

EurOpen News

Volume 1 Number 1

February, 1993

A New Slimline EurOpen

As everyone who attended the 1992 Autumn Governing Board Meeting will know, the decision was taken to appoint a four person interim Executive committee with the specific task of streamlining EurOpen financially and bringing its services more in line with the actual needs of the National Groups. The Chairman of this interim Executive is George Schild (Switzerland) and the members are Kim Biel-Nielsen (Denmark), Marten van Gelderen (The Netherlands) and Mick Farmer (UK). The Secretariat at Owles Hall, under the Business Manager, Helen Gibbons, has been asked to continue to provide the Secretariat for the time being in order to provide stability. The Executive committee has met twice since the last Governing Board Meeting.

Part of the economy, has been to discontinue the Newsletter in its old format. This cost EurOpen a net amount of 51,803 ECU's in 1992. Thus a simple News Sheet has been born to keep National Groups in touch, not only with what is going on within EurOpen but also with each other. Only one copy will be sent to the Chairman and Secretary of each National Group, but its contents can be copied for onward transmission within the group, or for incorporation into National Group Newsletters. If contents are used for further publication an acknowledgement to EurOpen will be expected.

All National Groups are very much encouraged to send their news and views to the editor, Helen Gibbons, at <europen@EU.net>, for inclusion.

Another essential major economy was to dispense with the post of Executive Director.

1993 EurOpen Events

Because of the changes in policy it has proved impossible to find an alternative venue for the Spring 93 Conference, which was originally planned for Seville. It has therefore been decided to cancel the Spring Conference and to hold only two days of Governing Board Meetings on Saturday, 8th and Sunday, 9th May, 1993, at the Ambassador Hotel, near Heathrow Airport, London. The venue was chosen after much research in various countries, for its cheapness and ready access. Overnight accommodation is available in the hotel at 55 GBP per night inclusive of breakfast and can be booked through the EurOpen Secretariat if done before 1st May, 1993.

The meeting will for the main part be divided into a series of working groups to cover, Organisation and Fee Structure; Finance; Strategic aspects of UniForum/USENIX liaison; Potential Objects for Special Financial projects; EurOpen under Belgian law. All representatives are asked to indicate beforehand in which one they wish to participate.

Agenda items need to be notified to the Secretariat six weeks beforehand, ideally before 29th March, 1993.

The present Executive has been elected for six months only and they do not propose to prolong that period unless specifically requested, so voting for the next Executive Committee will also take place at the Spring meeting and details of candidates will be required beforehand.

It is the intention to seek approval to make the major EurOpen 1993 event a Conference stream, with Tutorials and a trade show to be held in co-operation with GUUG in Wiesbaden in September, 1993.

Finance

The new Executive Committee has appointed from its members Marten van Gelderen to act as Treasurer. Marten has therefore taken a particularly close interest in the EurOpen financial figures.

He writes:

"In the autumn 1992 GB meeting in Utrecht the words "insolvent" and even "bankruptcy" were used frequently in connection with the current and future financial position of EurOpen. It is a pleasure to be able to announce here that both assessments were made without the proper backing of figures. EurOpen is not insolvent and most certainly not bankrupt.

But we must realise that the "experiment" started by us and executed by the previous Executive Committee did take its toll. I am referring, of course, to the decision of the GB to hire an Executive Director and to get involved in OpenForum'92. At the beginning of 1992 we had a very comfortable Capital & Reserves position of 323166 ECU, which allowed us, by the way, to start the experiment after all. At the end of 1993 this position will have been decreased considerably. OpenForum'92 developed a significant deficit instead of the promised surplus, the Executive Director proved to be expensive to say the least and some member NaLUUG's did not fully pay their contribution.

From reports as presented to me by the EurOpen financial administration at Owles Hall, and taking into account expenditure that will materialise in 1993 but should be accounted for in 1992, I conclude the following:

As at December 31st 1992 the (unaudited and provisionall) condensed balance of EurOpen in ECU looks as follows:

	Active	Passive
0100 Fixed Assets	50985.20	
1200 Current Assets	175733.60	
1400 Liquid Assets	248614.80	
0500 Capital & Reserves		306545.20
0700 Provisions		20700.00
1600 Short Term Obligations		148088.40
	-----	-----
Total	475333.60	475333.60
	=====	=====

The most interesting figure in this balance is, of course, the Capital & Reserve, which dropped from 323166 to 306545 ECU. I have presented a budget proposal for 1993 to the Executive Committee at their meeting of February 7th. A slightly modified version of this proposal will be presented at the GB meeting of May 8-9 in London. The proposal runs as follows:

	Expenditure	Income
3000 Contributions		130158.50
3200 Sales		51300.00
3100 Conferences		1.00
4000 Administration	44480.00	
4100 Office	64250.00	
4200 Governing Board	18201.00	
4400 Executive Board	9801.00	
4400 Officers	72100.00	
4500 Publications	17500.00	
4600 Public Relations	5601.00	
4800 Depreciation	32400.00	
	-----	-----
	252333.00	169459.50
Surplus/Deficit		82873.50
	-----	-----
Total	252333.00	252333.00
	=====	=====

The decisions made at the GB meeting in Utrecht will lead to a one-time deficit in 1993 of 82874 ECU. All of this deficit can be explained by the release of the Executive Director of his contract (61K ECU) and the increments of Fleming Gibbons for the first half of 1993 (10K + 16K ECU). The projection of this deficit also presumes that the NaLUUG's will pay 25% of the old 1992 contribution scheme and 75% of the new 1993 contribution scheme. Not all groups will (AFUU and perhaps DKUUG) and this has been accounted for in the proposal.

The budget proposal leads to the following (condensed) balance for EurOpen as at December 31st 1993:

	Active	Passive
0100 Fixed Assets	18585.20	
0300 Financial Assets	74000.00	
1200 Current Assets	39193.10	
1400 Liquid Assets	233741.30	
0500 Capital & Reserves		223671.70
0700 Provisions		20700.00
1600 Short Term Obligations		121147.90
	-----	-----
Total	365519.60	365519.60
	=====	=====

The Capital & Reserves will drop from 306545 to 223671 ECU (as a result from the one-time deficit of 82874 ECU). Although considerably lower than in previous years, the EurOpen Capital & Reserves position at the end of 1993 is, in my view, still satisfactory. The fixed assets drop with 24K + 8K4 ECU (EUnet equipment and depreciation of the rest in 1993). Assuming conservatively that only 90% of the debtors and amounts to be received will materialise in 1993, the liquid assets will drop to 233741 ECU with short term obligations of 121147 ECU. So the effective liquid position is: 112594 ECU with potential income of 39193 ECU. This is cause for some concern. In my view the liquid position of EurOpen in particular needs careful attention in the next few years.

In 1994 a similar budget proposal will lead to a structural deficit of 2K ECU per year. This will force us to increase membership dues only slightly. However, in view of the liquid position of EurOpen at the end of 1993 it might be a good idea to increase the membership dues a little more to enable EurOpen to build a better liquid (and thus Capital & Reserves) position in 1994.

In summary, the financial position of EurOpen must be handled carefully in the near future, but it is certainly not in jeopardy."

USENIX and UniForum Liaison

Mick Farmer (representing EurOpen) attended the USENIX Governing Board meeting in San Diego, held on the Sunday before their Conference. Their Governing Board is smaller in size than EurOpen's, which enables them to conclude virtually all their business in one day.

Apart from the fact that Usenix is a much larger organisation than EurOpen (in terms of members and employees), Mick found that they have similar problems to those currently being encountered by EurOpen. Some examples are:

50% of the attendees at a Conference are there for the first time.

Emphasis is moving away from the technical edge towards the marketing edge.

Other Conferences are attracting more people.

Specialist Conferences, such as LISA and SAGE, are attracting more people than their traditional, bi-annual, Conferences.

Usenix is looking at new ways of attracting members. They are considering unbundling their services, developing closer ties with UniForum, and developing stronger local groups.

Usenix would like to establish stronger links in Europe, and they would like to see EurOpen acting as the mediator between themselves and the National Groups.

UNIFORUM

Mick Farmer (representing EurOpen) has met twice with Richard Jaross, the new Executive Director of UniForum. UniForum is worried about its membership falling, and its reliance on one large trade show per year to provide revenue (as with Usenix, UniForum is seeing the emergence of other strong exhibitions, such as Interop).

UniForum has contacted a number of European vendors, and the general feeling is that they would like to organise another pan-European event in the future. UniForum is looking to EurOpen for support, probably in the form of Tutorials and a technical Conference track.

There is a general agreement that UniForum and EurOpen can work closer together in developing events of mutual benefit.

News from the National Groups

FRANCE

Convention UNIX 93 will be held on 23 - 26th March, 1993 in Paris.

HUNGARY

Every second Wednesday on each month is the day of HUUG meetings, where members and persons interested in UNIX, attend lectures and hold discussions on actual topics -for example: Hungarian and international Networks - How you can join them ? -Information about OpenForum Conference and Exhibition -About System V Release 4.2. (Destiny) and so on.

The Executive Committee of HUUG decided to establish a library with new and basic books and journals in topic of UNIX.

EC and Secretariat of HUUG is arranging the 2nd national UNIX Conference & Exhibition, called "HUNIX '93". The event will be held on September 13 -15 1993 in Budapest. The 1st national Conference & Exhibition "HUNIX '92" was

attended by about 140 Hungarian participants. The 2nd is expected to attract about 200 participants.

HUUG is planning to hold "UNIX" one day seminar for computer teachers of secondary schools.

ITALY

i2u is an independent, non-profit association founded in 1984 by a group of end users and universities with a firm belief in UNIX's potential as a standard operating system, together with other representing software and hardware companies. Members in 1992 numbered 256 are divided in 6 categories: profit, non-profit, individuals, joint, student and sponsor.

i2u fosters the formation of workshop groups by its members to study issues of common interest in specific fields. The working groups organized by i2u are: X/GUIs, OLTP, UNIX in large accounts, Factory Automation and Standards.

As a central point of contact i2u organizes annual conferences which are the most important reference for UNIX users in Italy, aimed at achieving an overview of the UNIX situation in Italy and in the World. Side by side with the annual Conference, the annual Exhibition, organized by i2u and open at no charge to all visitors, constitutes Italy's only regular event dedicated entirely to UNIX.

i2u edits a bimonthly journal which brings news from the UNIX world, reviews of books, publishes technical articles and news from i2u members. i2u provides technical and other documentation on request to its members. i2u Headquarters in Milan also makes available to visitors the leading periodicals in the UNIX field.

The General Secretary is Carlo Mortarino.

Next events organized by i2u are:

"Users and Standards" - Rome -30th March 1993

"UNIX Convention" - Milan -19th - 21st May 1993

LUXEMBOURG

LUUG started its activities in the beginning of 1992 and had 51 members by the end of that year.

It was initiated by people having strong involvement in the setting up of the EUnet backbone in Luxembourg, therefore, its main activities during last year were centered around networking. A lot of people who joined LUUG were primarily interested in getting access to EUnet, since membership was a necessary condition. The subscription fees for EUnet in Luxembourg have to be approved during the General Assembly of the Group.

LUUG organized in March '92 a "Workshop on the UNIX Operating System". Talks were given by people from several international companies among which DEC, Apple Computer, OSF, BIM, BIL.

A seminar on OSF/Motif has been jointly organized with CRP-Centre Universitaire in May 92.

For '93, the planned events are the following:

- a summer school on the UNIX system to be held in august. Main topics will be system administration and networking.
- a seminar about On-line Transaction Processing whose date hasn't been fixed yet.

PORTUGAL

PUUG (the Portuguese Unix Users Group) has a role of dissemination of Open Systems technology in Portugal. The activities are generally classifiable in two groups, the tutorials and public sessions as a first group, and the management of the EUnet -Portugal network as a second.

The public sessions are free of charge meetings designed to be a forum of discussion among the members of the group. The sessions address technical issues that are considered of interest for a significant amount of the members. Examples of these sessions, carried out during 1992, were sessions on "Fault Tolerant Unix", "RISC

Architectures" and "Downsizing". The major goal of the sessions is to bring solutions proposed by vendors face to face with the problems of the members. The public sessions have proved to be an important contribution to active membership and growth of the number of members.

For 1993 there are several new public sessions planned:

- Open OLTP ("On-line transaction processing") 18/3/93, 14h30m, Forum Picoas
- Case Systems - To be announced
- Unix Systems for the DeskTop - To be announced

The tutorials are again intended to disseminate the adoption of open systems and to support the existing base of technology and technical people involved in its management. The most relevant example is a tutorial on IP networks that has been an important contribution in the last two years.

For 1993 there are several tutorials planned:

- Internetworking with TCP/IP - June, Forum Picoas
- Network Management - To be announced
- Network Computing (ONC and OSF/DCE) - To be announced

The management of the EUnet Portugal net is a core activity of the PUUG. The network was created in 1991 and has been growing slowly but steadily, acting as a contribution to the creation of a "open systems" community in Portugal. Almost 30 members benefit from its services.

The PUUG has currently around 120 members, ranging from academic members to industry, services, and public administration.

ROMANIA

GURU is currently moving to a new location. The new mail address for the Group is:

GURU
PO BOX 63-42
71232 Bucharest
Romania

Telephone and fax lines will be installed soon, but for the time being the old fax at 21 Calvea Grivitei is still working, although addressing fax to Alexandru Rotaru, GURU's Chairman, at (+40 - 1 6336143 might be better).

GURU is setting up a few EUnet connections in Romania now and in the near future.

Telephone and fax numbers will be announced as soon as the lines are installed. A EUnet connection will be available at the new headquarters, which will make communications much easier.

RUSSIA

A Conference on Free Software will be held 19 - 23 April 1993 at the International Center for Scientific and Technical Information in Moscow, Russia. The Conference is hosted by SUUG, the Society of UNIX User Groups (formerly the Soviet UNIX User group), the Russian Center for Systems Programming (responsible for free software development and distribution in Russia), and the International Center for Scientific and Technical Information.

Participant specialists are coming from North America, Europe, Japan and the Newly Independent States (NIS). Richard Stallman, founder of the Free Software Foundation and recipient of the ACM Admiral Grace Hopper Award and the MacArthur Fellowship, will attend the Conference as guest of Honour.

The main topics of the Conference include:

- the current state of the GNU project and other FSF projects
- free software means information freedom and sharing

- free software portability in Open Systems environments
- user experiences with free software
- free software in education and training
- legal aspects of free software
- relevance of free software to NIS modernisation and democracy
- how NIS scientists can contribute to free software

Concurrent with the Conference, there will be a small Exhibition demonstrating free software in a networked heterogeneous environment.

