XXXII Annual Convention & Exhibition
13-16th November 1997

IT FOR ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE

http://www.csi-97.com

at
Ahmedabad Education Society Ground
Drive-in Road, Ahmedabad, India

ORGANISED BY COMPUTER SOCIETY OF INDIA
CSI Student Software Final Contest (National Level) held at Chennai on the 18th & 19th October 1997

Members of the two winning teams, judges, coordinators, CSI Regional Vice President and examiners are seen in the photograph.

The CSI Student Software Final Contest (National Level) was held at Chennai on the 19th October 1997 as scheduled in which eight schools which qualified in the First Level Contest held on 17th August 1997 participated. For the third year in succession Ms. Pentafour Software & Exports Ltd. graciously provided facilities like computers, technical assistance and space for the CSI Student Software Final Contest (National Level) and the practice session held on the preceding day.

The first two teams which emerged as the winners are:
1. Jawahar Vidyalaya Senior Secondary School, Ashok Nagar, Chennai 600 083 (Team-A)
2. Modern School, Poorvi Marg, Vasant Vihar, New Delhi 110 017, (Team-B)

The judges for the contest were:
1. Mr. R. Sritharan, General Manager (Rdtd), Telecom Department, Government of India
2. Mr. S. Verkatarishn, Computer Professional and former Director, CSI Education Directorate
3. Mr. G. Ramachandran, Computer Professional and former Vice President, Computer Society of India

Prominent among those present to encourage the activity were:
1. Mr. K. Srinivasan, General Manager, Pentafour Software & Exports Ltd.
2. Mr. H. R. Mohan, Regional Vice President (South), CSI
3. Prof. C. R. Mathukrishn, Chairman, CSI Chennai Chapter
4. Prof. P. Thirumurthy, Chairman, Division II (Software), CSI
5. Mrs. Lata Ramesh, Immediate Past Chairperson, CSI Chennai Chapter
6. Mr. K. Adhivaran, Treasurer, CSI Chennai Chapter
7. Mr. R. Sritharan of I.T., rendered yeomen service by formulating standard questions for the practice session and Final Contest. Ms. T. Kothai of Anna University ably assisted in this task. They were of invaluable help during the practice session and in conducting the Final Contest. The questions were reviewed by the panel of judges and their suggestions were incorporated.

It was gratifying to hear the announcement by Mr. K. Srinivasan, General Manager, Pentafour Software & Exports Ltd. that they would sponsor this important activity for the emerging student community next year also.

Mr. P. Unnikrishnan
Co-ordinator, CSI Student Software Contest

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Published by
Ms. Priyata Patil
On behalf of
Computer Society of India

Typeset and printed by
Goodprint
Manikyala Mills Compound, Patial, Mumbai 400 012,
Tel: 4130748, 4130475

For Advertising, Subscription and Correspondence:
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CSI Communications is Published on the 10th of Every Month

At the time of writing, we are on the eve of the festival of lights (and sound/noise/bang!) - Deepavali. Let me on behalf of all of us at 'CSI Communications' wish you a happy Deepavali and a prosperous New Year.

In this we have one of our first invited articles. Mr. Partha Iyengar, Country Manager, Gartner Group has shared his organisations forecast on technology trends for the next few years. I am sure our readers will welcome such articles and hope they benefit from the views, opinions and experiences expressed by experts from opinion thought leaders from various areas in IT.

I am actively seeking support from more such people. May I welcome readers to suggest names of such personalities/organisations so that we could invite them to share their knowledge with us.

Before I conclude this note, let me remind you of the Annual Convention at Ahmedabad. We have already planned our visit and hope to see you at the venue.

Pradeep Pendse

CSI Communications 1 November 1997
CHALO AMDAVAD

CSI-97

13th to 16th November

Theme: IT FOR ORGANISATIONAL EXCELLENCE

Convention Inauguration: 13th November at 4:30 pm
Exhibition Inauguration: 13th November at 10:00 am
Pre-Convention Tutorials: 12th and 13th November

On behalf of Organizing and Programme committees and members of Ahmedabad Chapter, I am very happy to send this invitation through Communications for the last time because we will be meeting soon. All programs are getting lined up as well as fine tuned. We are working hard to ensure a great convention for you.

Here are some important milestones:

1. The convention brochure is ready. The program details are given by Prof. T. P Ramas Rao, Chairman, PC in his report in this issue.
2. All exhibition details are worked out completely. The space booking is progressing as expected, and by the time this issue reaches you, the house full board will probably be hanging out.
3. Our website http://www.csi-97.com is being received very well with about 350 hits per day. If you have not visited the site so far, please do so as soon as possible and let us have your feedback. The site gets updated twice a day.
4. All convention halls are air-conditioned, within walking distance to each other, and have good quality sound systems and presentation utilities.
5. The registration committee is planning to register delegates online and provide all convention details across the desk.
6. Convention and Exhibition sites will have LANs and will be connected to Internet. There will be helpdesk support at these sites.
7. Apart from usual meetings and presentations, we have arranged a cultural show on 14th to reflect the Gujarati culture.
8. A sponsored technology session is proposed. The topic will be “Emerging Technology Trends” and will have about 5-6 presentations.

