimetry

This book contains all the lectures given at the course, held at the Joint Research Centre, Ispra, Italy, 12-16 November 1979, in sequence of their original presentation with some changes in order to avoid too much overlap and repetition, which understandably could not be eliminated completely. This was also not desirable in order not to lose the independent character of each chapter. A number of cross-references have been inserted into the texts to give maximum information on certain aspects of TLD.

EUR 6990 EN ISBN 0-85274-544-3
pp. : xvii + 414
Price: £ 35,-
Order from: Adam HILGER Ltd, Techno House, Redcliffe Way BRISTOL, BS1 6 NX.

3. Genetic effects of ionizing radiation in multicellular eukaryotes and the assessment of genetic radiation hazards in man

The aim of this monograph is to review the progress in studies on the genetic effects of radiation in multicellular eukaryotes and its bearing and relevance on the evaluation of genetic risks in man. Within this general framework, an attempt has been made to (i) present a broad overview of the lines of inquiry that have dominated this field and the nature and kinds of

data that have accumulated as a result; (ii) delineate those aspects of current research that hold promise and (iii) identify and outline problems and problem areas that may need more attention in the years to come, so that questions regarding genetic risk assessments and genetic health protection can be answered with greater confidence.

EUR 7527 EN ISBN 0-444-80379-3
pp. xii + 385
Price: Dfl. 190,-
Order from: ELSEVIER BIOMEDICAL PRESS, P.O. Box 1527, Molenwerf 1, 1014 AG AMSTERDAM.

4. Photochemical, photoelectrochemical and photobiological processes

This book presents the proceedings of the contractor's meeting for Photochemistry, Photoelectrochemistry and Photobiology processes which was held from 26 to 28 October 1981 at the Cadarache Centre of the 'Commissariat à l'Energie Solaire' in France. 31 contractors presented their work in the following field:

- Photochemistry
- Photoelectrochemistry
- Photobiology
 - a) mechanisms
 - b) cells and genetics
- Combined systems

EUR 7666 EN ISBN 90-277-1371-5
pp. x + 226
Price: Dfl. 75,-
Order from: D. REIDEL Publishing Company, POB 17, 3300 AA DORDRECHT.

5. Design and technology of solar heating and cooling systems for buildings

The lectures presented in this book have been part of an 'ISPRA COURSE' at the European Research Centre at Ispra, Italy. They take into account results obtained in the programmes of the European Commission. The aim has not been to cover in an exhaustive manner an extremely vast area but rather to bring together on specific points the contribution of various specialists well know in their own field.

EUR 6599 EN ISBN 0378-7788
pp. : 280
Price: Sfrs 170,-
Order from: ELSEVIER SEQUOIA, P.O. Box 851, 1001 LAUSANNE 1.

6. Recycling of used oils

Proceedings of the Second European Congress on the Recycling of Used Oils, held in PARIS, September 30-October 2 1980.

EUR 7547 DE, EN, FR, IT ISBN 90-277-1369-3
pp. : 366
Price: Dfl. 100,-
Order from: D. REIDEL Publishing Company, POB 17, 3300 DORDRECHT.

7. Radiation protection optimization

This publication contains the papers given at the seminar held in Luxembourg, October 3-5 1979 and a full account of all the discussions; it is an im-

JUST PUBLISHED

TRANSFER AND EXPLOITATION OF SCIENTIFIC AND TECHNICAL INFORMATION

Proceedings of the symposium held in Luxembourg, 10 to 12 June 1981
by the Commission of the European Communities

1982 — EUR 7716 — ISBN 92-825-2837-5 — 363 pp
Price: BFR 1000 — IRL 16.5 — UKL 13.75 — USD 26.50

The Commission of the European Communities organized this symposium to:

- examine how far the results of publicly funded research are being transferred to and exploited by European industry;
- identify obstacles to satisfactory transfer and exploitation and establish how best to overcome them; particular attention was paid to transfer across national boundaries;
- propose strategies for improving the efficiency of transfer and exploitation.

The proceedings of the symposium contain: the opening speeches, 39 papers written by European experts, summaries of the panel discussions, the conclusions of the symposium and the list of the 180 participants.

The volume is divided into six chapters corresponding to the sessions of the symposium:

- I Introduction
- II The needs of the economy and obstacles to transfer
- III Exploitation of information
- IV Technology transfer and industrial property
- V Towards better communication and transfer
- VI Conclusions — Tasks for the future.

Audience: scientific and technical research establishments, university research departments, research associations, industrial research institutes — patent agents, technology transfer experts — data-base producers, information brokers, information officers — technical writers and news editors — management consultants, innovation consultants — chambers of commerce and industry.