The Conference encourages submissions of original designs, papers and ideas, and it welcomes the participation of computer and software companies.

Program Committee:

Jaap Akerhuis, AT & T Bell Labs, USA
Peter Brusilovsky, ICSTI, Russia
Mick Farmer, Birkbeck College, UK
Jean-Michel Cornu, Jean-Michel Cornu
Consultant, France
Judith Grass, At & T Bell Labs, USA
Geoffrey S. Knauth, Marble Associates, INC., USA
Sergei Kuznetsov, Institute for Problems of Cybernetics, Russia (chair)
Christoph Reisbeck, Sun Microsystems GmbH, Germany
John Stasko, Georgia Institute of Technology, USA
Michael Tiemann, CYGNUS Support, USA
Dimitry Volodin, DEMOS, Russia

Submission of Papers

The program committee wishes to include both technical papers and short reviews.

Submissions should be either a complete paper (4 to 8 pages), or at least an extended abstract (2 pages). Please send submissions via email to the program committee chair, Dr. Sergei Kuznetsov <kuz@ivann.delta.msk.su> by 15th February, 1993.

If your paper needs special formatting or includes figures, please send camera-ready copy to the organising committee, care of:

Georgi Ostapenko, SUUG-FSF '93
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Submissions should include name (s) of authors, postal and email addresses, and a list of keywords. Each submission will be examined on the basis of its clarity, technical quality and adherence to the general theme for the Conference. After review by the program committee, acceptance / rejection of papers will be confirmed by 28th February, 1993. Abstracts will be distributed at the Conference in English and Russian. Accepted papers will be published in Proceedings and distributed at the Conference. Papers will be presented in forty minute sessions with consecutive translation.

The International Center for Scientific and Technical Information hosting the Conference in Moscow will also provide a special social and cultural program to give participants the opportunity to:

- establish contacts and have meetings with colleagues from Russia and the Newly Independent States;
- get first-hand impressions of current governmental, economic and social developments in Russia;
- gain a better knowledge of Russian history, architecture, museums and theatre.

SPAIN

UUES (Spanish Unix User Group) is continuing the difficult task of getting settled as a national group, and involving its members in the development of new activities.

Its third National Journal is about to be released, and the quality of the publication is increasing as more experience is acquired, and feedback from associates obtained.

Last October the association together with the Computer Architecture Department of the University of Catalonia, organized a two day tutorial on the subject "Unix environments: present and future". Two main subjects were addressed, operating systems architectures, and systems communication. During the two days there was an equipment exhibition of supercomputers.

In December UUES organized its 2nd Unix Interconnectivity Workshop in Barcelona which was attended by around 60 people.

During the Workshop 7 papers were presented, and following discussion to each one of them clarified many aspects concerning the use of Unix in the Spanish computer environment. The titles of the presentations were "Unix environments in industry design and manufacturing", "Unix real time communications front-end", "Unix in the banking and financial world", "Using Unix in plotter manufacturing and quality control", "Communication services in Catalan schools", "Interconnecting heterogeneous systems, a practical example" and "Access to e-mail, news and Internet services".

SWEDEN

EurOpen.SE is currently in the process of setting up its own machine to provide an archive server with mail and interactive access for members (anon-ftp for non-members maybe).

It aims to have a machine with about 6 Gbyte archives up and running somewhere around the summer.

UK

Following on the hugely successful workshop on System Administration, LISA 92, held at Imperial College by UKUUG last summer, the UKUUG announces that the theme of this year's System Administration and Management Conference to be held on 30th June, 1993 in London will be "Coping

with Change" with an informal subtitle of "Strategies for hitting a moving target".

With the increasing complexity of the working environment and the rate of change of that environment, in terms of both the variety of hardware platforms and associated operating systems, as well as the increasing number of third party software products available for those platforms the task of the System Manager has become increasingly difficult.

How does one encapsulate the differences in System Administration procedures ? How does one evolve strategies for supporting complex third party tools and their varying licensing methods ? How does one set about the evaluating new software and hardware ?

The requirements of quality certification procedures mean that much better system operation documentation is required and must be produced. How can this documentation be generated, and then be kept up to date with the minimum of manual intervention ?

SAGE/UK

It is not only the working environment that is changing, the very role of the System Administrator is changing. System Administrators are now being recognised as being more than just skilled operators. They need to be involved in the planning process when new systems and networks are being ordered. However, at the same time organisations often make inexperienced people take on the job of System Administrator without adequate training or support.

In order to help raise the standard of System Administration and to advance it as a profession this Conference will see the creation of SAGE/UK - a UKUUG Special Technical Group for System Administrators. Successful SAGE groups are already running in the USA and Australia and the UK group will keep in close contact with their activities. The group will provide a focal point for System Administration activities and will organise workshops and tutorials as well as developing guidelines for the proper management of systems.

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS:

MARCH

- 15 - 19 UniForum - San Fransisco, CA, USA
- 18 Open OLTP - Forum Picoas, Portugal (PUUG)
- 23 - 26 Convention UNIX 93 - Paris, France (AFUU)
- 30 Users and Standards - Rome, Italy, (i2u)

APRIL

- 19 - 23 Conference on Free Software - Moscow, Russia (SUUG)

MAY

- 8 and 9 EurOpen Governing Board Meetings, London, UK
- 19 - 21 "UNIX CONVENTION" - Milan, Italy (i2u)

JUNE

- 21 - 25 USENIX - Cincinnati, Ohio, USA
- TBA Internetworking with TCP/IP - Forum Picoas, Portugal, (PUUG)
- 30th "Coping with Change" - London, UK (UKUUG)

AUGUST

- 23 - 27 INTEROP - San Fransisco, CA, USA
- TBA Summer School on the UNIX System - Luxembourg (LUUG)

SEPTEMBER

- 13 - 15 "HUNIX '93" - Budapest, Hungary (HUUG)
- 22 - 24 EurOpen/GUUG - Wiesbaden, Germany (GUUG)

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The European Forum for Open Systems

EurOpen News

Volume 1 Number 2

April, 1993

A Very Important Governing Board Meeting

The next Governing Board Meeting of EurOpen will be held on Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th May, 1993 at the Heathrow Ambassador Hotel, London Road, Brands Hill, Slough, Berks. SL3 8BQ.

This will be a particularly important meeting, because it is the first to be held since the Interim Executive Committee took over to administer the new, streamlined EurOpen. It will, therefore, be of importance to the future of the Group that the National Groups give **clear** guidelines as to future policy and decide on the immediate way forward. Elections for the Executive will also be held during this meeting, as will the Annual General Meeting of the Company.

The structure of the meeting will be slightly different from normal in that it will incorporate on the first day, six separate working parties to consider and make proposals on: Organisation & Fee Structure; Financial model; Strategic aspects of UniForum/USENIX liaison; Potential Objects for Special Financial projects; EurOpen under Belgian Law; and EUnet. The intention is that the Executive Committee will provide each working party with a written status report on which they can base their discussions, but otherwise will leave the members of each working party to nominate its own leader/reporter whose job it will be to write a resume of the proposals to present in written form

on the second day. All voting and acceptance of reports will be taken in plenary sessions. National Groups are welcome to send as many representatives as they wish to this meeting so that they can if desired be represented in all six working parties. To keep the plenary voting sessions, however, from being too unwieldy it will be requested that the voting members - that is one from each National Group - sit around the Council table and act as spokesperson, and the observers sit behind.

The Agenda of the meeting has been distributed, but for information is repeated below:

AGENDA

DAY 1

Saturday 8th May, 1993 commencing at 11.00 hours

Plenary Session

1. Approval of the minutes of the previous meeting held on 21st and 22nd November, 1992
2. Approval of the Agenda
3. Identification of Voting Members
4. Executive Report GB 1.4
5. Financial Report GB 1.5

6. EUnet Report GB 1.6

12.30 - 13.30 - Sandwich Lunch

13.30 - Organisation of representatives into Parallel Sessions

14.00 - Parallel Sessions begin:

- Organisation (incl. Fee Structure)
- Financial Model
- Strategic Aspects of UniForum/USENIX Liaison
- Potential Objects for Special Financial Projects
- EurOpen under Belgian Law
- EUnet

Each parallel session should agree on a nominated reporter to write a report at the end for presentation the following day.

Dinner 20.00

DAY 2

Sunday 9th May, 1993 commencing at 09.00

9.00 - 10.00 - Parallel Session Working Parties finalise their reports.

10.00 - 10.30 - Coffee

Commencing at 10.30 - Plenary Session

1. Written reports from the Parallel Session Working Parties

2. Results of Proposals and Voting Points

12.30 - 13.30 - Lunch

3. Budget GB 1.5

4. Elections GB 2.4

5. Annual General Meeting GB 2.5

6. Date of Next Meeting

7. Any Other Business

Close of Meeting 16.30

Interim Executive

The Interim Executive committee, under the chairmanship of Georges Schild (Switzerland) met for its final meeting on 28th March. The meeting was mainly concerned with putting together the reports for the Governing Board meeting in May, at which time the committee will stand down. The Executive were pleased to note that the following Groups had paid their subscription for 1993: Austria, Netherlands, Sweden, Germany, Italy, France, UK, Belgium and Switzerland.

A financial report presented by Jaarbeurs showed in broad terms that the negative result of OpenForum '92 was 47,700 DFL of which EurOpen's share is approximately 17,887.50 DFL. The figures showed a plus on the sponsor area of 228,444 DFL and a loss on the Conference of 276,144 DFL, but the figures are open to interpretation. Although a long way from the profits at one time forecast, the Committee considered that the loss was not too punitive and understands that UniForum is of the same opinion and is quite keen to co-operate on another event of some kind in the future.

EUnet

In November of 1992, EUnet and EurOpen Executive committees submitted business plans to the plenary bodies of EUnet and EurOpen. The plans recommended the formation of EUnet as an independent limited company to be owned jointly by the EUnet national service providers, and EurOpen at the European level.

Glenn Kowack, EUnet Chief Executive, is pleased to report that since then, formation has proceeded on plan. He writes:

"We have:

1) Established EUnet Limited, an Irish company. EUnet limited will be owned jointly by EUnet operators and EurOpen. The formation of EUnet Limited was announced to the press and the industry on 29 March. This announcement has already generated significant new business.

2) Begun the formation of an operating company in the Netherlands.

3) Moved all accounting, billing, and financial management from Owles Hall to EUnet Amsterdam staff, with the support of a local accounting service.

4) Put out a call for a lead technical professional in EUnet. We are presently interviewing several candidates.

5) Retained the services of a marketing and public relations consultancy to assist us in our new directions.

The EUnet national networks are similarly in the process of setting up companies. They are also moving to their own infrastructure: since November they have put in place or ordered eight new leased lines to Amsterdam (to compliment the installation of EUnet's own 256kb link to the United States).

EUnet service provision is no longer limited to technical institutes and universities. Networking has made a slow and steady transition from a privileged service to a part of daily life of many enterprises, large and small. EUnet is continuing to develop along with the industry and the use of networking.

This transition to a company structure is speeding up EUnet's development and growth, which will yield what we prize most: better service for our customers."

At their meeting of February 25th 1993 the Dutch group NLUUG decided to put forward a nominee for the position of "Representative on behalf of EurOpen in the board of EUnet Ltd. and as such in EUnet B.V." this means they are NOT putting forward a nominee for a position in the Executive Board, in view of the fact that in the previous three Executive Boards, Dutch persons acted in major positions (Chair, Vice-Chair and Treasurer).

National Group:

NLUUG (The Netherlands)

President: Marten van Gelderen

Tel: + 31 (0) 3406-61990

Fax: + 31 (0) 3406-61981

email: marten@xirion.nl

Type of Membership: Normal

Running for Position: EurOpen representative in EUnet

Candidate's C.V.:

After graduating as a mathematician Marten van Gelderen started as research scientist at the department of Mathematical Statistics of the Mathematical Centre in Amsterdam (currently called CWI). In 1978 he was appointed software designer at the computer systems group of the Institute for Nuclear Physics Research in Amsterdam. In 1981 he was appointed head of this group. In 1982 he co-founded the Netherlands Unix User Group (NLUUG), in which he acts as Chairperson since 1985. In 1983 he co-founded the Dutch software house Xirion, which currently employs 30 software specialists.

Candidates position on EurOpen Strategy in connection with EUnet:

"It has always been my firm belief that after an initial exploring phase in a university environment, significant developments should outgrow the academic and be run by a commercial body. This is exactly what is happening to EUnet at this moment. The chosen legal construction is in my view sound: a working company in the Netherlands which actually takes risks, is fully owned by an Irish holding company.

The national network bodies and EurOpen itself participate in the holding company. All assets reside in the holding company and are rented against market compensation to the working company. The holding company also provides the working capital for the working company. It is foreseen that EurOpen will acquire between 20 - 30% of the total issued equity.

Whenever EUnet makes a profit EurOpen will share in it by virtue of their participation, just like in the old days where EUnet ran as an operation under EurOpen. The interesting aspect of the new construction is that the results of EUnet will be reported (by the director to the shareholders) in a clear and unencumbered fashion. The management of EUnet will be held responsible for the result. That is in my view the proper way to run an international network like EUnet.

I have learned to know Glenn Kowack (EUnet BV) and Michael Nowlan (EUnet Ltd.) as competent managers. I am looking forward to working with them."

News from the National Groups

Belgium - BUUG

On 29th January this year the new Governing Board of BUUG was elected as follows:

President: Marc Nyssen
Secretary: Edgard Nyssen
Treasurer: Ludo Vennekens

Other board members: Alain Empain, Jean-Marie Ferte, Gratien d'Haese, Philippe Labio, Marc Laureys, Frank Ponsaert, Robert Sprockeels, Peter Strickx, Jan Vanhercke and Pierre Verbaeten.

The Netherlands - NLUUG

In 1992 the membership figures of the NLUUG showed a steady increase up to 15% at the end of the year. This increase closely reflects the acceptance on UNIX (read: Open Systems) in the Netherlands.

Considerable effort was put by NLnet into the operation of the mailroom at OpenForum '92 in Utrecht. From private discussions with various attendees it was concluded that this effort helped in making the mailroom a success, not only from a technical point of view, but also from a social point of view: many appointments were made "at the mailroom" or at the EurOpen booth.

In 1992 the NLUUG organised two Conferences and a Workshop:

April 23rd - together with SURFnet a very successful Security Workshop had been organised

May 6th - Open Systems in a real-time world - About 150 attendees, quite a lot for this subject

October 8th - tutorials on System Management, X and Tools. 300 attendees which was very successful.