Nainshadji Divanji
Chairman Organizing Committee
csiadh@adi.vsnl.net.in

E-Mail from the President

Dr. B. Ramani
President

To: csiadmin@csi.org.in
From: csiadmin@csi.org.in
Subject: CSI Presidential column
Date: 5th November, 1997

An Internet joke tells us about two lakers who are resting under a tree in some remote place. They sense a leopards approaching and one of them rushes to put on his hiking shoes. His friend asks him if he really expects to outrun the leopards. "No" says the one with the shoes on; "I have only to outrun you!" We will come back to this joke later.

There is a major development on the horizon we must take note of: the Internet revolution which has now reached the shores of India. The user population, currently estimated to be less than one hundred thousand is expected to reach something like one or two million in a few years. The Government has announced that private Internet Service Providers (ISPs) would be permitted soon. A large number of groups are interested, apart from the twenty or so email service providers. The total number at the starting line may be over a hundred, and the numbers may swell to a few thousand.

This will present a rare opportunity for the users, for the business and industry, and for the nation as a whole. We had failed to develop an effective domestic computer network in the past. ISP was a failure mainly because of poor marketing and because of unrealistically high tariffs. The ISP revolution may create a true networking climate for India and make Wide Area Networks a reality.

Associated with this is the Electronics Commerce revolution. An old IHR Yunker cartoon showed a large dog happily typing away on an Internet terminal. The dog has turned aside towards an attentive poppy nearby and is saying: "On the Internet, no one knows you are a dog!" Similarly, once you are on the Internet, no one cares where you are physically. As long as the search engines bring up your page up in response to their query, and as long as your price and delivery time are right, you will get their orders. Or, will you? That will really depend upon how fast we, as a nation, understand payments over the Internet and make it possible. Any consumer on the Internet will ask: "Do you accept payment over the net? Does your bank understand it? Does your Reserve Bank permit it?"

I was very happy to hear our Finance Minister on TV the other day, describing his plans to make the Rupee fully convertible. We must make another effort to make it happen. "Please let the Rupee become an Internet-enabled currency!" Put our currency of the network, just for inward remittances, for the moment. Let the world buy Indian goods on the net and pay through encrypted transmissions authorising credit card payments. Making payments overseas over the Indian border can come later.

A unique opportunity to discuss all this will come soon, at the time of the SEACCC '97 Conference in Delhi in December 97. Some of the worlds' experts on Electronic Commerce will be there, and we must use the occasion to learn and to think ahead.

As the Internet revolution and the Electronic Commerce revolution approach us, we have to make decisions fast, like the laker who put on the shoes. We have to only outrun some competitors!

Dr. Abdul Kalam, India's Missile Man, says that the core competence of India is Information Technology. It comes as a jolt to us, to think that our profession has earned so much respect in the eyes of Dr. Kalam. We should be a little bit frightened at the thought. The nation is expecting so much of us. Are we ready to rise to the occasion? Can we? Or is Dr. Kalam giving a challenge too big for us to meet? Confidence is valuable, but constant, critical judgment of our own capabilities is equally important.

A thought on the human resources situation. The MCA idea was a good one. It increased our pool of trained professionals and offered increased opportunities to young people. We must take stock now: several years into the experiment, and after much growth, if not mushrooming growth, of the number of institutions involved. What have been the strengths? What have been the weaknesses? What can we do to remove or reduce any weaknesses? What should CSI do about this?

I will conclude this by reminding you of CSI '97 in Ahmedabad. The Organising and Programme Committees have done a great job. You will surely enjoy the experience. Do come!

S. Ramani

CSI Communications • 3 • November 1997
Advanced Technologies - Passing Hype OR Opportunity for Future Competitive Advantage??

Partha Iyengar*

This article addresses Gartner Group's predictions of some of the key advanced technologies that we feel will have business relevance in the coming few years. A key part of Gartner Group's "Advanced Technologies and Applications" (ATA) Service is to track advanced and/or emerging technologies and advice companies on those technologies that have long term business benefit, and those that are likely to be passing fads.

The key issues this article will address are:

Which emerging and embryonic technologies should early adopters be examining for competitive advantage?

Which advanced technologies will shape the future of information architectures and business solutions, and which will be of niche interest?

Strategic Planning Assumptions (Best working inputs to Key Issues)

- By 2001, at least 80 percent of the devices implemented to extend IS services to employees other than knowledge workers and production office workers will be network computers (0.7 probability).
- The percentage of interactive voice response applications making use of speech recognition will rise from around 5 percent today to 10 percent by the end of 1997 and more than 20 percent by the end of 1998 (0.7 probability).
- By YE97, more than 10 percent of Web-site owners with complex product-selection or problem-resolution applications will be developing, piloting or deploying intelligent Web sites (i.e., incorporating intelligent decision support) (0.6 probability).
- By 2006, a majority of enterprises will adopt high-impact technologies such as interactive television, electronic cash, smart cards, biometrics, intelligent messaging, data mining, intelligent agents and wireless data communications (0.8 probability).