La version française des comptes rendus sera disponible en été 1982.

Die deutsche Ausgabe des Tagungsberichtes wird im Sommer 1982 veröffentlicht.

La versione italiana sarà disponibile nel corso dell'estate 1982.

ORDER FORM

Please send me copy(ies) of the Proceedings of the symposium
'Transfer and exploitation of scientific and technical information',
Luxembourg, 10 to 12 June 1981

EUR 7716 EN FR DE IT

Payment will be effected on receipt of your invoice

Name

Address

.....

.....

Date

Signature

To be sent to:

Commission of the European Communities
D.G. XIII/A2 — JMO B4/072
P.O.B. 1907
L — 2920 LUXEMBOURG.

THE IMPACT OF NEW TECHNOLOGIES ON PUBLISHING

There are rumors to the effect that the above book is out of print.

This is not true. Here are details about the book and where it can be obtained.

(N.B. There are **German, English and French** language editions).

Die Auswirkungen neuer Technologien auf das Verlagswesen
Bericht über das Symposium in Luxemburg, 6.-7. November 1979
1980, 209 S., 23 Ill. Br. DM 32.-
ISBN 3-598-10127-9

The Impact of New Technologies on Publishing
Proceedings of the Symposium held in Luxembourg, November
6-7, 1979
1980, 195 p. 23 ill., £ 9.00
ISBN 0-907150-09-8

L'impact des techniques nouvelles sur l'industrie de l'édition
Compte rendu du symposium tenu à Luxembourg, les 6 et 7
novembre 1979
1980, 203 p. 23 ill., Ff 84
ISBN 2-86294-052-6

Zu bestellen bei:
K.G. SAUR Verlag
Prinz Ludgigshöhe
Pöessenbacher Strasse 2
D-8000 München 71.

Please order from:
Library Association Publishing Ltd.
7, Ridgmount Street
London WC1E 7AE,
England.

Les commandes sont à adresser à:
L'Agence centrale du livre
103, rue Legendre
F-75017 PARIS.

portant contribution to scientific awareness of the importance of optimizing radiation protection and should be useful reference document for anyone with responsibility for radiation protection.

EUR 7001 EN ISBN 0-08-027291-6
pp.: xi + 332
Price: £ 20,-
Order from: Pergamon Press Ltd. Headington Hill Hall OXFORD OX3 OBW.

8. Soil degradation

At the invitation of the EEC, a seminar was organised in Wageningen by the Institute for Land and Water Management Research and the International Agricultural Centre, in collaboration with a number of other institutes in the Netherlands. Scientists from all member countries of the EEC presented their papers and took part in the discussions. At the end of the seminar recommendations were formulated which can serve as a useful guide for future co-operation.

EUR 7376 EN
pp.: 280
Price: Dfl. 75,-
Order from: A.A. BALKEMA PUBLISHERS P.O. Box 1675, ROTTERDAM.

9. Electronic document delivery (2)

The Commission has encouraged the establishment of Euronet/DIANE, the Direct Information Access Network for Europe, which provides access to databases containing in electronic form either factual information or, in most cases, bibliographic references to documents. Consequently, the Commission is now going to encourage the establishment of facilities providing access to full documents in electronic form. The programme associated with this encouragement, is called ARTEMIS (Automatic Retrieval of Text from Europe's Multinational Information Service).

An exhibition and workshop was held on 18 and 19 December 1980 in Luxembourg at which systems and services relevant to electronic document delivery were presented and demonstrated. The workshop recommended that pilot experiments should be undertaken, especially to test user reactions.

EUR 7606 EN ISBN 0-904933-32-6
pp.: xvi + 214
Price: £ 29,-
Order from: Learned Information Ltd, Besselsleigh Road, Abingdon OXFORD OX13 6LG.

10. Physico-chemical behaviour of atmospheric pollutants

In this volume, the Commission of the European Communities presents the proceedings of the second European symposium on the physico-chemical behaviour of atmospheric pollutants held in Varese, Italy, 29 September-1 October 1981.

These Symposia are organized in intervals of about two years within the framework of a Concerted Action in this area, which is a part of the Communities' research programme in the environmental field.

The scope of the Concerted Action is to co-ordinate all research in the area executed in the participating countries and to collect and disseminate the results.

The present volume represents an almost complete overview of the work presently done in this field in Europe, corresponding entirely to the given tasks of co-ordinating the European research effort. It illustrates the high scientific quality of this work.