The Tutorials were planned not to clash with OpenForum '92 which ran at the end of November in Utrecht (The Netherlands).

The financial position of the NLUUG end 1992 is sound. The not-for-profit capital and reserves amounts to HFL 130K, which converts to ECU 60K approximately. The capital and reserves position of NLnet amounts to HFL 190K, which converts to ECU 87K approximately. Given this position the board of NLnet decided to grant EUnet BV i.o. a loan of ECU 13.5K to help financing the initial operations in the start-up phase.

The operation of NLnet was enhanced by hiring a full-time backbone manager. It is anticipated that in 1993 a full-time director will be appointed. The current set of equipment suffices for the daily operations.

Portugal - PUUG

The PUUG Workshop on "Open OLTP" took place on 18th March, 1993 and was a great success with 160 attendees, and good press coverage.

Presentations included a survey on current trends in open on-line transaction processing systems, as well as presentations of several products: Tuxedo (presented by USL), ENCINA and CICS/ENCINA (presented by IBM - Portugal), Standards and its evolution (presented by Digital -Portugal), Top End (presented by NCR - Portugal). The workshop finished with a presentation of a case study (of PTT Telecom - The Netherlands) and a discussion panel that had a large participation and hot

discussions (like for example OLTP versus Relational Database Management Systems).

The seminar was attended by several decision makers in the banking and insurance sectors.

PUUG one day Workshops are free for members and invited people. Only members and invited people can attend.

Next June (14th and 15th) a tutorial will be organised on "TCP/IP LAN and WAN networks" at the ALFA Hotel in Lisbon.

This can be attended by all. Although PUUG members will, as usual, have special fees. Members of other EurOpen affiliated groups can also attend the tutorial with the same fees as PUUG members. This may be specially interesting for the Spanish Group (UUES) members.

The speaker will be Yves Devillers, a well know french expert in the field.

On 30th March, 1993 the "Portuguese ORACLE Users Group" was setup. The new user association received a message of congratulations from PUUG. The two boards of the two associations have agreed to study ways of future co-operation. All the institutional members of the board of the Portuguese Oracle Users Group, are also members of PUUG.

Next PUUG event:

TCP/IP in LAN and WAN Networks (tutorial)
Lisbon, Hotel ALFA

14th and 15th of June

Speaker: Yves Devillers

Romania - GURU

The first ever Conference/Exhibition specifically for Open Systems in Romania will be held at the beginning of October in Cluj-Napoca, organised by GURU -Romanian UNIX User Group, in conjunction with the local Institute for Computing Technique.

The Conference's aim is to promote the knowledge and use of the information techniques based on Open Systems, by flavouring the sharing of experiences and information between specialists with similar interests and the direct contact between users and suppliers of Open Systems products.

Two tracks are intended at the Conference: a technical track, in which specialists from Romania and abroad are invited to assess the current stage in the evolution of Computer Science, and a business-oriented track, in which leading suppliers of software and hardware will present their positioning towards the Open Systems market; their products will be on show at the Exhibition organised together with the Conference.

Main topics of interest at the Conference are:

- Open Systems architectures
- POSIX-compliant operating systems
- Networking
- OpenSystems applications

For submission of papers and further information on the Conference/Exhibition, including participation as an Exhibitor, please contact:

Adrian Ivanoc (GURU's Vice-Chairman)
ITC
109 Str. Republicii
3400 Cluj-Napoca
Romania

Tel: + 40 95 116060
Fax: + 40 95 111236

Radu Togui (GURU's Secretary)
GURU
PO BOX 63-42
71232 Bucharest
Romania

Tel: + 40 1 6132198
Fax: + 40 1 3129655

Tunisia - TNUUG

The TNUUG was created in March 1991 and was voted a member of EurOpen at the Tromso Conference in May 1991. Since then the initial effort of TNUUG was focused in setting up electronic mail service and full IP connectivity to the rest of the World. Since July 91, Tunisia does have full IP connectivity worldwide offering standard electronic services (email , Telnet and FTP). The next step was to develop TNUUG customer base. Currently, TNUUG has eight full members (fee subscription) in addition to five temporary (no fee subscription) members. The membership categories are:

- Private institutions
- Government institutions
- University
- Individuals

TNUUG is currently housed by the Regional Institute for Informatics and Telecommunications (IRSIT).

The objectives of TNUUG are to:

- Promote Open system concepts within computer user community in Tunisia
- Promote UNIX as an open systems at the user level and at the Computer Vendor level
- Demonstrate the Internationalisation components of UNIX mainly for the Arabic Language support
- Promote networking activities within Tunisia

TNUUG Activities

One of the main objectives of TNUUG is to promote open systems in Tunisia through the UNIX operating system. Since UNIX is still not very widespread in Tunisia, TNUUG is quite active in organising hands on type of workshops where all the functionalities of UNIX are presented. In this regards, TNUUG did organise two workshop's about UNIX and Networking during December 1992 attended by 30 people, which covered all the issues related to installing, configuring managing a UNIX based system.

The people who attended the workshop have requested that a similar workshop would be helpful in 1993.

TNUUG is also working on publishing a newsletter as well as setting up an archive server for some popular public domain software.

Future Plans

In 1993 TNUUG will work on extending its customer bases, hoping to double it.

The Chairman of TNUUG is Mondher Makni, who is also the administrative manager of the EUNet TNet, the Tunisian branch of EUNet.

Contact Points

TNUUG
IRSIT
BP 212
2 Rue Ibn Nadime
1082 Cite Mahrajane
Tunis, Tunisia

Tel: +216 1 787 757

Fax: +216 1 787 827

Email: TNUUG@Tunisia.EU.net
mondher@alyssa.rsinet.tn

UK - UKUUG

Despite the worsening economic climate, in financial terms the UKUUG has had a modestly successful year. The reserves have grown from 96,099 GBP to 109,380 GBP, an increase of 13,281 GBP. This against income reducing from 102,475 GBP to 95,905 GBP. The fees were not increased last year, and they are once again being kept unchanged this year.

The reduction in income is due to two main reasons. One is the exceptionally large income from events in 1991, the other is more worrying. In 1991, we received 94,763 GBP in subscriptions, while in 1992 this reduced to 81,430 GBP. The recession is hitting our members as hard as elsewhere.

Plans for 1993 - In 1993, we are planning to continue to improve the service to our members in a number of ways. The obvious one is keeping the fees down for another year. More constructive will be an increased range of services and benefits. At the same time, the structure of EurOpen has been rethought, hopefully leading to reduced costs.

Australia - AUUG

Although not a National Group of EurOpen, liaison is maintained with the Australian Group and it may be of interest to readers to know that a Preliminary Announcement and Call for Papers has been issued for AUUG 93 "Results through Open Systems" to be held at Darling Harbour, Sydney on 27 - 30 September, 1993. Papers are sought on all aspects of UNIX and Open Systems, and particularly on successful applications and implementations of Open Systems technology to age-old and newly emerging problems. A prize of \$500 will be awarded for the best paper submitted by a full-time student at an accredited tertiary education institution. Hard copy and electronic copy should be sent to auug@es.su.oz.au or AUUG '93 Programme, PO BOX 366, Kensington, NSW 2033, Australia. Tel: + 612 361 5994, Fax: + 612 332 4066.

The current members of the Management Committee of AUUG are President - Phil McCrea, Vice President - Glenn Huxtable, Secretary - Peter Wishart, Treasurer - Frank Crawford and members Rolf Jester, Chris Maltby, John O'Brien, Michael Paddon and Greg Rose. The Business Manager is Liz Fraumann.

HONORARY MEMBERS

It might be timely to remind everyone that EurOpen has a number of distinguished Honorary members. Honorary Membership has in the past been awarded to those who did so much to help and promote EurOpen, or the European Unix User Group, as it was in what some might call "the good old days".

Current Honorary Members are:

Mr. Emrys Jones
CGram Software Ltd.
Derwen Buildings
69 Glanbrydan Avenue
Uplands
Swansea SA2 0HY
UK

Mr. David Tilbrook
Sietec Open Systems
2235 Sheppard Ave. East
Suite 1800
Willowdale
Ontario
Canada M2J 5B5

Mr. Jim McKie
Bell Labs 2C-419
600 Mountain Hill
Murray Hill
NJ 07974
USA

Mr. Keld-Jorn Simonsen
Sankt Jorgens Alle
No. 8, 1st Floor
DK 1615 Copenhagen V
Denmark

Dr. Peter Collinson
61 Hillside Avenue
Canterbury
Kent CT2 8HA
UK

Mr. Teus Hagen
de Biesweide 28
Grubbecorst
5971 AZ
The Netherlands

Mr. Mike Banahan
The Instruction Set
City House
190 City Road
London EC1V 2QH
UK

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

APRIL

19 - 23 Conference of Free Software - Moscow, Russia (SUUG)

27 - 29 UNICOM Seminar, The Commercial Dimensions of Parallel Computing, US Embassy, London UK

28 Cambridge SUKUG, Tadpole Computers, Cambridge, UK

MAY

8 & 9 EurOpen Governing Board Meetings, London, UK

19 - 21 "UNIX CONVENTION" - Milan, Italy (i2u)

JUNE

21 - 25 USENIX - Cincinnati, Ohio, USA

14 & 15 TCP/IP in LAN and WAN Networks (tutorial) - Hotel Alfa, Lisbon, Portugal (PUUG)

JULY

8 - 9 European C++ User Group Conference, Munich, Germany

AUGUST

23 - 27 INTEROP - San Fransisco, CA, USA

TBA - Summer School on the UNIX System - Luxembourg (LUUG)

SEPTEMBER

13 - 15 "HUNIX '93" -Budapest, Hungary (HUUG)

13 - 16 Tutorials, Conference & Exhibition - Wiesbaden, Germany (GUUG)

14 - 16 JANET User Support Workshop, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

27 - 30 "Results through Open Systems" Darling Harbour, Sydney, (AUUG)

OCTOBER

TBA - Conference & Exhibition, Cluj-Napoca, Romania (GURU)

7 - 8 Workshop "OSF Distributed Computing Environment" Karlsruhe, Germany

NOVEMBER

1 - 5 LISA VII, Monterey, California, USA

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Edited by: Helen Gibbons

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The European Forum for Open Systems

EurOpen News

Volume 1 Number 3

June, 1993

A new Chairman for EurOpen

At the Governing Board meeting held on 9th May 1993, Mr. Zdravko Podolski was elected Chairman of EurOpen, taking over from Georges Schild, the retiring Chairman of the interim Executive.

Zdrav has been Treasurer of UKUUG for many years, and through the UKUUG has taken a close interest in EurOpen. He currently works for Insignia Solutions Ltd. of High Wycombe, Bucks. Zdrav brings a very practical approach of value for money to the management of EurOpen and is keen to set up new services as soon as possible.

The other two members voted on to the Executive Committee at the recent meeting were Kim Biel-Nielsen of DKUUG (Denmark) and Lothar Koch of GUUG (Germany).

After the last Governing Board Meeting, Maria Toth has been nominated for election to the Executive and has been invited to fill the existing vacancy in the interim, until the Governing Board can meet again to vote on her election.

The first meeting of the new Executive takes place on 6th June.

Governing Board Meeting

The Governing Board meeting, which was both a successful and a friendly gathering of National

Groups, spanned two days - Saturday 8th and Sunday 9th May. Representatives were present from Austria, Belgium, Czech Republic, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Hungary, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, The Netherlands, Norway, Portugal, Republic of Slovenia, Sweden, Switzerland, UK as well as representatives of EUnet and USENIX.

The meeting accepted the report from the Executive, which outlined plans for a more streamlined EurOpen, and reported on actions already taken, which included the reduction of the Secretariat, and the discontinuation of the post of Executive Director, which had for the past year been filled by Pierre Scheuer.

Marten van Gelderen presented the audited accounts - copies of which have already been sent to each National Group - and financial reports and budgets, all of which were unanimously accepted.

Mr. van Gelderen however, pointed out that the financial model would only be workable if all Groups paid their dues.

The flat fee for National Groups, decided on at the previous Governing Board meeting was endorsed as:

Junior Member - 1,000 ECU's

Full Member - 5,000 ECU's

Sponsor Member - 10,000 ECU's

All categories will carry voting rights.

Anyone residing in a country which does not have a National Group, is welcome to join EurOpen direct by contacting the Secretariat.

Honorary Members

As personalities change, it is worthwhile to remember those who did so much for EurOpen (or EUUG as it was) in the early days. All Honorary members have been asked to describe what they are doing now, for the benefit of their friends within EurOpen who may not have seen them for some time. This will be an occasional feature of the News Sheet and Honorary members are encouraged to send their news and views to the editor.

The first of this series features Peter Collinson.

Peter Collinson

"Well, what am I doing these days? The plain answer is 'as many different things as possible'. I left the University of Kent some four years ago and became a freelance UNIX consultant. The back room of my house became a computer room and now houses a SparcStation 2, a DOS machine and machine running BSD/386. My SparcStation has more memory and more disk space than the VAX11/780 that I installed in 1980 at UKC to run UNIX. Such is life. I try to work at home and am a healthy user of the network. I write regular monthly columns in the US magazine SunExpert and the UK magazine, .EXE. I still do regular visits to a company or two doing UNIX technical advice. Until January, I was the Standards liaison for Usenix, working in the IEEE meetings on POSIX. This meant 6 trips to the USA per year. Sounds OK? I stopped when I realised that I was no longer jet-lagged when I arrived. I am also still working occasionally for EUnet GB, supplying them with software and technical support. Recently, I have been selling BSD/386 to Western Europe. I would like use this opportunity to make an offer to your group. BSDI (Europe) is very happy to supply you with a free copy if you can make use of a BSD/386 system to help you operate better. It's not supposed to be someone's private toy, but to provide you with some functionality that you haven't had before. The UK and German groups already have taken up this offer. If you are interested in talking to me about this then email to bsd@hillside.co.uk."

News from the National Groups

Finland - FUUG

FUUG no longer has a paid Secretary, and its address has changed to:

FUUG
PO BOX 573
SF- 00101
Helsinki
Finland

From the beginning of this year the network has been managed by EUnet Finland network.

FUUG is now concentrating on small club meetings, which are free (for members). They are on the first Tuesday of every month (excluding July and August). The place is not fixed yet but will be advertised on local newsgroups and in the FUUG Newsletter.

The first club meeting was on 4th of May and the subject was COSE. Representatives came from SUN, IBM and DEC and there was a huge audience (about 15 members). Coffee was good.

The second meeting was on 1st of June and members wandered here and there in the netland with Xmosaic trying to understand what Archie, WAIS, Gopher, WWW etc. mean. Numbers were up to (almost) 20. This time there were biscuits with coffee.