We identify 10 technologies either entering the hype cycle during 1997 or moving rapidly through the phases (see Note 1).

Note 1: Country Manager, INDIA, Gartner Group

Entering the "hype" cycle
- Wearable computers
- Biometrics
- Avatars
- Netcasting
- Evolving rapidly:
  - Java
  - Network computing
  - Intelligent agents
  - Speech recognition
  - Data mining
- Web - Intranets, intelligent Web sites

Wearable Computers typically consist of a belt-mounted PC and a head-mounted, voice-activated screen over one eye. (Originate in the military, wearable systems are commercially available in the $5,000 to $10,000 price range. We expect pilot implementations by technology leaders during 1997. With more widespread interest for mobile applications such as warehousing and inspection in 1998-1999.

Biometrics are expanding within government applications, particularly verifying social security recipients. Products supporting business application such as network access will be launched during 1997. Techniques generating the most interest will be fingerprints (because of high accuracy) and voice (because of low cost to deploy through the telephone).

Avatars are computer representations of users in a computer-generated 3-D world, used primarily in chat and entertainment Web sites. Potential business applications include customer support, training or sales, where avatars in an enterprise's Web site help out potential customers through text or audio links. Avatars will remain an over-hyped technology in search of a "killer application" in business through at least YE97.

Netcasting, also referred to as "push" technology, is generating substantial hype with its promises of targeted, effortless delivery of information and software. The technology is evolving rapidly and we expect widespread adoption in niche areas (e.g., update notification) during 1997. Its broader role in software
distribution and information dissemination will take longer to stabilize.

Network Computing will continue to be the subject of contention in the market regarding its definition and role within the enterprise and its relationship to client/server computing and networked computer devices. Meanwhile, network appliances will begin the migration to network computers as a lower-cost alternative to PCs for limited-function environments such as a call center. By 2001, at least 80 percent of the devices deployed to extend IS services to employees other than knowledge workers and production office workers will be network computers.

Java's many roles make it difficult to position in the hype cycle, as each role is at a different stage of maturity and market. "Java the language" is in widespread use by Web developers, while Java as an Internet platform sitting atop the operating system is still undergoing evaluation even by early adopters.

Intelligent Agents will reenter the fray during 1997 to assist users with the growing information deluge. Commercial products and services will incorporate more sophisticated agent functionality (i.e., beyond keyword searches) such as collaborative filtering and natural language processing. Although incorporating agent technology into custom applications will remain an issue due to a lack of integrated development tools.

Speech Recognition will play a growing role in telephony applications, although the commercial roll-out of systems using prerecorded and dialogues (e.g., "I want to transfer two hundred dollars from savings to checking") is slower than first expected. The focus in 1997 will be on larger vocabularies and simple dialogue. The percentage of interactive voice response applications making use of speech recognition will rise from around 5 percent today to 10 percent by the end of 1997 and more than 20 percent by the end of 1998 (0.7 probability). Data Mining will enjoy continuing growth and interest based on compelling returns on investment primarily in marketing and fraud detection. The focus in 1997 will be on scalability and integration with other data analysis tools.

The World Wide Web will continue to play a dominant role in internal (intranet) and external information delivery and, increasingly, in transaction-oriented applications. One rapidly emerging application is intelligent Web sites, which provide widespread access to specialist information (see Note 2).

Intelligent Web sites provide decision support expertise (e.g., product selection or configuration, software troubleshooting) for use by customers or distributed through avoided telephone support costs, more than 10 percent of Web-site owners with complex product-selection pricing or deploying Intelligent Web sites by year-end 1997 (0.6 probability).

Now we take a longer term look at the planning frameworks and horizons that enterprises need to work with. This can be the first time, with a framework that gives enterprises the ability to plot where they would like to be in that radar map. Advanced technology groups and other strategic planners must constantly track a broad range of technologies to determine their maturity and applicability to the enterprise. High-impact technologies and calculate starting points for evaluation and investment.

Advanced technologies according to the level of benefit they will provide when deployed appropriately and the level of penetration they will have achieved by 2008, but those on the left half of Figure 1 should be evaluated for right half, particularly those near the top, will be broadly impactful across industries.

Figure 1 positions 25 advanced technologies according to the level of benefit they will provide when deployed appropriately and the level of penetration they will have achieved by 2008. These technologies need to be factored into strategic planning, as enterprises will have little choice about whether to adopt them once they gain momentum.

Figure 2 provides a guide to the timing of technology adoption. This Y axis shows the year when at least 30 percent of Fortune 1000 and other leading enterprises will adopt (i.e., deployed for operational use by some portion of the enterprise) the technology. The X axis shows the level of disruption, which has a major impact on the planning time frame since more disruptive technologies require earlier planning. The dotted diagonal line shows a recommended planning schedule for a Type B enterprise (i.e., by 1997, Type B enterprises should be evaluating technologies to the left of the dotted line).