EUR 7624 EN ISBN 90-277-1349-9
pp.: xvi + 672
Price: Dfl. 180,-
Order from: D. REIDEL Publishing Company, POB 17, 3300 AA DORDRECHT.

11. Safety problems related to sodium handling in liquid metal fast breeder reactors and large test facilities

The course on 'SAFETY PROBLEMS RELATED TO SODIUM HANDLING IN LMFBRs AND LARGE TEST FACILITIES' was organized by the Training and Education Service of the Joint Research Centre, Ispra Establishment as part of the Ispra Courses programme of the J.R.C. In setting up the course programme attention was given, both to make available recent research results and application of these results to large scale industrial facilities.

The course was addressed to engineers, plant operators and technicians involved in the operation of LMFBRs and test facilities, to members of advisory and regulatory organizations, and to those concerned in safety assessment of assurance in sodium handling.

EUR 7648 EN ISSN 0275-7575
ISBN 3-7186 0087-7
pp.: 251
Price: Dfl. 95,-
Order from: Harwood Academic Publishers, c/o Proost en Brandt N.V. Dept. P.S. 8335, 353 RH UTRECHT, the NETHERLANDS.

CONFERENCES, SEMINARS, SYMPOSIA CALENDAR

1. Seminaire Contractants Biomasse.
3-7 May 1982, Creta.
2. 4th Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference
10-14 May 1982, Stresa
Professor W. H. Bloss
General Chairman
Universität Stuttgart
Boeblingen Str. 70
D — 7000 STUTT GART 1.
3. Desinfection of Sewage Sludge — Technical, Economical and Microbiological Aspects.
10-14 May 1982, Zürich.
4. 1st European Symposium of Regional Information Transfer Agencies
26-28 May 1982 Strasbourg
Madame LARUE DE TOURNEMINE
ARIST
2, rue Brûlée
F — 67000 STRASBOURG
Tel. (88) 22 23 96
Telex: CHAMCO 870068.

5. 12th Symposium on Fusion Technology
13-17 September 1982, Jülich (FRG)
Conference Secretary:
Ms H. BONGARTZ
KFA Jülich GmbH
Tagungsbüro
Postfach 1913
D — 5170 Jülich 1
Tel.: (0 24 61) 61 30 08.

Falls Sie nähere Informationen über die Tätigkeit der Kommission auf wissenschaftlichem und technischem Gebiet sowie die neuesten auf diesen Gebieten erschienenen Berichte, Artikel, Konferenzberichte, Handbücher, Adressbücher, Atlanten, Glossare usw. wünschen, lesen Sie bitte

Euroabstracts Sektion I (betr. Tätigkeiten, die unter die EWG- und EURATOM-Verträge fallen),

Euroabstracts Sektion II (betr. Tätigkeiten im Bereich des EGKS-Vertrages).

Ein **Freiexemplar** kann bei folgender Anschrift schriftlich bestellt werden: KEG — GD XIII/A2, Jean-Monnet-Gebäude B4/84, Postfach 1907, Luxemburg.

Bibliografische Informationen aus Euroabstracts sind auch on-line über Euronet-Diane in der EABS-Datenbasis erhältlich. Nähere Auskünfte können schriftlich bei Ms A. ILJON, Postfach 1907, Luxemburg, und telefonisch unter Nr. 4301-2923 Luxemburg erfragt werden.

Über die **neuesten Entwicklungen auf diesen Gebieten** halten Sie die Videotex-Anzeigen der Kommission auf dem laufenden:

- EURONEWS über PRESTEL, Vereinigtes Königreich
- EURONIEUWS über VIDITEL, Niederlande
- EUROTTEXT über BILDSCHIRMTEXT, BR Deutschland.

Hier finden Sie auch die neuesten Informationen über

- die letzten Entscheidungen des Ministerrats auf dem Gebiet der Forschung;
- die letzten Submissionen für Vertragsforschung;
- geplante Konferenzen, Symposia, usw.
- die neuesten Veröffentlichungen;
- einen besonderen Artikel „Die Erfindung des Monats“ usw.

In Kürze werden diese Informationen auch über TELETEL (Frankreich) zugänglich sein.

6. 2nd Conference on Biomass
20-23 September 1982, Berlin
Dr A. STRUB
Commission of the European Communities
DG XII
200, rue de la Loi
B — 1049 BRUXELLES
BELGIUM.