The next meeting will be on 7th of September but the subject is not yet fixed. Perhaps it will be about free Unixes (Linux, 386BSD), but only if there are speakers... Before this meeting the second issue of the FUUG Newsletter will be out with advertisements of the Autumn meetings.

Romania - GURU

GURU have issued the announcement for ROSE 93 as follows:

Members of EurOpen are invited to attend this event. One day before the Conference, on 29th September 1993, there will be a meeting of the members of GURU with Romanians from the American Universities involved in this area. Members of EurOpen are welcome to attend this meeting too.

GURU's 1993 Open Systems Conference & Exhibition

ROSE '93

First Announcement and Call for Papers

The first ever Conference & Exhibition specifically for Open Systems in Romania will be held on September 30 and October 1, 1993, in Cluj-Napoca. The Event organizer is GURU - Romanian UNIX User Group, an associated group of EurOpen - The European Forum for Open Systems.

The Conference's aim is to promote the knowledge and use of the information techniques based on Open Systems, by favouring the sharing of experiences and information between specialists with similar interests and the direct contact between users and suppliers of Open Systems products.

Two tracks are intended at the Conference: a technical track, in which specialists from Romania and abroad are invited to present papers on all topics related to Open Systems technology, and a business-oriented track, in which leading suppliers of software and hardware will present their strategy towards the Open Systems market; their products will be on show at the Exhibition organized together with the Conference.

The theme of the ROSE '93 Conference is:

"Open Systems, Technology for an Open World".

Submission of Papers

Topics for the Conference will cover the spectrum of recent research, development and experience using Open Systems technology. Papers are solicited on all aspects related to Open Systems, including:

- Architectures
- Operating systems
- Networking and Communications
- Software development tools and Applications

Submissions should be in the form of extended abstracts or full papers (5-10 pages in length). The Conference languages are English and Romanian.

Please submit the papers, by post or e-mail, to Alexandru Rotaru, the programme chair, at:

GURU
P.O. BOX 63-42
Bucharest
Romania

or

arot@guru.ro

Accepted papers will be published in the Conference proceedings, which will be distributed to all the attendees. Presentations will usually be scheduled for 30 minutes.

Important dates:

August 1, 1993 - Deadline for submission of full papers or extended abstracts

August 15, 1993 - Notification of acceptance to authors

September 1, 1993 - Deadline for receipt of the final papers

Attendance Fees - The Conference attendance fee for individual participants is 10,000 lei or \$ 30.

Lodging and travel fees are separate from fees for the Conference & Exhibition. Hotel accommodation conditions will be presented in a detailed registration package, which will be available in June.

For further information, including participation conditions for companies, please contact:

Alexandru Rotaru (GURU's chairman)

GURU
P.O. BOX 63-42
Bucharest
Romania

E-mail: arot@guru.ro

UKUUG

UKUUG have ordered a CD-ROM mastering system which will enable it to offer software from the UKUUG archive on CD's. Apart from the fact that a CD is very compact and holds much more data than a tape, this system means that when you order something from the archive, you get the very latest versions as each CD is created on demand. However, popular items such as GNU

software and X11 releases will be created in bulk in order to keep the cost to a minimum. This is a very exciting project for the UKUUG and there are, no doubt, other uses for the system that have not been explored yet. If you have a novel or innovative use for this system, please contact Mick Farmer at <mick@dcs.bbk.ac.uk>. Further details concerning this service will be announced in the next issue, or contact your secretariat at Owles Hall for news of the latest situation.

UKUUG is hoping to offer the CD ROM service to EurOpen and its National Groups as soon as possible.

UKUUG is also currently editing a video provisionally entitled "Plan 9 - from Bell Labs" featuring speakers from the 1990 Conference, including most of the developers of Plan 9, such as Tom Duff, Rob Pike, Dave Presotto, Dennis Ritchie and Ken Thompson. Earlier videos still available from the secretariat include:

Security Workshop (Feb 89)

System Administration Workshop (Feb 90)

LISA Workshop (Jul 92)

OBITUARY

It is sad to report that James (Jim) Joyce, for a long time a well know member of the Unix community, passed away in San Francisco on 27th May, 1993.

Jim had taught at the University of Illinois, the University of California, S.F. State and Stanford. He was currently an International Lecturer on Unix, and Director of the Gawain Group and Data Rescue. He was well know to many members of EurOpen.

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

JUNE

21 - 25 USENIX - Cincinnati, Ohio, USA

14 & 15 TCP/IP in LAN and WAN Networks (tutorial) - Hotel Alfa, Lisbon, Portugal (PUUG)

JULY

8 - 9 European C++ User Group Conference, Munich, Germany

AUGUST

23 - 27 INTEROP - San Francisco, CA, USA

TBA - Summer School on the UNIX System - Luxembourg (LUUG)

SEPTEMBER

13 - 15 "HUNIX '93" -Budapest, Hungary (HUUG)

11 & 12 (prov) EurOpen Governing Board Meeting, Wiesbaden, Germany

13 - 16 Tutorials, Conference & Exhibition - Wiesbaden, Germany (GUUG)

14 - 16 JANET User Support Workshop, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

27 - 30 "Results through Open Systems" Darling Harbour, Sydney, (AUUG)

30 - 1st October - ROSE 93 -Open Systems Conference & Exhibition, Cluj-Napoca, Romanian (GURU)

OCTOBER

4 - 7 4th USENIX Security Symposium, Santa Clara, CA, USA

7 - 8 Workshop "OSF Distributed Computing Environment" Karlsruhe, Germany

NOVEMBER

1 - 5 LISA VII, Monterey, CA, USA

1994

JANUARY

17 - 21 USENIX Winter Technical Conference, San Francisco, CA, USA

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Edited by: Helen Gibbons

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The European Forum for Open Systems

EurOpen News

Volume 1 Number 4

August, 1993

Next Governing Board Meeting

It was felt by the Executive Committee that the time lapse between the last Governing Board Meeting in May and the next one, if it were held as originally planned, in September was too short for meaningful work and reporting to be done, and therefore it is suggested that the next Governing Board Meeting will be held on 13th & 14th November, 1993.

To take advantage of cheap winter rates at an easily accessible location Palma, Majorca has been chosen for a venue - Room rates at this time of the year are very reasonable - for example room and breakfast at the Sol Palas Atenea costs 61 ECU's per night per person. Flights to and from Majorca are frequent and reasonably cheap in November - for example return cost from Heathrow, London is 150 ECU's and from Paris and Munich it is 250 ECU's.

Paperwork for the November meeting will be put together at the beginning of September and circulated as usual with the Agenda one month before the meeting.

Honorary Members

Honorary membership of EurOpen has been offered to Mr. Michel Gien, Ms. Frances Brazier,

Mr. Nigel Martin and Dr. Ernst Janich, members of the previous Executive Committee. All have been pleased to accept.

EurOpen at Wiesbaden

EurOpen will be organising a Terminal Room and Exhibition stand at the GUUG Conference in Wiesbaden 14th - 16th September. Seminars will be held on 13th September from 10.00 to 16.30.

The official language of the event will be Germany but one Seminar by Michael A. Gould on "The Reality of UNIX as an Application Platform" will be given in English.

The venue is Rhein-Main-Hallen Wiesbaden, Rheinstr. 20, 65185 Wiesbaden - entrance by Haupteingang (Fr. Ebert. Allee). The accompanying Exhibition will be open from 08.30 - 18.00 on 14th and 15th September and 08.30 - 17.00 on 16th September.

A bookings booklet (in German) has been produced for this event and is available from GUUG, Eisenheimerstr. 43, 80687 Muenchen or from Network GmbH, Wilhelm-Suhr-Strasse 14, 31558 Hagenburg. Tel: (0) 5033 7057.

News From the Groups

BUUG - Belgium

The Belgian UNIX systems Users Group (B.U.U.G.) will hold a Network Trends - Unix/Network Security Event on October, 1st, 1993 at the National Botanical Garden of Belgium, Domain of Bouchout, Meise

Price: 3000 BFr/half day or 5000 BFr/full day

The proposed agenda will be:

08:30-09:15 Subscription, coffee, welcome

09:15-10:00 Hans de Lange, "Migration from UNIX V3 to UNIX V4.2. Eight months of practical experience of 140 installations (sizing, performance, networking + ELM/X 2.1A, FFS)", Garmhausen & Partner Belgium

10:00-10:45 Bart De Decker, "UNIX (network) security and Kerberos", Computer Science, K.U.Leuven

10:45-11:15 coffee break

11:15-12:00 Wietse Venema, "Knock, knock - who's there ?", Mathematics and Computing Science, Eindhoven University of Technology

12:00-12:30 Patrick Herman, "Technical aspects about C2 security (SVR4.2)", Garmhausen & Partner Belgium

12:30-14:00 Lunch

14:00-14:45 Geof Haigh, "Security issues and implementation for relational database technology", Ingres

14:45-15:15 Andre Pirard, "A practical experience of integrating heterogenous networks at the Liege University", University of Liege

15:15-15:45 coffee break

15:45-16:15 Johan Vermeiren, "Basic Rate ISDN applications for DOS/MS-Windows and UNIX", Switching Division, Alcatel Bell

16:15-17:00 Rob van Engelshoven, "ATM in public and private networks", Research Center, Alcatel Bell

17:00 End of seminar.

For further information contact:

Gratien D'haese
Alain Empain
BUUG Event Organizers

Gratien D'haese
Switching Systems Division se121
Alcatel
F. Wellesplein 1,
B-2018 Antwerpen

Internet: gdha@se.alcibel.be
Phone: (32) 3 240 94 51
Alcanet: btmx.dhaeseg
Fax: (32) 3 240 99 50

AFUU - France

AFUU is a full member of EurOpen. Its Secretary is Josianne Vinh, c/o AFUU Secretariat, 11 rue Carnot, F-94270 Le Kremlin Bicetre, France. Tel: + 33 1 46 70 95 90, Fax: + 33 1 46 58 94 20.

There are 14 working Parties within AFUU - these include Relational DBMS, Object Oriented DBMS, Benchmarks, Scientific Calculations, Public Domain Software, Users Interface and X-Window, Unix Observatory, Portability, Networks, Security, Real Time, Unix PC, System Administration and Promotion.

AFUU publishes an extensive list of Proceedings which are available to EurOpen members at discount prices. For a full printed list please contact the AFUU Secretariat at the above address.

This year AFUU will organise:

- * AFUU Tutorial "Integration by Standards - Elements of Choice" - 14th September, 1993
- * Solutions Unix - 14th -17th September, 1993
- * Interop - 25th - 29th October, 1993

AFUU would like to offer members of EurOpen subscriptions to its Bulletins and Newsletters. To arrange a subscription please contact the AFUU Secretariat.

When asked what services it would like to see from EurOpen, AFUU suggested that EurOpen should take part in the European Committee in Brussels to lobby on behalf of the National Groups and enhance their image within the EC.

At the suggestion of AFUU, a contacts list for all the National Groups within EurOpen is included in this Newsletter.

LUUG - Luxembourg

The Second LUUG/CRP-CU Workshop on the UNIX Operating System

Relational Data Base Management Systems under the UNIX Operating System

In collaboration with the "Centre de Recherche Public -Centre Universitaire" (CRP-CU), the "Luxembourg UNIX User Group" (LUUG) organized its second workshop on June 25th, 1993. This workshop focused on relational data base management systems (RDBMS) available under the UNIX operating system. Its objective was threefold:

- i) provide an introduction to the major concepts of RDBMS,
- ii) present some of the most representative products, and
- iii) give users the possibility to share their experiences.

After a brief introduction by Mr. Pierre Mousel (Chairman of the LUUG), the workshop began with a presentation by Mr. Paul Retter (Administrator of SILIS sarl and part-time lecturer at the "Centre Universitaire de Luxembourg"). Paul Retter rapidly sketched the functionalities of an RDBMS, i.e. data description, data access, access control, concurrent access, data integrity and safety. He then put into evidence the advantages of an RDBMS as it increases independence of programs with respect to the data they process and also provides means to centrally manage that data. Different data models, more precisely the hierarchical, network and relational models were

compared and Paul Retter explained why the relational model currently seems to be the most promising one. The last part of his presentation was dedicated to the "Structured Query Language" and Paul Retter elaborated on the features of the "Data Definition Language" as well as the "Data Manipulation Language".

The second speaker of the introductory part of the workshop was Mr. Thierry Destruels (Open Systems Consultant of Digital Equipment SA). He insisted on two important problems related to databases, security and interoperability.

In a presentation called "Database Mechanisms to Secure your Data", he presented the state of the art in RDBMS to guarantee data integrity, data availability and data accessibility. For evident reasons, these topics are highly relevant in the banking sector. Thierry Destruels' next speech was about "Databases Interoperability". Because of the proliferation of public and private databases and networks, it becomes more and more important to make those databases interoperate in the most transparent manner.

Thierry Destruels presented the elements that have to be taken into account to solve this puzzle. He spoke about the importance of client/server computing, the role of database integrators and distributors and the necessity for heterogeneous database gateways. Finally he presented a complete and coherent model in which data integration and interoperability was realized.

The next part of the workshop was dedicated to a representative sample of RDBMS available under the UNIX operating system. Mr. Bernard Geubelle (Managing Director of Sybase Software SA) highlighted the importance of the client/server model in modern enterprise computing. He stressed the problems inherent to heterogeneous client/server environments, more precisely those related to the management of such environments. He then explained how Sybase technology tackles these problems. Bernard Geubelle was followed by Mr. Christian Luyten (Business Manager of Informix Software SA) who situated Informix in the current UNIX RDBMS market. He presented the corporation's strategy, particularly its commitment

to standards, and gave an overview of the latest Informix product line, focussing on the scalability of the proposed solutions.

The last speaker of the "product" part of the workshop was Mr. Jean Michel Meyers (Senior Technical Sales Consultant of Oracle Belgium NV).

He presented Oracle's latest product, Oracle7, and gave some insights on its architectural changes and enhancements. These modifications improve the product's operational capabilities. Jean Michel Meyers concluded by explaining how distributed data could be transparently integrated with Oracle7.

The last part of the workshop allowed actual users of such systems to share their experience. Mr. Philippe Rosiere (Fonde de pouvoir of the Banque UCL) gave a remarkable presentation on RDBMS and client/server computing in a banking environment. The disastrous situation of the computing department of the Banque UCL several years ago was illustrated. Philippe Rosiere then explained how this situation evolved towards an exemplary hardware and software architecture thanks to a computerization plan that was rigorously implemented step by step. He put into evidence the strategic importance of the bank's RDBMS in this restructuring process. The last speaker of the day was Mr. Nico Weydert (Coordination informatique at STATEC) who presented the conclusions and results of a joint R&D project with the CRP-CU. The aim of this project was to provide the STATEC, the governmental statistical agency in Luxembourg, an appropriate hardware and software architecture. Nico Weydert demonstrated the importance of RDBMS for the STATEC's applications and illustrated this with one precise example, the directory of enterprises.