Bottom Line: Technology adoption should be driven primarily by enterprise objectives and application requirements, but most enterprises will find value in a subset of the above technologies. The technologies should be included in the technology portfolio and evaluated for potential benefit to the enterprise. To manage the onslaught of technological advances, enterprises should create their own versions of these charts as a radar screen for identifying promising technologies and planning an appropriate adoption schedule.
Excerpts of the First ExecCom Meeting 1997-98

CSI News

Fifteen ExecCom members and six Special Invitees attended the First ExecCom meeting (1997-98) held at New Delhi on July 8, 1997. Members congratulated Dr. S Ramani on his nomination as a member of the Scientific Advisory Board constituted by the Prime Minister of India.

The minutes of the Sixth ExecCom meeting (1996-97) held at Madras on May 10, 1997 were thereafter confirmed.

CSI-97 Update
Dr. Ashok Mehta, Chairman PC briefed the ExecCom members on the progress made in organising CSI-97 Annual Convention.

Shankara Hall, Thakorebhai Hall and Gujar Hall has been organised for the Convention.

Website is ready. It is www.csi-97.com

Prof. B. H. Jajoo of IIM Ahmedabad is helping in co-coordinating.

Advertisement materials are getting ready and will appear in trade magazines from August '97 onwards.

M/S Ravi Travels have been appointed as official travel agents for Hotel and Air bookings.

Prof. T. P. Ramasao Chairman PC briefed the ExecCom members on the progress made on the Convention programme.

Four tutorials each on 12th and 13th Nov. '97 will be held for which topics and co-ordinators have been finalised. Prof. B. H. Jajoo will co-ordinate the overall tutorial activity.

Invitations have been sent to prominent professionals and academicians for keynote speeches and invited talks.

The response to 'Call for Papers' has been lukewarm, since only 35 papers have been received so far. Efforts are on to get better quality papers.

Response to Student Paper Contest has also not been very satisfactory, since only about 25 papers have been received so far.

Commonwealth Secretariat is likely to fund a workshop on 'IT for Organisational Excellence' (which is the theme of CSI-97), for commonwealth CIO's. It is likely to be jointly organised by CSI and COMNET-IT held during the week of our CSI-97 Convention at Ahmedabad. If it materializes, the activity can offer us international participants as well as speakers for CSI-97. Prof. S. C. Bhunagar will be co-ordinating this activity.

For Invited Talks 3 persons have already confirmed and invited speeches are being planned.

Mr. Bipin Mehta, Chairman EC briefed the members on the progress made on the Exhibition front.

IT Awards - 1997
Dr. Goyal informed members that the procedure to be followed this year for giving IT Awards would be the same as last year. He has requested Mr. Shyamal Ghosh, Secretary to DOE to head the committee of judges for deciding the Awards to which the latter has agreed. The ExecCom decided that in view of the heavy expenditure involved the application fee for the Awards should be Rs. 10,000/- instead of Rs. 5,000/- fixed last year.

CSI Education Directorate
Dr. Goyal informed members that for NSTPC Examinations conducted in March '97 there were 743 candidates. The results have been announced in the July '97 issue of CSI Communications. The next NSTPC examinations will be held on Sept. 27 and 28, 1997.

The last bank examination was held on May 26, '97 and there were 376 candidates. The next bank examination is scheduled to be held on August 24, 1997. Examination was also held for 33 candidates of Maharschtra State Electricity Board.

Regional / Divisional Activities
As per the ExecCom decision, Grandhi Nagar Chapter has been merged with Ahmedabad Chapter.

30 papers have been received for COMAD '97 to be held at Madras on Dec. 18-20, '97. Prof. C. R. Muthukrishnan has been inducted in the Advisory Committee. The Web site is getting updated regularly and Mrs. Springer Verlag/Harasa are to publish the proceedings.

NET-X '97 - A National Seminar on Networks was orgnised at Cochin on May 15-17, 1997 by Division V and Cochin Chapter with good participation.

Madras Chapter has planned to hold a one day Seminar on Electronic Commerce on 10th July '97 at Madras.

All Chapters in the Eastern Region have been requested to celebrate the Golden Jubilee of India's Independence with the action programme "Development through Computers" by organising and conducting computer awareness programmes in rural areas.

There are plans to organise a Conference on Computer Hardware Technology to discuss upgrading of the Technology.

NET-X '97 a three day National Seminar on Data Communications was held on May 16-17, '97 at Cochin with Div/V in association with the local Chapter. The seminar was attended by over 100 participants. Tutorials were held and an exhibition was also organised. A Souvenir and Proceedings of the seminar had also been brought out.

A project started by CSI Bangalore Chapter during CSI-96 to impart computer training to teachers in rural schools around Bangalore had successfully concluded June '97 with free training of 12 teachers from 3 schools free of cost. The Chapter has now taken this as an ongoing project and appointed a committee to collect donations of old and new computers, identity deserving rural schools to whom the computers can be given free and train the teachers in computers.