If you require detailed information about the Commission's activities in the scientific and technical field and in particular about recently published reports, articles, conference proceedings, manuals, directories, atlases, glossaries, etc. associated with them, consult:

Euroabstracts Section I (activities covered by EEC and Euratom Treaties)

and/or

Euroabstracts Section II (coal and steel)

For a free copy write to CEC — DG XIII/A2, JMO B4/084, BP 1907, Luxembourg. Bibliographic information from Euroabstracts is also available on-line via Euronet-Diane in the EABS data base. Write to ECHO Service, Ms A. ILJON, BP 1907, Luxembourg, for details or call Luxembourg 4301 2923.

If you wish to keep up to date with the **highlights of these activities**, consult the Commission's Videotex journals:

- EURONEWS on Prestel, UK
- EURONIEUWS on Viditel, The Netherlands
- EUROTTEXT on Bildschirmtext, Federal Republic of Germany

Where you will find news items on:

- latest Council of Ministers decisions on research,
- latest calls for tenders for research under contract,
- forthcoming conferences, symposia etc.
- recent publications,
- a special feature: 'The invention of the month', etc.

Soon available also on Télétel (France).

Si vous désirez obtenir des informations détaillées au sujet des activités de la Commission dans les domaines scientifique et technique, en particulier en ce qui concerne les rapports, articles, actes de conférences, manuels, annuaires, atlas, glossaires, etc. qui s'y rapportent, veuillez consulter

— EUROABSTRACTS, Section I (activités relevant des Traités CEE et EURATOM);

— EUROABSTRACTS, Section II (charbon et acier).

En vue de recevoir un spécimen d'EUROABSTRACTS à titre gratuit, veuillez vous adresser à: CCE, DG XIII/A-2, JMO B4/084, B.P. 1907, Luxembourg.

Des renseignements bibliographiques contenus dans EUROABSTRACTS peuvent être également obtenus en ligne via EURONET-DIANE dans la base de données EABS. Pour toutes informations complémentaires, veuillez vous adresser à: Service ECHO, Mme A. ILJON, B.P. 1907, Luxembourg, ou téléphoner au N° 4301 2923, Luxembourg.

Si vous voulez avoir des renseignements à jour sur les derniers développements dans ces domaines, les journaux VIDEOTEX suivants de la Commission peuvent être consultés:

- EURONEWS via PRESTEL (Royaume-Uni);
- EURONIEUWS via VIDITEL (Pays-Bas);
- EUROTTEXT via BILDSCHIRMTEXT (République fédérale d'Allemagne).

Ces journaux vous renseigneront également sur

- les dernières décisions du conseil de Ministres dans le domaine de la recherche;
- les derniers appels d'offres pour des contrats de recherche;
- les conférences, symposia, etc. envisagés;
- les publications les plus récentes;
- un volet spécial consacré à l'innovation;
- etc.

Ces renseignements pourront être obtenus dans un proche avenir via TELETEL (France).

Chi fosse interessato ad ottenere informazioni dettagliate sulle attività della Commissione nel campo scientifico e tecnico ed i relativi rapporti, articoli, atti di conferenze, manuali, annuari, atlanti, glossari, ecc., è pregato di consultare:

— Euroabstracts (Sezione I): attività previste nel quadro dei trattati CEE ed Euratom

e/o

— Euroabstracts (Sezione II): carbone e acciaio.

Per ottenere una copia gratuita delle due precedenti pubblicazioni scrivere a CCE — DG XIII/A2, Casella postale 1907, Lussemburgo.

Le informazioni contenute negli Euroabstracts sono altresì accessibili in linea via Euronet-Diane nella base di dati EABS. Scrivere al Servizio ECHO, Signora A. ILJON, Casella postale 1907, Lussemburgo o telefonare al 4301 2923 in Lussemburgo.

Per tenersi al corrente degli **ultimi sviluppi su queste attività**, è possibile consultare i giornali Videotex della Commissione:

- EURONEWS su Prestel, Gran Bretagna
- EURONIEUWS su Viditel, Paesi Bassi
- EUROTTEXT su Bildschirmtext, Repubblica federale di Germania.

Le notizie ivi contenute riguardano:

- le più recenti decisioni del Consiglio dei Ministri riguardanti la ricerca,
- le più recenti gare di appalto per ricerche su contratto,
- l'annuncio di conferenze,
- la recensione di pubblicazioni contenenti risultati della ricerca comunitaria,
- informazioni su brevetti ed invenzioni,
- altre notizie varie sulle Comunità Europee.

Il servizio Videotex della Commissione sarà esteso quanto prima alla Francia (Télétel), e, in seguito, anche ad altri Paesi membri della Comunità.

— NOTE: Please join the address label to all your correspondence.

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