In the name of the LUUG, Mr. Pierre Mousel thanked the speakers for their presentations and closed the workshop.

The next workshop of the LUUG will be held on December 3rd, 1993. It will be exclusively dedicated to transactional processing under UNIX.

Various companies have already expressed their interest in participating to this workshop, for instance the LUUG expects presentations from BULL, IBM, SIEMENS, UNISYS etc.

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UKUUG - UK

The next event to note is the UKUUG System Administration meeting - LISA '93 - to be held at Imperial College, London on 9th September. Evi Nemeth (University of Colorado, USA) is an invited speaker and a representative from SAGE USA will also be attending to help with the launch of SAGE UK. Other speakers include Stuart McRobert and Lee McLoughlin who will give an up date of the Archive and give details of the new services available to UKUUG members including a new CD service.

Bookings forms and provisional programmes are available from the UKUUG Secretariat.

Provisional Programme:

09.00 Registration & Coffee

09.25 Welcome & Introduction

09.30 Evi Nemeth (University of Colorado, USA) - SA-Tool: A System Administrator's Cockpit

10.30 Break

10.45 Stuart McRobert & Lee McLoughlin - The Archive

11.45 Piete Brooks - Setting up the Network Time Protocol and Software updates using (e.g.) rdist

12.30 Clive King - Filesystem change - a strategy to maintain user satisfaction !

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NEW Group -

The Romanian UNIX User Group -GURU,
previously an Associate Member, has just
accepted the offer of full membership of EurOpen.

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13.00 LUNCH

14.00 Lindsay Marshall and Peg Schafer
(SAGE/US) -SAGE/UK

15.20 Graham Dean - The Devolution of
Management

15.50 Break

16.05 David Lomas - What about the Workers !

16.35 Adrian Pell - So I've got the data ...what now

17.05 Robert Evans - User Management in the
Imperial College Distributed Computing
Environment

17.35 FINISH

17.45 UKUUG EGM

NEW GROUP

Croatian Open Systems Users Group (HrOpen)

The Croatian Open Systems Users Group has applied for Affiliation to EurOpen. What follows is a review of the situation in Croatia by HrOpen Chairman, Mario Zagar. The decision on Affiliation will be taken at the next Governing Board Meeting.

"About UNIX in Croatia"

In the last few years many things have happened in Croatia. New independent state has been born, the war raged, a strong will to become the part of the developed world has emerged. Croatia does not have time to go through all the phases of technological development. In the regions where there were no serious damages during the war, there are institutions and companies with good technical expertise in the field of communications, computing equipment, networking, software and should I say adequate knowledge in these fields. On the other hand, in this moment many parts of Croatia are still under occupation and in communication blockade and have the problems totally different than the above mentioned. Because of that, it is very difficult to give precise information about the number of UNIX users and the status of the equipment in the whole county.

American Journal, Time (29.3.1993) announced the number of 400 UNIX users in Croatia. The results of the research realized through the HrOpen group activities show statistically that there are more than 1,000 UNIX sites in Croatia and UNIX is spread all over the country although the main concentration of UNIX and activities connected with it are in Zagreb and surroundings.

UNIX is present or entering in many governmental institutions, universities, institutions like Croatian Chamber of Commerce, HINA News Agency, Croatian Army, Croatian post service, Telecommunications, Oil, Textile, Timber industry, tourist agencies, Banks, Hotels etc.

As it can be expected the main platforms are different PC running under different UNIX versions: SCO UNIX, Interactive UNIX, AT & T UNIX, QNX. On the higher level, particularly at the faculties, Sun (SunOS, Solaris) and Digital (ULTRIX) platforms are very present, as well as HP, Unisys, IBM, ICL, NEC, UNIXWare, Apple AU/X platforms in different companies. Generally we can say that all leading world products dealing with UNIX can be found in Croatia.

For the non-technical applications databases like Oracle, Ingres and Informix are used. For technical applications and GIS the workstations with appropriate UNIX platforms from Sun, Digital, HP and IBM are used.

The easiest way for me is to describe shortly one of the biggest UNIX sites in Croatia - FACULTY OF ELECTRICAL ENGINEERING (ETF), University of Zagreb, where I work.

First UNIX was present at ETF in the early 80's. In 1986 VAX-785 (ULTRIX) and couple of uVAX-es(ULTRIX and VMS) were connected through DECnet and TCP/IP. In the 1990 the equipment at ETF was renewed and now we have one main backbone (ETHERNET) and 12 local networks (THIN ETHERNET) connected through the CISCO routers. There are 36 SUN SPARC stations as well as Digital uVAXes, HP stations, Prime EXL (MIPS) microcomputers, 486 and 386

machines with altogether over 60 different UNIX sites and more than 200 PC (386, 486) with TCP/IP (FTP PC/TCP and PC NFS) connected to allow access from any machine to any UNIX site. Application software varies from word processing like WordPerfect, drawings AUTOCAD, PCB design - PCAD, databases like Informix and Ingres to many other programs mainly on UNIX-es.

There are some other sites in Zagreb with the similar configurations although not of the same size.

During the 1992 CARNet (Croatian Academic and Research Network) was organised and funded by the Ministry of Science. The goal is to connect all the computers in the academic and scientific community in the country. When the CARNet project will be finished it will be connecting almost 100 institutions with 7,000 researchers. In this moment major protocol TCP/IP and open systems, i.e. UNIX are suggested.

"About HrOpen"

Croatian Open Systems Users Group (HrOpen) (in native language: Hrvatska sekcija korisnika otvorenih sustava) was constituted 26.10.1992.

Like other similar groups in the world the main goal was to achieve better co-operation between the users of UNIX and other open systems. HrOpen is organised as the section of the "Croatian Information Technology Association". In former Yugoslavia Croatia as a member of the Yugoslav UNIX Users Group (YUUG) and through it a member of EUUG (EurOpen). At that time I was the Vice President of the national UNIX organisation. Among other activities in 1990 we organised International UNIX Symposium and Exhibition held at the ETF, Zagreb. After the collapse of Yugoslavia and the war in Croatia all the activities concerning EurOpen (EUUG) have stopped.

Now, as a new state and through new HrOpen we are very interested to renew our connections with European association and National Groups in European countries.

HrOpen Activities (plan)

Short term:

- Organisation of the Group and its members (realised)
- Mailing list of the active and potential members - main categories - Individuals, Small firms, Big firms, Supporting firms (realised)
- Organisation of the email for the Group. HrOpen is closely connected with the CARNet (Croatian Academic and Research Network) responsible for organisation of the Internet in Croatia

Mid term:

- Affiliation of HrOpen Group to EurOpen
- Organisation of HrOpen members education in the interested fields (in progress)

Long term:

- Conferences, Exhibitions, Tutorials organisation
- Connection with other national Groups in Europe and the world
- Distribution, conversion of software and data in public domain

HrOpen is a NON-PROFITERABLE Group. Because of the bad economic situation it is difficult to announce the fees for the members. On the other hand many of the mentioned activities need financial support. It is left to the members how much they will pay for a one year membership (from 25 ECU's for Student to 5,000 ECU's for supporting firms - there is no such at the moment). At the end of the year it will be announced who paid and how much. We hope that in the future the economical situation in Croatia will be better and so the strength and activities of the HrOpen.

Today we can say that HrOpen in Croatia is alive. The name is combined from Hrvatska and its international prefix HR and Open from "Open Systems" meaning also that Hrvatska(Croatia) is opened country not only in this particular field.

We are connected on the world network Internet which allows reviewing and collection of software in public domain, connection and access on different Conferences and transfer of knowledge and information necessary to bring the total level of knowledge for all HrOpen members to a higher level. This is one of the important goals for HrOpen.

Together with the leading Open Systems companies, HrOpen also organises Presentations, Tutorials and Exhibitions to provide the end users with necessary information for particular fields of interest.

At ETF a UNIX school is also organised with the basic, advanced and specialised topics presented to the participants interested in specific fields education.

What members expect from the HrOpen:

Members of HrOpen have suggested many activities like:

- connection of the members and exchange of the professional information
- connection to the EurOpen and National Groups in Europe
- help in solving particular problems on particular versions of UNIX, and hardware
- public domain software exchange
- shareware utility programs access
- organisation of the professional meetings, Conferences, presentations
- showing trends (scientific and commercial) in Open Systems (UNIX)
- organise members to protect their interest and rights
- help in organisation of the email
- information about successful Open Systems installations
- standardisation etc.

As it can be seen, there is a lot of expectations and HrOpen will be active as much as its members are.

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THE UNIX PAGES

Each National Group will find enclosed with this News Sheet The UNIX Pages - Pocket References and Command Summaries, sent to you free of charge.

EurOpen is actively engaged in organising discounted or free publications for its members. EurOpen can batch up orders to take advantage of bulk discounts - please let the Secretariat know of items of interest.

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

AUGUST

2 - 3 USENIX Symposium on Mobile & Location-Independent Computing, Marriott Hotel, Cambridge, Mass, USA

2 - 6 TOOLS USA '93 -University of California, Santa Barbara, California

3 - 5 Downsizing Expo - Clara Convention Center, Santa Clara, CA, USA

3 - 5 OP-EN Expo, Santa Clara, CA, USA

23 - 27 INTEROP - San Francisco, CA, USA

TBA - Summer School on the UNIX System - Luxembourg (LUUG)

SEPTEMBER

9 - UKUUG LISA '93 - Imperial College, London, UK

13 - 15 "HUNIX '93" -Budapest, Hungary (HUUG)

13 -EurOpen Executive Board Meeting, Wiesbaden, Germany

13 - 16 Tutorials, Conference & Exhibition - Wiesbaden, Germany (GUUG)

14 - 16 JANET User Support Workshop, Manchester Metropolitan University, UK

21 - 23 UNIX Expo - Convention Center, 11th Avenue, 34th Street, New York, USA

27 - 30 "Results through Open Systems" Darling Harbour, Sydney, (AUUG)

30 - 1st October - ROSE 93 -Open Systems Conference & Exhibition, Cluj-Napoca, Romanian (GURU)

OCTOBER

4 - 7 4th USENIX Security Symposium, Santa Clara, CA, USA

7 - 8 Workshop "OSF Distributed Computing Environment" Karlsruhe, Germany

NOVEMBER

1 - 5 LISA VII, Monterey, CA, USA

13 & 14 - EurOpen Governing Board Meeting

1994

JANUARY

17 - 21 USENIX Winter Technical Conference, San Francisco, CA, USA

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The European Forum for Open Systems

EurOpen News

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Next Governing Board Meeting

A Change of Venue

Arrangements had been finalised for the next Governing Board meeting to be held in Palma de Mallorca, as published in the last News Sheet. The venue was chosen by the Executive with the best of intentions in an effort to find somewhere which would give particularly good value out of season, and which would provide a pleasant location, considering the fact that Governing Board members would be giving up the week-end to attend.

However some members of the Governing Board felt strongly that the choice was inappropriate, and after an email poll of views by the Chairman, the Secretariat has been instructed to change the venue from Palma to Heathrow, London.

The meeting will now take place at The Heathrow Ambassador Hotel, London Road, Brands Hill, Slough, Berks SL3 8QB, UK, Tel: + 44 753 684001, Fax: + 44 753 685767 on Saturday 13th & Sunday 14th November, 1993. It is envisaged that the meeting will start at 10.00 a.m. on the Saturday and continue throughout the day with a break for a light lunch at 1.00 p.m., and ending with Dinner at 8.00 p.m.

The meeting on Sunday 14th November is planned to start at 9.00 a.m. and finish around lunchtime to allow for flights home in the afternoon. This meeting will deal with the voting points which arise, and one voting point which will be included in the Agenda will be the proposed confirmation of Maria Toth from HUUG (Hungary) as the fourth member of the current Executive.

A full Agenda and supporting papers will be sent out before the meeting.

It has been suggested that it is acceptable to meet at the same location each time. It would be nice to receive the views from the other Groups on this matter, so please contact the Secretariat if you have an opinion for the future.

It is proposed that the 1994 Spring Governing Board meeting will be held in London on 16th & 17th April, if approved by the Governing Board, to co-incide with the UKUUG/EurOpen Spring Conference, thus the next location is likely to be close to a major city and airport, which seems to be the main criteria.

The Executive

The Executive Committee met in Wiesbaden on 13th September. It reviewed the situation with EUnet, the purchase of EUnet shares, and it

examined the financial figures which will be presented before the Governing Board in detail at its next meeting. Currently finances are sound, although reserves have been much reduced as a result of previous decisions and actions. The Executive were very aware of the need to increase benefits with a view to increasing reserves. National Groups are being actively canvassed to find out what services they would like to see.

It was reported at the meeting that liaison on behalf of EurOpen is actively being pursued with COSE and with the EEC, as well as with USENIX and UniForum.

It is not intended to hold another Executive meeting prior to the Governing Board meeting in November.

GUUG Annual Meeting Successfully Concluded -German Unix User Group

Wiesbaden/Munich - The GUUG annual meeting which ran from 14th to 16th September 1993 under the title "Open Systems" has turned out to be the largest European exhibition concerned with this topic. Almost every supplier of Unix hardware and software was present in the Rhein-Main Hall in Wiesbaden.

The GUUG annual meeting, which started a few years ago under the title "Unix in Germany" more as a quiet, conference-oriented meeting has now developed into a know-how gathering for everyone interested in so-called "Open Systems". Together with the change in the GUUG from a true Unix User Group to a support group for suppliers and users, it cannot be long before the annual meeting opens its doors to non-Unix systems. This change allowed the visitors this year to see Microsoft's Windows NT for the first time.

The conference was introduced in traditional fashion by short speeches from the GUUG officials, followed by the opening speech. The legendary father of the Apple computer and

inventor of the NeXT computer, Steve Jobs, was welcomed by around 600 listeners. In order to hear the address of the genial speaker Jobs, who, interrupted by applause from the auditorium, spoke about the advantages of the custom design of individual software, the organisers had to open a neighbouring room and bring in live video transmission.

That Open Systems are an important topic for the EDA world and especially for the EDA user is shown by the statistics of the meeting. "With 14% increase in both visitors and floor space booked, this was one of the most successful data processing exhibitions of the year," commented Dr. Klaus Jansen, Managing Director of the organisers Network GmbH on the result.