Statutory Committees
The following Committees were formed as under:

- Awards Committee
  - Chairman: Dr. M. L. Goyal
  - Member: Dr. Satish Dixit
  - Member: Prof. P. S. Grover
  - Mr. Am mammals
  - Prof. M. M. Pant
  - Prof. B. D. Chaudhury

- Finance Committee
  - Chairman: Prof. S. V. Prasad
  - Member: Dr. S. Ramani
  - Member: Prof. P. S. Grover
  - Ms. Nita Lal
  - Mr. Satish Dixit

- Membership Committee
  - Chairperson: Mr. S. K. Bely
  - Mr. H. R. Mohan
  - Dr. B. S. Agaswal
  - Dr. P. K. Maheshwir
  - Dr. N. C. Jam
  - Prof. K. N. Naik
  - Mr. M. R. Datar

- Publication Committee
  - Chairperson: Prof. C. R. Muthukrishnan
  - Member: Pradeep Pandya
  - Mr. S. Gopalani

- Conference Committee
  - Chairman: Prof. S. V. Grover
  - Member: Sanjay Prasad
  - Mr. Ashok Mehta
  - Mr. Nalin Kohli

The ExecCom authorised Prof. P. S. Grover to nominate the two members of the Conference Committee.

Nominations Committee
- Dr. Rattan K. Datta
- Mr. Satish Khosla
- Mr. M. R. Datar

Honorary Fellowship Award
- Dr. Goyal mentioned that he had discussed with the Awards Committee names for the Honorary fellowship Award this year and the Committee has unanimously decided to recommend the name of B. L. Gates for the Award. The ExecCom has accepted the recommendation.

Discussing issues related to research activities, Dr. Ramani suggested that as part of our Research Activity we could start a programme of training the visually handicapped in operating computers and sought allotment of Rs. 1.5 lakhs to begin with, to buy 2 computers with related equipment and software. Once the programme is in place the Society can publish one or two research papers in its Journal and other research related publications. The ExecCom approved the proposal so that further planning and progress can be made in due course.

The meeting concluded with a vote of thanks to the Chair.

- Privy Patel
- Executive Secretary
Computer Society of India
Annual Renewal / Life Membership form

Membership Period
July-June

To,
Executive Secretary
122, T.V. Industrial Estate
S. K. Ahire Marg, Worli
Mumbai-400 025

Membership No: _______________________
Name: ________________________________

I enclose Cheque / DD No: ________________ dated ________________ drawn on (Bank/City): ____________________ in favour of Computer Society of India for Rs. ________________ towards MEMBERSHIP RENEWAL (for the year 1997-98)

Life Membership

SUBSCRIPTION RATES

- Membership Renewal
  - Rs. 225/- (Member) $ 50
  - Rs. 125/- (Student)* $ 25

- Life Membership
  - Age below 30 years Rs. 3500/- $ 700
  - Age 30 to 39 years Rs. 3000/- $ 700
  - Age 40 to 49 years Rs. 2550/- $ 500
  - Age 50 years & above Rs. 1500/- $ 300

(10% rebate on life membership is allowed if he/she was a young member for the previous ten years)

* A student member should attach Bonafide Certificate from College Principal.

Acknowledgement Slip
(To be filled in by the applicant)

Date: ____________________________
To: ______________________________
Name: ____________________________
Address: __________________________
City ________ Pin ________

Received Cheque/DD No: ________________ dated ________________ drawn on Bank/City: ____________________ for Rs.: ________________ towards subscription for the year 1997-98.

For Computer Society of India

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Identity Cards for 'CSI Life Members'

CSI has decided to issue Rigid Plastic Photo Identity Cards to Life Members. A number of members have already availed of this facility. Those life members who are interested in such identity cards but have not yet applied for one are requested to do so immediately, by sending the following address their two passport size coloured photographs along with a DD/Cheque for Rs. 60/- in favour of 'Computer Society of India'.

Executive Secretary
Computer Society of India
122, TV Industrial Estate, S. K. Ahire Marg, Worli, Mumbai -400 025

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CSI Calendar 1997-98

November '97
22nd CSI Annual Convention
Nov. 13-15, 1997, Ahmedabad
Theme: IT for Organisational Excellence
For details contact:
Mr. Balaksh B. Dheewji
Chairman OC,
Pace Computer Consults (P) Ltd.
201, Akashvadi Complex,
Off C. R. Road, Ahmedabad-380 006
Tel.: 079-6420351 • Fax: 079-7490867

December '97
SIEBAC '97
International Conf. hosted by CSI
3-6, December 1997
New Delhi
Theme: Electronics Commerce
For details contact:
Mr. Sudipta Mukherjee
Tata Infotech Ltd.
3rd Floor, Sri Pratap Udyog Bldg.
274, Captain Gaur Mang, Shriram puri-110 049
Tel.: 011-622 7046 / 55 • Fax: 622 7860

COMAD '97
International Conf. on Mgrt. of Data
18-20, December 1997
Chennai (Madras)
Themes: Internet and Databases
For details contact:
Mr. R. S. Ramachandran
Chairman OC,
Gurn & Bhatshet Sahyam Software Ltd.
226, Cathedral Road, Chennai - 600 006.
Tel.: (91) 044-2262313 Ext. 206

February '98
Object '98
Div. II & Pune Chapter
First National Convention on Object Technology & Tools
30-21, February '98
Pune
For details contact:
Mr. A. K. Rathnakar
CSI Pune Chapter
56, Chandranagar, Prabh A House, Damle Peth, Pune-411 004
Tel./Fax: 020-2394-43
E-mail: csipune@emp.co.in