As well as 274 companies displaying this year, 8,424 visitors were also registered by the organiser. The format is of great interest for the exhibiting companies as the school classes and "free-gift hunters" feared by exhibitors both great and small were completely missing. Here the exhibitors were confronted by specialist visitors with greater-than-average qualifications who were there to make purchasing decisions.

Dr. Jansen's statistics were emphasised by the IDC Senior Analyst Rudolf Munde, who realised with surprise that from the IDC figures, the number of Unix installations is increasing by around 22 percent per year, which, however, because of the dramatic drop in prices, only registers a four percent increase in sales value for the manufacturers. All the more surprising, according to Munde, is the greater commitment of the manufacturers and the crowds of visitors to the GUUG annual meeting.

It should not be overlooked, however, that it is mainly the software suppliers who should be thanked for the increase in the size of the exhibition. The manufacturers of Open Systems hardware who were exhibiting already represent a market share of around 96 percent. As a summary of the exhibitors' conclusions, it was established that the visitors to the exhibition are looking less and less for extreme individual technical solutions. Guenter Schaefer of

Siemens-Nixdorf summarised it: "the interest of the customer is directed mainly at solutions, no more towards the hardware. We will take notice of this with a changed stand layout."

The overall positive response of the exhibitors is shown in the advance bookings for 1994. Already 80 percent of this year's exhibitors have confirmed. At the same time, many companies want to increase their stand space, so that an expansion of the exhibition in 1994 into an extra hall must be expected. On top of this, Dr. Jansen expects foreign inputs. "The foreign suppliers want to come to Wiesbaden more and more. This year we already had 24 foreign exhibitors, mostly from the USA followed by EC countries and we expect an increase next year".

The next GUUG annual meeting and exhibition takes place from 20th to 22nd September 1994 in the Rhein-Main Hall in Wiesbaden.

EurOpen Internet Terminal Room in Wiesbaden

EurOpen and EUnet Germany jointly sponsored the Terminal Room at the GUUG exhibition/conference in Wiesbaden from 14th September until 18th September. This was judged a great success by the hosts of people using the equipment to either contact their home machines or trying out the latest software for navigating the Internet (i.e. xmosaic, xgopher, etc.).

In all sixteen terminals were available ranging from Sun and IBM workstations through NCD X-terminals to a couple of Macintoshes. EurOpen especially thanks the German EUnet staff, Axel Pawlik, Frank Nobis, Stephan Deutsch, John Murray, Marc Sheldon, and Chris Schmidt. Jurgen Koch, son of EurOpen Executive Luthor Koch, also helped with setting up the equipment.

Sun Germany, IBM Germany, Tekelec, and Apple Germany are to be thanked for their generosity in loaning us equipment (which, incidentally, demonstrated true interoperability).

GUUG are thanked for providing the stand space immediately adjacent to infinite supplies of coffee!

The success of this enterprise is such that EurOpen intends to help provide Internet access via a terminal room at other forthcoming events. If you have a national group conference or exhibition coming up and would like EurOpen to assist with the provision of a terminal room, please contact the Secretariat at Owles Hall.

NLUUG - The Netherlands

NLUUG, whose address is PO Box 297, NL - 3720 AG Bilthoven, The Netherlands, is one of the Sponsors of EurOpen. The current Secretary, Marielle Klatten, confirms that the Group is still growing but that it has no working parties in being at this moment. However, an Autumn Conference is planned for 2nd November, 1993 on the theme of "Non Commercial Software in Professional Environments." Attendance is open to members of EurOpen and participation is welcomed. Proceedings will be available after the event.

The services NLUUG would like to have from EurOpen are International Conferences, Newsletter giving information about other Groups (the Editor hopes this News Sheet already provides this), Exchange of Conference speakers between the National Groups and video tapes of interesting Conferences.

NLUUG publish "NLUUG Newsbrief" and the following proceedings are available and may be acquired by contacting Buro NLUUG on Tel: + 31 30 291718 or Fax: + 31 30 292294

NLUUG Publications

X Windows System Bibliography and Frequently Asked Questions - Autumn 1992 - 25 HFL

Frequently Asked Questions about Motif and Open Look - Autumn 1992 - 25 HFL

NLUUG Proceedings

Unix en Standaardisatie - Autumn 1988 - 25 HFL

Unix & Mens-Machine Interactie - Spring 1989 - 25 HFL

Unix & Connectivity - Autumn 1989 - 25 HFL

Systeembeheer "Gaan Open Systemen en Veiligheid samen ?" (met bijlage) - Spring 1991 - 25 HFL

Open Systemen "In de Real-Time wereld" - Spring 1992 - 25 HFL

Tutorial Dag - Autumn 1992 - 25 HFL

Rightsizing met Unix ? - Spring 1993 - 30 HFL

BUUG - Belgium

The Belgium Unix Systems Users Group will organise a Unix Security Tutorial on 9th November 1993 in Brussels.

The Agenda is as follows:

08.30-09.15 Registration, coffee

09.15-09.30 Welcome (BUUG)

Introduction RAXCO (John Holland)

09.30-10.15 Risks and Threats (John Holland)

10.15-10.45 Coffee

10.45-12.00 Writing a Security Policy (John Holland)

12.00-13.30 Lunch

13.30-14.00 UNIX Security Features (John Holland)

14.00-14.30 UNIX Security Weaknesses (John Holland)

14.30-15.00 Coffee

15.00-16.00 Improving UNIX Security (John Holland)

16.00-16.30 Assessing UNIX Security (John Holland)

16.30 -Cocktail

For more details on attending this Tutorial contact the BUUG secretariat.

E-mail: buug@etro.vub.ac.be

S-mail: Prof. E. Nyssen, VUB -Fac. T.W.

ETRO/IRIS, Pleinlaan 2, B-1050 Brussels Phone:

+32 2 641.29.30 Fax: +32 2 641.28.83

CHUUG - Switzerland

Since the CHUUG Spring 1993 General Assembly, Heinz Naef is no longer the Treasurer of CHUUG, in future all correspondence should be addressed direct to the CHUUG office at Zweierstrasse 35, CH-8004 Zurich, Switzerland.

UKUUG - United Kingdom

LISA '93

The UKUUG held an extremely successful LISA workshop in London on 9th September. Here is Bob Dunlop's report, which also appears in the UKUUG newsletter, news@UK:

Diary of a Part Time Systems Administrator

Monday

A new machine arrives unannounced from a different site. "Bob, can you put this machine on the network, we need access to these three printers by tomorrow."

Examination of the machine reveals that it's never been on a network and hasn't got the necessary hardware nor software. Arrange to get software and hardware for Tuesday. While we are at it, beef up machine security a little (set some admin passwords and take 777 permissions off /).

Tuesday

Investigate why the new machine has been reported as "running a little hot". Answer the cooling fan has melted. Arrange for replacement fan and turn the machine off for the day. Drag Ether cable for eventual connection of machine through roof space.

Wednesday

Fit new cooling fan, proving a dab hand with the soldering iron when connectors are incompatible. Vendor supplied menu driven software installation don't work properly, get hands dirty and use the command line.

Install local network printing software, find several typos in the notes and report them. Seems like the only real product development I've done all week.

Everything looks fine but it ain't working, perhaps the hardware is mis-configured?

Thursday

Yahoo! LISA '93

Swap a forty mile drive for an eight mile tube ride. Decide that I prefer the drive :-)

Find the place by ignoring the map and using the "He looks like he knows where he's going, follow him" technique. This seems to work well around many UKUUG events, especially once you start to recognise people from the LUGs.

The gathering for the meeting looks promising, not too many suits, so Sun must have decided to give it a miss. Overhear a discussion as to why so many administrators seem to be women and, at the same time, look around the gathering and see them out-numbered ten to one. Either my sampling technique was poor or someone's statistics are wrong.

And so to the conference proper and into the lecture theatre, and what a lecture theatre! The seats are high tech chrome and steel, we've got wide screen multisync projector TV and the place is wired for lights, video, sound and Ethernet. It's a definite relief when a speaker has trouble with his radio mike and the "Just thump it" technique is applied, restoring our faith in technology.

After the usual intros the first speaker, Evi Nemeth, describes a useful tool for monitoring a large number of machines on a network. The idea being to present a "wall clock" that can be ignored by the sys admin most of the time until an alarm condition occurs. The system uses SNMP and defines an officially registered sysadmin MIB for gathering information. Questions from the floor asked why they had not used the "standard" host MIB for gathering the information and the resulting discussion covered why standards were "Just too late", "Never sufficient", "Overly complex" and "Designed by Committee". It was a theme that was to be returned to several times during the day.

Next the Archive Struck Back with an lively account of the development of the Archive and computing from the earliest days. The mechanical hand calculator was interesting and a demonstration of the third party speed up courtesy of Black & Decker would have been even more fun. The Archive to date has existed on kit donated by the UKUUG and others, often because it was obsolete. The advent of SCSI meant that many SMD drives were available and the 15Gb compressed archive lives on an incredible number of these drives. It has required considerable ingenuity to keep things running, but now it looks like they are beginning to fall apart faster than they can be fixed. The supply of Eagles is also beginning to dry up. Fortunately SUN have come to the rescue with the generous donation of a new server, soon to be installed. With multiple processors and 30Gb of disk it is hoped to hold the flood back for a while longer and at the same time add new services such as customised CD-ROM distribution.

"If you want to know the time ask a NTP server" could have been the title of the next talk, with a clear description of the setup and administration of NTP. The advantages of keeping all your machine in sync with world time are becoming more and more obvious, make is not the only thing you break these days, protocols such as Kerberos use time stamps as well. The operation of NTP is ingenious with compensation for link delay and jitter built in, along with detection of anomalous information from rogue sites. Other admin considerations were also discussed, for instance if

a JCB removes your link to the outside world it won't matter that your site starts to drift and at least the whole site will drift together.

Finally before lunch Clive King gave us a description of the trials and tribulations of maintaining a consistent environment for users on a network at the University of Wales while the file system moves under them. The use of AMD and symbolic links to produce the required transparency was discussed in detail along with the problems of documenting changes to the structure.

Lunch! and not a moment too soon. The day had started hot and humid and the temperature in the theatre had been climbing all morning. What no bar? Still the wine with the meal was pleasant and we were left little time for any serious quaffing.

And so back to the theatre and a presentation by Peg Schafer on SAGE/US and a proposal by Lindsay Marshall for the founding of SAGE/UK. SAGE in America is the Systems Administrators Guild, I don't know what they do with the 'E', and seems to be for the furthering of the careers of full time sys admins by providing formal job descriptions and salary guidance.

Several mailing lists and local groups exist for the dissemination of more technical information. Discussion of a possible SAGE/UK seemed to founder somewhat on the nature of the organisation: should it be a political body such as a union or trade association; or an informal technical body along the lines of the early UKUUG; and horror of horrors, should they let non-UNIX people in. While no hard decisions were made it looks like a mail group will be set up to further discussion. I shall watch this with interest along with the US lists.

Finally we were treated to several shorter talks on the responsibilities of systems administration; the problems of modelling the admin task in its various aspects and, finally, a demonstration of User Management at Imperial College. The locals having a big advantage here being prepared for the facilities available in the lecture theatre.

All in all a good day, we were left with a wonderful quote courtesy of David Lomas and by a British philosopher A.N.Whitehead (1861-1947) which I now have taped to my terminal.

"The art of progress is to preserve order amid change and to preserve change amid order."

Friday

Interview someone for the post of "Systems Administrator"
:-)

End-Note

The proceedings for this event are sent to all UKUUG members. If you're interested in also purchasing a copy please contact the EurOpen Secretariat for details.

FORTHCOMING EVENTS

* The UKUUG and SUKUG are jointly hosting a winter conference/exhibition provisionally titled "SunScope" in London on 11-13 January 1994. Further details from the UKUUG Secretariat -Tel: + 44 763 273475.

* A joint UKUUG/EurOpen is planned for 11-15 April at Royal Holloway & Bedford New College, near Egham. This University campus is ideally situated for Heathrow (20 minutes), Windsor (10 minutes), and London (30 minutes). Further details from the UKUUG Secretariat -Tel: + 44 763 273475.

DISTRIBUTION OF COPY

National Group Newsletter editors are encouraged to use all or part of the contents of this News Sheet for onward distribution to their membership. Anyone who would like to receive the plain text by email should contact the EurOpen Secretariat.

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

OCTOBER

- 5 - FORUM - Intelbasierende Server, Vienna Austria, UUGA
- 4 - 7 4th USENIX Security Symposium, Santa Clara, CA, USA
- 4 - 8 Image World Featuring Video Expo and The Cammp Show, Orlando, Florida (+ 1 914 238 9157)
- 5 - 7 NetWorld '93 Dallas, Texas (+ 1 201 346 1400)
- 7 - 8 Workshop "OSF Distributed Computing Environment" Karlsruhe, Germany
- 7 - 8 FORUM - Graphical User Interface, Vienna, Austria, UUGA
- 9 - 10 FORUM -Multivendor/Multiprotocol Network - Management, Vienna, Austria, UUGA
- 13 - 15 Object World UK, London UK (+ 44 81 570 2182)
- 16 - FORUM - Office Automation

NOVEMBER

- 1 - 5 LISA VII, Monterey, CA, USA
- 2 - "Non commercial Software in Professional Environments", NLUUG
- 2 - 4 UNIX Perspectives: the Conference for Enterprise Solutions, Dallas, Texas (+ 1 800 767 2336)
- 9 - Security Tutorial, BUUG
- 13 & 14 - EurOpen Governing Board Meeting

1994

JANUARY

- 11 - 13 SunScope Conference & Exhibition, London, UK. UKUUG/SUKUG
- 17 - 21 USENIX Winter Technical Conference, San Francisco, CA, USA

APRIL

- 11 - 15 UKUUG/EurOpen Conference - Royal Holloway & Bedford New College, Egham, Surrey. UKUUG

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SPECIAL OFFER

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EurOpen News

Volume 1 Number 6

December, 1993

Governing Board Meeting

The Governing Board met on 13th & 14th November at the Heathrow Ambassador Hotel, Slough, UK. Representatives attended from the National Groups of Germany, UK, Italy, Portugal, Finland, Ireland, Austria, Russia, Slovakia, Luxembourg, Czech Republic, Hungary, France, Sweden, Romania, Switzerland, Denmark, The Netherlands and Croatia, as well as from EUnet, USENIX and UniForum.

The Chairman, Zdravko Podolski, headed the Executive members, Lothar Koch, Kim Biel-Nielsen and Maria Toth with help from Marten van Gelderen (Finance) and Helen Gibbons (Administrator).

During the meeting it was confirmed that Croatia (HrOpen) should be accepted in to Junior Membership and that Maria Toth of Hungary should formally be appointed to Council.

The Chairman, in his report to the meeting, said that the loose ends from the past had now been dealt with. EurOpen had become a 26% shareholder in EUnet Ltd., a new contract, allowing substantial savings had been drawn up with Fleming Gibbons Ltd. for the administration of the EurOpen central office; and liabilities from all former contracts had been settled.

New affiliation contracts had been drawn up and sent out to all the National Groups.

Much was now being done on Liaison and Representation with, for example, the EEC, X-Open, USENIX, UniForum, COSE, EUnet, ISO, POSIX and CEPIS; and joint events were being planned in conjunction with National Groups. Many new services were in hand and EurOpen, although it would like to build strong reserves, was once again financially stable.

This being the case it was decided by majority vote to drop absolutely the costly idea of moving the Secretariat to Brussels which had been discussed at some length over previous meetings.

The next meeting will be held on 16th & 17th April, 1994 at The Royal Holloway College, Egham, Surrey, UK to coincide with the joint UKUUG/EurOpen Conference.

IEEE PASC (POSIX) SEC. MEETING

EurOpen was represented at the above meeting on 18th - 22nd October, 1993 by Dave Cannon of the University of Exeter. Dave has reported as follows:

The chief problem facing the IEEE PASC is a falling attendance roll, coupled with a large number of currently active groups and a corresponding high demand (and therefore cost) in meeting rooms. PASC is looking at a financial loss this year and is faced with restructuring the operation in order to break even in 1994. PASC SEC spent much of its time debating this issue.

EurOpen has been removed from the IEEE ballot pool due to previous lack of response; EurOpen should request to be added to the list if it wishes or intends to take part in ballots on current or future IEEE PASC Posix work items.

A number of documents made available at SEC provide more detailed information and may require a response by EurOpen.

SEC Plenary
08:00, Tuesday-19 October:

The SEC VC/Treasurer's Report was introduced by Barry Needham:

Posix is maturing, with a number of groups moving to maintenance mode, as indicated by the rising number of interpretations requests arriving through the IEEE.

Barry confirmed that there are not enough attendees to cover the costs incurred by the number of meetings rooms required; the number of attendees at the Bethesda meeting would qualify for only twelve meeting rooms, not the twenty it actually occupied. To add to the problem, higher

contributions are required to support the US JTC1 secretariat. The logical conclusion is that meeting fees will have to go up.

Some options were suggested for group chairs to consider:

do the groups need to meet at all four Posix meetings per year?

can groups have their formal meetings in half a day then break to work in private rooms, to allow sharing?

An extra meeting was scheduled for the Wednesday evening to draw all the threads of Finance, Logistics and individual group needs together in preparation for SEC, Thursday.

Lorraine Kevra talked to IEEE administrative and WG15 liaison issues:

WG15 is concerned that 9945-1 is inconsistent in its use of the terms 'byte' and 'character'. A report from the PASC groups was required by the end of the week, and an ad-hoc was authorised to produce this.

Lorraine indicated that the purge of unresponsive entries in the IEEE ballot pool means that EurOpen (amongst a number of others) is no longer being notified of the formation of new IEEE PASC balloting groups.

Action: EurOpen is advised that it has been dropped from the IEEE ballot pool due to previous unresponsiveness; EurOpen may wish to get back on the list. This message should by now have reached Nick Stoughton from Stephe Walli, following a 'phone conversation with Stephe during the week.

(Papers sent to the EurOpen Chairman include an invitation to join the ballot pool).

In summarising other business, Jim Isaak, the PASC Convener noted that:

P1003.4 (the Real Time addendum) is now an IEEE standard.

ISO/IEC SC22 agreed at its Paris plenary that P1003.1 LIS should be published in ISO as 9945-x, where 'x' is not '1'. Suggestions were required on what 'x' should be - in other words, what other Posix standard sets were expected?

(Note from the SC22/WG15 meeting, 25-29 October: WG15 recommended that the LIS version of 9945-1 should take the number 9945-0. This recommendation will be passed to ISO/IEC IETF).

Logistics, 08:00, Wednesday 20-October:

Confirmed dates and locations of the next two meetings are:

January 10-14

Irvine Marriott

April 18-22

Hyatt, Incline Village, Lake Tahoe

An interesting feature of the NAPS document is the now-variable nature of the 'ISO tax' on mailings; this makes smaller mailings comparatively more expensive in order that the IEEE covers the costs of the US JTC1 Secretariat on these.

The next IEEE Posix meeting will introduce a daily attendance fee for those people who drop in just for one or two days. The fee will include lunch.

Barry Needham presented a summary of the recommendations on the possible ways of reorganising meeting time, including break-outs, room sharing by groups working in plenary by alternate half days, etc. Some other suggestions were:

How about large rooms, lots of tables, and multiple groups in a room?

Lack of power sockets for PCs and cross-talk from other groups were deemed to be a problem here. It was also pointed out that cross-talk could also be useful cross-pollination of ideas...This wasn't well received.

Less frequent meetings of groups within the quarterly Posix meeting cycle weren't popular either: Jason Zions noted that he could not predict his group's workload sufficiently far in advance (two months required by hotels) for this to be useful.

P1003.6 said that it needed all the contact time that it could get.

Group chairs were asked to give this further thought before the Thursday SEC plenary.

Barry Needham had taken head counts in group meeting rooms:

Group	Bodies
1003.0	15
1003.1	8/10
1003.2	15
2003	12
1003.4/.13	30
1003.5/.20	12
1003.6	4/5
1003.7	7+breakouts=15
1003.8	5/6
1003.12	8/10
1003.15	12
1003.14/.18	8/10
1003.21	15/20
1003.22	12
1201.1	10
Fault Mgt	15

Barry went on to say that the total body count at this meeting was around 205.

Groups with less than twelve attendees need to look at other ways of running their meetings; in suites or similar more cost-effective ways.

In order to qualify for cheap/free meetings rooms the Hotels counted nights stayed by attendees. In the past IEEE Posix has run at around 1200 nights. Denver was down around 960; this cost a lot of money. Confirmed nights for the Bethesda meeting were around 750, though this was expected to increase. The only option to reduce costs is to use less meeting space (or get more attendees). The beginning-of-the-week plenary bulge is a problem, though Hotels can work around this.

One suggestion was to try to get corporate sponsorship of meeting room space. (Corporate sponsorship when available in the past covered food and less essential items, then as numbers at the meetings rose this became a major expense, and offers fell away).

The meeting closed with a summary of tentative meeting dates and venues in the future:

1994:

July 11-15 New Hampshire

October 17-21 Toronto / Vancouver, c/w WG15

1995:

January - Fort Lauderdale

April - Irvine Marriott

July - Boseman, Montana

October - North Carolina

SEC, 18:00 - 22:15, Thursday 21-October:

Jim Isaak opened by saying that financial considerations mean that the contract with Classic Conferences (which, in the person of Judy, has organised all the PASC Posix meetings to date) ends with this meeting. SEC was unanimous in expressing its regrets and thanks.

Agenda
Item:

2.5 TAG Activities: Forward P1003.0 Draft 15 (Yes, this is not a typo!) for registration as a PDTR, with a cover letter explaining the reversion to Draft 15, and what will follow.

(Note: Draft 16 attracted a lot of criticism for losing the word 'Posix' before 'OSE'. The WG15 meeting the next week persuaded the P1003.0 Technical Editor to produce a draft 16.1, fixing the fault. This will be submitted to ISO instead).

OSI/API (P1224.x) status: (This is the issue of what ISO committees the proposed Fast-tracks should be directed to). A letter was composed by DSSC and presented to SEC asking that the standards be submitted to a single ISO SC. SEC asked that this be Cc'd to the IEEE, which was the apparent source of the request for a split ISO target. The standards themselves are going through a final editorial polish before being submitted to the IEEE print mill.

IEEE/CS Issues: NESCOM has imposed a requirement for a simplified numbering scheme for the Posix series of

standards. (See the attachment to the SEC Agenda). The net result is that the Posix series of documents (but not the groups) are to be renumbered in line with the ISO arrangement. The new series of numbers for the P1003.7 documents are now known.

Posix.1 Balkanisation/Sub-Setting Ad-Hoc Report: (SEC N428)

(This is the debate on how the P1003.13 Real Time AEP requirement be handled, which effectively sub-divides the Posix kernel but still wants it called 'Posix' and be testably Posix conformant.).

Sub-dividing the existing Posix Test Methods and Test Methods conformance suites is not feasible. This is the major obstacle to sub-setting. However:

- . the P1003.13 work is important.
- . more work is required - in either 1003.1 or in 1003.13.
- . the work needs to take the conclusions of this report into account.

There are two possible solutions:

- . allow the subdivision work to take place in the 1003.13 group... (there are testing issues to be considered here, and the work needs a name for the new sub-profile)
- . allow the work to take place in the 1003.1 group... (there are testing issues here too, together with ISO synchronisation problems. There are name dilution problems, together with problems of option confusion).

The ad-hoc came out with three proposed resolutions:

#1 involves a 'come from' to describe the number of standards which refer to the profiles. (You can't do this!)

#2 says don't change the Test methods for 1003.1

#3 allows the 1003.13 group special privileges to chop the P1003.1 draft into three profiles.

After a debate SEC decided to add a paragraph to #3 requiring that the ballot group be reformed for the P1003.13 standard.

I cast the EurOpen vote in favour. The change was approved by a large majority.

#3 was approved as amended. I voted in favour.

#2 was voted down by a large majority. I abstained.

#1 was amended to an action on the VC for editing to see how this could be achieved.

2.8 Roger Martin introduced N423, The Reorganisation of PASC. The debate was short, and resolved into a proposal to poll past and present membership on ways of improving the PASC process. The report was tabled until this happened.

4.1 Jason Zions walked through the PMC report. 1.1 P1003.5's TM PAR was sponsored with no opposition, and no debate.

5.2.4 Barry Needham revisited the Logistics/Finance Report: The books show that PASC is running a \$22k deficit so far for this year.

It was pointed out during the debate that revenue from sales of standards books goes to the IEEE, not to the Computer Society, which is the organisation which covers the deficit if PASC fails to balance its books. This seems to be an anomaly.

Meeting Fees Proposal:

Pre-reg: \$300 with lunch
\$275 without

Govt Rate:	On Site:
\$350 with lunch	\$300 with lunch
\$325 without	\$275 without

\$100 per day (incl lunch)

There is now no accumulated deficit on the mailings. NAPS has fixed the problem retrospectively, following authorisation at IEEE Posix back at the beginning of the year. Individuals' accounts will reflect the changes. There is, however a liability to support the US's JTC1 Secretariat, and this is not fully accounted on the spreadsheets.

The new meeting request forms, to be introduced for the next PASC Posix meeting, will provide for better matching of need to usage. The next meeting will ask for fewer large rooms (12, probably) and more small breakout rooms.

SEC voted to increase the fees as proposed. I cast the EurOpen vote in favour.

7.2 Removable Serial Media Study Group Proposal (from the P1003.10 group) was approved with no opposition. (This looks like a proposal for a Magnetic Tape standard, of which there are several already... this could use some looking into).

7.4 Liaison Request from P1003.0 to X3T3 (ODP) was approved, with no opposition.

SEC adjourned at 22:15.

NEWS FROM EUROPE

Jean-Michel Comu, who attended the recent Governing Board Meeting to update the National Group Representatives in person on the activities of the Commission of European Communities, reports:

Most of the European organisations and international organisations having activities in Europe met two time this year (7 June and 20 September) with the Commission of European Communities in a round table on Information and Communication Technologies (ICT)

These meetings were held to initiate a collaboration between the ICT organisations who have an activity in Europe, and between these organisations and the CEC. Only those who are not only at national level nor specific to an industry were invited, to keep the number of participants reasonable.

Following this meeting, the organisations decided to put in place small round tables on specific topics:

- 1- Strategic view of ICT in Europe chair: CEPIS
- 2- Users needs for trans-European services chair: CECUA
- 3- Implementation of ONP directives for the benefit of users chair: ECTUA
- 4- Procurement of ICT products and services chair: OSITOP
- 5- Translating business needs into user specifications for standards chair: X/Open users council
- 6- architecture for Multi-vendor networks and platforms chair: ETIS
- 7- Review of Community standards Policy chair: CEC
- 8- Access to Community information for users chair: EurOpen

This roundtable is also a good opportunity to have more liaisons with the other organisations and with the Commission. One of the first results is that we have got some entries point to get informations from the Commission. Here are some of them:

- NEWSLETTER - "Innovation and Technology transfer"

A CEC publication which presents up to the minute information about research and technological development in the European Community: programmes, invitation to tender, application deadlines, conferences, etc. Obtainable free of charge.

Information and subscription: Mr. E. Phillips, CEC DG XII/D-2, Batiment Jean Monnet (B4/082), L-2920 Luxembourg. Fax: +352.43.01.32084

- Information Technologies

Focal point for information: M. J.J. Manin, CEC DG XIII (BU24,-1/47) 200, rue de la loi, B-1049 - Brussels, Belgium
Tel: +32.2.296.85.96, Fax: +32.2.296.83.88

Report from Esprit available:

- * Result and progress Report 1991/92
- * Set of Synopses (7 volumes) covering all areas of esprit (October 1992)

Information Market

Focal point for information: Mr. Szauer, CEC DG XIII Batiment Jean Monnet L-2920 -Luxembourg, Tel: +352.43.01.35.26

The information Market observatory (IMO) within DG XIII-E in Luxembourg edits surveys and documents on the situation of the European market of information. There are available on request.

**German UNIX USER GROUP:
Annual Conference and Exhibition
Wiesbaden, Germany**

September, 20-22, 1994

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The GUUG Annual Conference and Exhibition is the largest exhibition and best attended conference in Europe devoted to technical, application and integration aspects of Open Systems, especially UNIX. It is going to reach about 10000 engineers, programmers, technical managers and users of Open Systems.

The GUUG event will be centered around the conference with 3 parallel sessions: 2 tracks of technical and one track of product oriented talks. These technical- and marketing-oriented talks are complemented by reports about user solutions based on UNIX resp. an open systems approach.