P. S. Grover
Vice President
Chairman Conference Comm., CSI

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CSI Communications • 10 • November 1997

CSI Communications • 11 • November 1997
From CSI Chapters

Lecture on "Internet Features in progress at Allahabad"

The following are elected to the
Managing Committee of the Chapter for 1997-98.
Chairman
Mr. S. C. Tiwari
GM (EDP)
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Vice Chairman
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GM (MM-Fog)
BSSL, New Admin Bldg, BS City 827 001
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Secretary
Mrs. K. Mukherjee
AGM (EDP)
EOP Centre, BSSL, Ipat Bhavan
BS City 827 001
Tel: 0654-404265 • Fax: 0654-404227

Olahabad

The Chapter organised a lecture cum presentation program on "Internet Features" on September 28, 1997 at Hotel Ethico, Civil Lines. Speaker was
Mr. Mukesh Arora, Director-Technical, Internet Software Development Services (P) Ltd., New Delhi. Lecture was attended by more than 70 participants mainly CSI members and some special invitees. It was a very informative and interesting lecture and was well received by the computer professionals. The lecture was followed by a presentation and it was jointly organised by the representatives of M/s. Internet Software Development Services (P) Ltd., New Delhi and M/s. Omnitel Services (P) Ltd., Lucknow.

Another lecture was held on "Experience in Using Internet at Allahabad" on October 3rd, 1997. Speaker was Mr. D. Madhukar.n, Director, B.R.K. Systems (P) Ltd, Allahabad. It was an informative and interesting lecture attended by more than 50 Computer professionals.

EDHRADUN

The 6th Inter School Computer Quiz was organised by the Chapter at mini-auditorium of KONIP, ONGC, Dehradun on 7th Sept, 1997. A record number of 16 schools from Dehradun, Mussoorie and Rishikesh participated in this competition. Mr. D. P. Issar, Director MCC (SSI) and Chairman of the Chapter inaugurated the Computer Quiz competition followed by a written
The Software Programming Contest in Progress at Delhi.

The email address of the CSI Goa Chapter premises:
cgoa2@bom2.wnl.net.in

The following are elected to the Managing Committee of the Chapter for 1997-99:

Chairman:
Prof. M. S. Shivakumar
HOD, Computer Science
N.I.E., College, Mysore-570 006
Tel.: (0821) 489416

Hon. Secretary:
Er. S. K. Krishna Rao
Assistant Director
Computer Centre
C.F.T.R.I., Mysore-570 013
Tel.: (0821) 510069
Email: kerinspecs,ernet.in

Student Counselor:
Dr. K. Chidananda Gowda
Vice Principal
S.I.E.C College, Mysore-570 006
Tel.: (0821) 511 707

MC Members:
Mr. Ravishankar
Mrs. Harshavardhana
Prof. D. S. Ranganath
Mr. B. S. Vishwanath Rao
Mr. D. Sudhansu

Mr. S. V. Hanchanamani
Dr. B. M. Subirayu
Mr. G. B. Ravikumar

PUNE

The First National Convention on Enterprise Resource Planning was held on October 3 & 4, 1997 at Pune.

After the globalization and opening of the economy, the need for Enterprise Resource Planning (ERP) packages in Indian market is felt in order to standardize the business process in Multinational Industries. With the understanding of growing importance of Information to have competitive advantages & competitive edge, many organizations are coming forward to accept ERP as an alternative way of life. The Chapter held organized ERP '97 convention in order to bring ERP software vendors & users together on common platform.

The convention was inaugurated by Dr. V. Ramani, President CSI on October 3, 1997. The convention turned out to be a grand success and over 150 delegates from all over India attended the convention. All leading ERP vendors such as SAP, Oracle Applications, Long, PeopleSoft, Oracle, Symphony, MFGPro, Reon, BPCS have participated in the convention. We had technical sessions (invited & contributed papers), Manufacturer’s Presentations and Exhibition of ERP products which were restricted to delegates and special invitations only.

On this occasion a souvenir, and a special issue of News Letter was published.

A lesson is learnt from this convention that IT professionals do need focused conference with rich technical contents than general conference where many IT topics are discussed at superficial level. That is the reason why technical tutorials attract more delegates than convention even though registration fees for tutorials are higher than that of the convention.

We attribute the success of this conference to technical topics, well planned convention considering present need of the industry, International faculty members, hi-tech programme and logistic supported by excellent teamwork demonstrated by active members of the Chapter. Besides CSI Communications, the advertisements were published in Dailikhet, Business India, Express Computer and local newspapers in Pune to promote the conference.