Topics of main interest:

Technology

- Object oriented methods and tools, reusability
- UNIX in client-server architectures
- UNIX on PC vs Windows/NT
- Multimedia
- OLTP
- System- and Networkmanagement

Application

- Office communication with UNIX
- Commercial applications under UNIX
- UNIX in manufacturing
- Migration from mainframes to client-server architectures

Interested authors are invited to send an abstract of about 2 pages (no slides) outlining the basic ideas of their intended talk including NAME, COMPANY/INSTITUTION, ADDRESS, PHONE NUMBER

till February 14, 1994 to:

**NETWORK GmbH
Wilhelm-Suhr-Strasse 15
D-31558 Hagenburg
Tel. (05033) 7057
Fax (05033) 7944**

All abstracts will be reviewed carefully with respect to quality, genuity and technical relevance of the paper. Speakers will be chosen accordingly.

The authors will be informed about acceptance until April, 19. The full papers should be sent in till July 6 in order to be included into the conference proceedings.

GUUG: German UNIX User GROUP

e-mail: guug@guug.de
phone: +49 89 5707697

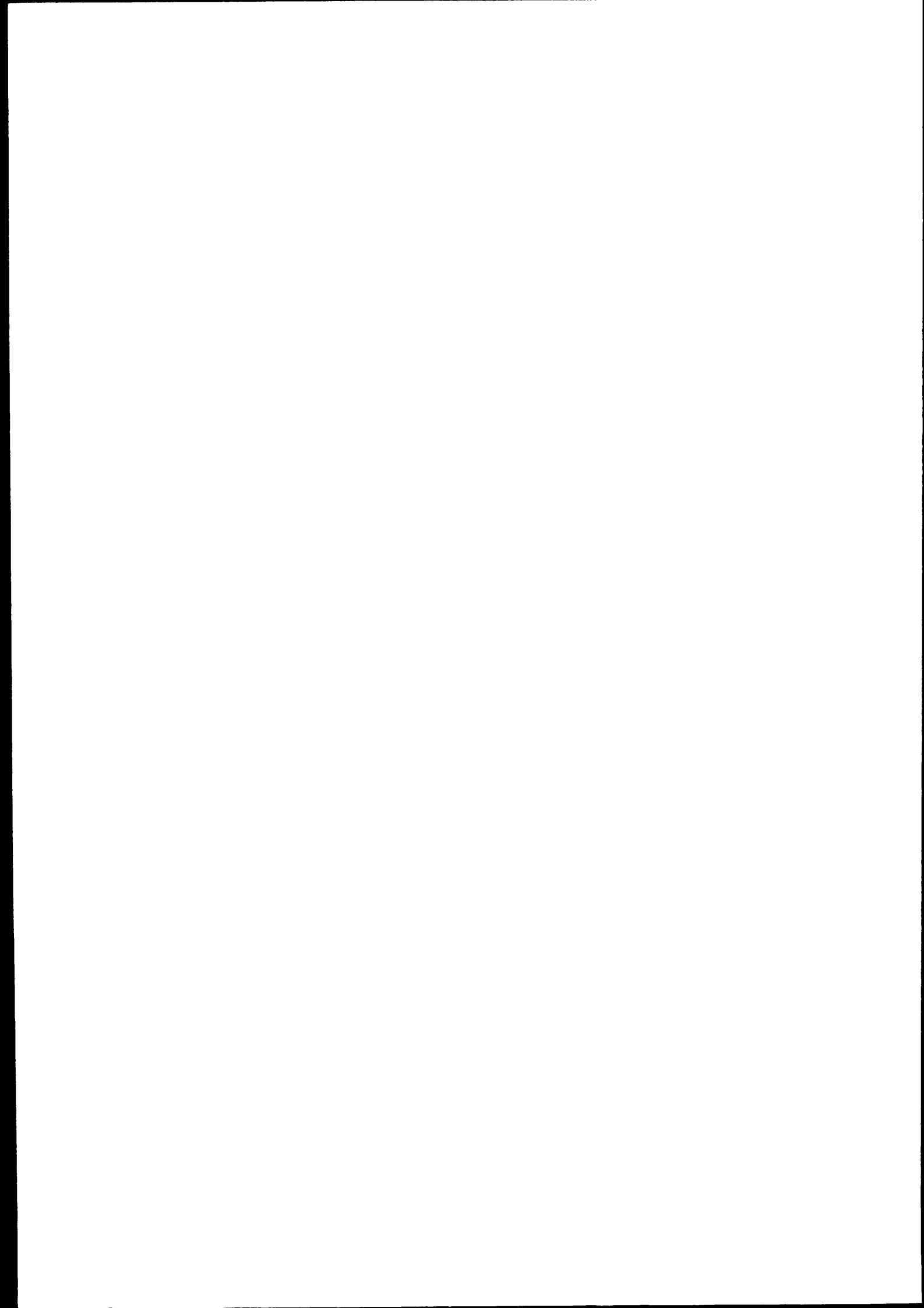
Programm committee:

Chair: Ms. Ulrike Weng-Beckmann
e-mail: weng-beckmann.muc@sni.de
phone: +49 89 636 3030



The European Forum for Open Systems

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HOW TO GET INVOLVED ?

A Email list for all ICT Round table participants will be managed by EurOpen.

It is possible to exchange already ideas and infos at EurOpen level with the "ewg-nation@EU.net" Email list (It contains the contact point for each Naluug, in charge of working groups issues).

If the name and electronic address of the contact point have changed or if you country doesn't have a national contact point in this list (especially new members of EurOpen), please send a mail to ewg-nation-request@EU.net to make appropriate modifications.

Jean Michel would like National Groups to contact him regarding their interest in the various topics of the round tables and on the utility of the entry points to gain information from CEC. He sees the round tables as a good opportunity to enhance liaison not only between the National Groups themselves but also between EurOpen itself and the other organisations taking part.

He should be contacted at:

6 rue de la Haute Montagne, F91130 Ris Orangis, France.
Tel: + 33 (1) 69 43 48 47, Fax: + 33 (1) 69 06 83 16, email: Jean-Michel.Cornu@enst.fr.

A European Public Domain Encryption/Decryption Algorithm (EPDEDA)

Marten van Gelderen writes:

"At the memorable fall 1988 EUUG conference in Estoril, Portugal I had the privilege of announcing an initiative based on ideas by Leen Kuiper and Leon Oostrijk from the Netherlands.

At that time the Reagan administration was in office in the USA. Referring to the concept of national interest there was put a ban on the export of all technology (it being hardware or software) that involved encryption techniques. The ultimate consequence was that AT&T had to deliver two different versions of UNIX: one for the domestic market that included .C crypt.o and one for the international market that did not include .C crypt.o. The UNIX manual page for .C crypt.o in fact, featured a disclaimer which ran along the lines that due to export restrictions the software (i.e..C crypt.o) was not guaranteed to be available outside the USA in the standard distribution.

In Europe dissatisfaction with this policy grew. It was felt unfair that US citizens were allowed to use certain software whereas all other world inhabitants were not, purely based on their nationality. That was completely against the basic ideas expressed in bodies like X/Open and OSF.

And above all that, persistent rumours spreaded that the algorithms implemented in the various encryption software were not mathematically sound. That is, serious suspicion still exists that the NSA or similar bodies (perhaps the KGB) indeed can decrypt, within an acceptable amount of time, encrypted messages when the above mentioned software is used.

In Portugal the idea was presented to solve this problem once and for all. It was suggested that EurOpen should organise a competition to produce a European/EurOpen public domain, mathematically sound, encryption algorithm. The competition should provide the winner (and perhaps serious contenders too) with an interesting, sizable amount of prize-money. Therefore it was suggested that EurOpen should seek support from the EEC. To guarantee the mathematical soundness it was proposed to ask a number of well known mathematicians / cryptologists from different nationalities to enrol as members of the jury. Part of the support of the EEC could be used to give the members of the jury an acceptable compensation for their effort. Then a rather basic problem popped up: who will organise this all?

Find out if the idea is viable and report to EurOpen.

Write a draft "fact-sheet" outlining the ideas.

Contact the EEC and look for funding.

Contact possible members of the jury.

Set up the rules of the game.

Set up an infra-structure for contenders.

Set up reporting facilities for the jury to the contenders, the GB and perhaps the EEC.

Etc. etc. etc

At the time of the conference in Portugal unfortunately only two persons were willing to help organising the PD Crypt competition: Teus Hagen and myself. It speaks for itself that that was not enough. Five years have gone by since and let's face where we are: there is still no genuine, generally available and accepted encryption algorithm.

So here we come again.

EurOpen seeks a number of persons who think that the idea is viable and who are willing to help in organising the activity. I am still available. I do not know about Teus, but I like to guess that he is still interested too. We need at least four to five additional persons, preferably from a number of European countries who are willing to invest a considerable amount of time. If the organising committee comes to the conclusion that the idea is not worthwhile investigating after all, the amount of time that was initially invested may even stay within reasonable limits!"

Interested parties may announce their willingness to participate to:

helen@euopen.uucp marten@xlrtion.nl

nluug@tmu.nl

NEWS FROM THE GROUPS

GURU - Romania

In the evening of 29th of September the first meeting between the GURU members and the guests from companies and universities from Romania and from other countries took place. This meeting was organized before the ROSE 93 conference in order to establish a common position. This was really useful due to the importance of the "first ever Open Systems presentation" for the Romanian users, and was attended by 70 persons.

Three topics were discussed:

- networking;
- application development;
- UNIX user groups in different countries and their influence to the user community.

70 persons attended the meeting. The debates were really active!

ROSE'93 itself was organised on two tracks:

- technical conference and a demonstration area of companies which numbered 18 in all.

ROSE'93 had 230 participants and around 400 visitors in the 2 days.

The official languages of the conference were Romanian and English and all Romanian and French presentations were simultaneously translated into English.

Most of the debates were continued in the demonstration area.

The sessions of ROSE'93 were:

- Invited papers session, chairman: Alexandru Rotaru, GURU
- Networking papers session, chairman: Vince Hovanek, Sprint International
- Technical papers session, chairman: Michael Beier, SunSoft
- Free software session, chairman: Sergei Kuznetsov, SUUG

During ROSE'93 two Internet links were provided by EUnet Romania and LOGICnet (a branch from Sprint International). All the attendees could reach any of the Internet services directly from the Conference hall. Also full e-mail services have been provided.

Mr. Vince Hovanek, responsible for Europe at Sprint International was the chairman of the "Networking" session of ROSE'93.

AFUU - France announce a New Event

AFUU (French UNIX User Group) and IIR (Institute for International Research) will organise a new Exhibition/Conference to replace "Convention UNIX" called:

Unix 94 : Enjeux et Strategies

This event, dedicated to Unix and Open Systems, will take place from 3rd to 6th May in Paris.

The event is based on two complementary spaces:

- the Conference space with Conferences for decision makers, tutorials, technical sessions.
- the "Business meeting forum," where open systems products, solutions will be demonstrated.

Different user groups will take part in the event. They will present their activities and results and will organise round tables.

For further information please contact:

AFUU Secretariat

Tel: + (33 1) 46 70 95 90

Fax: + (33 1) 46 58 94 20

COSE Seminar

DKUUG (Denmark) held a seminar on 19th November 1993 on the COSE Common Desktop Environment. Technical Sessions by a joint team of American COSE CDE experts from Hewlett-Packard, IBM and Sunsoft was organised, as well as local perspectives presented by EurOpen Executives.

DKUUG has available documentation and proceedings from this and earlier meetings. Those interested in this subject should contact Kim Biel-Nielsen, Tel: + 45 42 894999, Fax: + 45 42 892818, email: kbn@uniware.dk.

DISTRIBUTION OF COPY

National Group Newsletter editors are encouraged to use all or part of the contents of this News Sheet for onward distribution to their membership. Anyone who would like to receive plain text by email should contact the EurOpen Secretariat.

PROGRAMME OF FORTHCOMING EVENTS

1994

JANUARY

11 - 13 SunScope Conference & Exhibition,
London, UK. UKUUG/SUKUG

17 - 21 USENIX Winter Technical Conference, San
Francisco, CA, USA

17 - Email/Groupware - DKUUG

24 - 25 Workshop "Security on UNIX" - DKUUG

Week 4 - Security Conference -Stockholm,
EurOpen.SE

27 - 28 Annual Meeting -Conference & Exhibition
"Open Systems Days" - Zagreb, Croatia - HrOpen

FEBRUARY

TBA - Small workgroup - UNIX & NT, Ede, The
Netherlands, NLUUG

MARCH

1 - 2 GUUG Workshop, Kassel, Germany - GUUG

10 - POSIX - DKUUG

21 - 25 - UniForum Trade Show & Conference,
San Francisco

23 - Trends and Technology -DKUUG

APRIL

TBA - IFABO '94 - Forum on Open Systems,
Vienna - UUGA

11 - 15 UKUUG/EurOpen Conference - Royal
Holloway & Bedford New College, Egham, Surrey.
UKUUG/EurOpen.

25 - 29 Spring Event - Moscow, SUUG

26 - 27 System Development -DKUUG

MAY

TBA - Networking, Ede, The Netherlands - NLUUG

TBA - 1994 Conference, Milan, Italy - i2u

TBA - UNIX 94, Paris - AFUU

TBA - Spring Conference (Networking) - CSUUG

26 - New LAN Technologies -DKUUG

SPRING

TBA - UNIX Workshop, Luxembourg - LUUG

TBA - Spring Workshop, - CHUUG

JUNE

16 - DBMS Publishing

8 - 10 Summer Technical Conference, Boston,
USA -USENIX

AUGUST

25 - The UNIX Market

SEPTEMBER

TBA - HUNIX 1994, Budapest, Hungary - HUUG

19 - 22 GUUG Jahrestagung 1994 - Conference & Exhibition, Wiesbaden, Germany. GUUG

19 - 22 Systems Administration, San Diego, USA - USENIX

27 - 28 X-Event - DKUUG

OCTOBER

TBA - Ede, The Netherlands, NLUUG

11 -14 TEC94 - Grenoble, France - AFUU

27 - Drift: Network Management

31 - Annual Meeting & Conference, Stockholm -EurOpen.SE

end Oct - Autumn Conference -Moscow - SUUG

AUTUMN

TBA - UNIX Workshop, Luxembourg - LUUG

TBA - Autumn Workshop - CHUUG

NOVEMBER

17 - Autumn Conference - CSUUG

24 - POSIX in Praxis (Annual Meeting) DKUUG

Nov/Dec - ROSE 94 - Conference & Open Systems Conference, Bucharest, Romania - GURU



A GOOD NEW YEAR

As this will be the last Newsletter of 1993 the Editor and team at the EurOpen Secretariat would like to wish all members of EurOpen a Happy New Year.

The copy date for the February 1994 issue of the News Sheet will be 20th January, 1994. Articles and information on events are particularly welcome.

Edited by: Helen Gibbons

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