The keynote address on ERP “A global phenomenon” given by Mr. Patrick McGoldrick, MD Tata Technologies Pte. Ltd, Singapore. He shared his experience on ERP with delegates who were thrilled largely. The various topics such as ERP, ERP Process implementation and change, ERP implementation, Future of ERP, Role of change management, ERP failures & precautions, Post ERP issues were discussed during the convention by prominent experts in ERP. They were: Mr. Ganesh Natarajan, Mr. Khaitan B. B., Mr. Anil Sharma, Mr. Friddy Engel, Mr. Deepak Ruchandani, Mr. H.V. Sukhveer, Mr. A.K. Pathak, Mr. Mahadevan Iyer, and Mr. Ravindra

ERF-97 Inauguration – From left to right: Ms. Rokiah Ahmed, Mr. Deepak Shikarpur, Dr. S. Ramani, Mr. A. K. Pathak, Mr. Patrick, McGoldrick & Mr. A. K. Ghatas

ELF-97 Inauguration – From left to right: Ms. Rokiah Ahmed, Mr. Deepak Shikarpur, Dr. S. Ramani, Mr. A. K. Pathak, Mr. Patrick, McGoldrick & Mr. A. K. Ghatas

CISI Communications • 15 • November 1997

Goa

"Satellite Communication – The Decade Ahead" was the topic of the first technical session of the year. The talk was delivered by Dr. R. N. Salvi, Technical Director, National Informatics Centre, U.P., Lucknow on 12th Sept., 1997.

The Goan covered basic concepts of satellite and communication. Then he spoke at length about the four major projects taken up by the department in the field of satellite communication, namely, ORBCOMM, GLOBALSTAR, IRIDIUM, and TELEDESCO. He gave indepth details of the Low Earth Orbit (LEO) satellites which would be required for video-conferencing and electronic commerce. The session was quite absorbing, informative and thought-provoking. Highlights of the sessions were huge gatherings in technical session after a long time in the Chapter and commencement of the session at the specified time.

MYSORE

The installation of new software required a new approach. The strategy was to do with the existing technology and also to get a new system. The scenario of the existing system was that the computer system was not in sync with the existing system and also not in sync with the new system. The strategy was to do with the existing technology and also to get a new system. The scenario of the existing system was that the computer system was not in sync with the existing system and also not in sync with the new system.
Tulsyan. The panel chaired by Mr. Lalit Sawanty discussed "IS ERP the right direction for India?". The other panel members were Mr. Milind Joshi, Mr. Dattu, Mr. K. I. K. Abhi. It was concluded that ERP is right direction and this is best time to implement ERP not for the sake of technology but for boosting the business & industry in the global multination environment in which India is passing through.

During inauguration of the convention 6 prominent IT women from Pune were felicitated by Ms. Roksh Ahmed EVM SAP Asia to recognize their contribution to IT in last two years. They were:

Ms. T.M. Kandaveli
Symbiosis Institute of Computer Studies
Ms. Prabha Jagat
NIC
Ms. Vinita Bhalal
MantraNet
Ms. Amruta Milind
Silsanet
Ms. Hema Stephen
Data Systems
Ms. Shaila Kapil
Tillman
Mr. Deepak Shikarpur Chairman, Pune Chapter, Mr. A.K.Patkar, Chairman O.C., Mr. R.S.Tavde Chairman P.C., Mr. A.R.Ghasera, Chairman E.C., along with other committee members took special efforts to make the convention successful.

CSI Pune Chapter and Division II is planning to organise "Object 98" a conference on Object-Oriented Technology in February 98 at Pune.

Ranchi
An eight week course on Personal Computer has been started consisting of modules on DOS, WINDOWS, M.S.OFFICE, Wordstar, Lotus, DBASE and BASIC Language from 11.08.97. A technical talk on Oracle-8 features was organized by the chairman on 05.09.97 at RIDC lecture hall. It was delivered by Mr. J. Solomon of Oracle India. He highlighted the new features of Oracle-8 compared to 7.X. Table partitioning with reference to Very Large Database (VLDDB). Object data tables and parallel processing features were discussed in detail. He also touched Oracle’s plan to support Indian languages. About fifty members participated in the talk.

A half day workshop on Internet and E-Mail was organized on 14.09.97 at Mecon and was well attended by 85 members and invited guests. A live demonstration was also held using NIC VSAT link. Eudora was used for E-mail and MS Explorer & Yahoo were used for Internet demo. The workshop was conducted by Mr. T. Seengupta, DBM (R&D) Mecon. He was assisted by Mr. S. P. Narayan, Mr. S. U. Patil and Mr. P. Venugopal. The special guests on the occasion were Maj. Gen. (Retd.) P. B. Bose, Director, Heavy Engineering Corporation Dr. Sanak Mishra, ED RIDC, SAIL and Mr. G. R. Singh, GM (CP), Mecon.

IRUCHIRAPPALLI
The chapter organised a Lecture Programme on “Trends in Processor Technology” on 28.08.97 at Smt. Indira Gandhi College, Trichy. Mr. N. Sekhar, Secretary of the Chapter welcomed the members and introduced the speaker Dr. R. Srinivas, Vice-President, M/s. Tata Elxi Ltd., Bangalore.

The lecture programme was well received by computer professionals and student members.

Debugging Contest, Impromptu Software and Technical Quiz are but few of the events to be conducted.

MC, Trichy
SWAP '97, a two day computer extravaganza was conducted on 3rd and 4th of September 1997 by the Computer Science Association and CSI Tiruchirapalli City Students Chapter of Jamal Mohamed College of Technology, Trichy. Students from more than forty Arts and Science and Engineering Colleges spread over the Southern Region of the country and a good number of CSI Student members participated with great zeal and enthusiasm.

The function was inaugurated by Mr. Azam, Director, Emplicate Softwares, Chennai. Prof. N. Abdul Samadhi, Principal, Jamal Mohamed College and Dr. (Mrs.) K. Meena, Vice-Chairperson of Trichy chapter. Principal, Shrimati Indira Gandhi College, Trichy were also present. In his inaugural address Mr. Azam said that such functions sharpen the competitive nature in the students besides helping them become aware of the latest developments in the computer field. Prof. N. Abdul Samadhi in his presidential address said that the department of computer science conducts the SWAP function every year since 1991 and added that the number of institutions participating in the function grows with the years. Prof. A. R. Mohamed Ismail, H.O.D. of Computer Science, welcomed the gathering and Mr. Mohamed Asif, Secretary proposed vote of thanks.

The inaugural function was followed by a special lecture on "Remote Sensing" by Dr. K. Meena.

The valedictory function was presided over the Principal of the College, Mr. S. S. N. Moorthy, I.R.S., Commissioner of Income tax, Trichy, delivered the valedictory address.

Dindigul
On 9th September, Mr. Melban Samuel, Analyst Programmer, BITECH, Chennai gave a lecture on "Client Server Computing". Typical examples were given from Oracle PDBMS to explain the key concepts.

On 15th & 17th September, a lecture on "Disk Operating System" was given by a student-member Ms. R. Saba. The members from II and III year B.E. were immensely benefited.

It is proposed to conduct a National Level Symposium, "Cybersight '97" on 16th and 17th October, 1997. This is the fourth year in succession that the student branch is conducting a National Level Symposium. Technical Paper contest, Software Presentation (Demo),

Student Branches

The Student Branch organised a Group Discussion on the topic "Learning in India & Earning in Abroad". It was conducted by Mr. G. Ramesh, Final Year, Comp. Sc. & Engg. Dept., on 23.09.97. All the students and staff members of the branch actively participated.

The student branch also organised a one day Intra college Technical Symposium (INCOTEY '97) on 05.09.97 among the college students. The first two sessions were paper presentations and third session was different strokes (Debugging, Quiz, Dumb-catch20). The inaugural function was presided by Dr. N. G. Ishakari.
A seminar was also organized in which a Computer Quiz was conducted on 26.08.97. A lecture on the topic “Bird’s Eye View on Visual Basic” was given by Mr. K. Rajasekhar of final CSE on 02.09.97. A seminar on the topic “Introduction to Networks and Network Commands” was given by Mr. V.C. Sinha, from second year CSE on 09.09.97.

On 30.09.97 a seminar on the topic “Fuzzy Neural Networks in Case Based Diagnostic System” was given by Mrs. S. Tamilselvi, Lecturer ECE department.

The Student Branch organised a Guest Lecture on the topic “INTERNET” by Mr. S. Chandrakumar, District Science Officer, District Science Centre, Tamil Nadu on 07.10.97. The function was presided by Dr. N. C. Shelkar, Prof. & Head of Computer Science Department. All the students and staff members attended the lecture.

The Computer Society of India is proud to announce the SEARCC 97 Conference, to be held at New Delhi, India, from 3-5 December, 1997. As hosts of this prestigious international conference, the Computer Society of India extends its invitation to professionals, students and the academic community to participate in this event.

The Conference theme is: Electronic Commerce on the Information Superhighway.

The event will comprise of Tutorials, Keynote addresses, Panel Discussions and the main Conference. Each presenter will give a talk on their area of expertise, and each a recognised leader in their field will be addressing the delegates. Any one and every one who has an interest in the myriad aspects of this Conference theme stands to benefit from participating.

Agenda
3 Dec, 97: Tutorials:
Venue: Hotel Maurya Sheraton, New Delhi.

Five tutorials are planned. Tutorial 1 will be a full day tutorial, from 9 AM to 5 PM. The other four tutorials are half day events. Tutorials 2 and 4 are scheduled from 9 AM to 12.30 PM and tutorials 3 and 5 from 1.30 PM to 5 PM.

The following tutorial topics are currently planned:

- Networked multimedia systems and applications, Prof. S.V. Raghavan, IIT, Madras.
- Wireless Networks and Mobile Communications & Computer and Network Security, Dr. Debjanir Saha, IBM TJ Watson Research Lab.
- Enterprise wide information Systems, Dr. Shri N. Kanungo, IIT, Delhi.
- Procurement of IT products and systems, Dr. D. B. Pankaj, IIT, Bombay.

Participants may enrol for the full day and attend a mix of tutorials of their choice. The tutorial fees are:

- Half day: US$375/Indian Rs. 4,000, Full day: US$150/Indian Rs. 1,800.
- Tutorial fees for half day or full day attendance do not include a delegate kit, morning/afternoon tea/coffee and lunch.

3 Dec, 97: Conference Inauguration from 9.30 AM to 7 PM.

All delegates to the Conference are invited.

Please send abstract or exhibition enquiries to:

Computer Society of India
Pune Chapter
Pune 411 004, India
Email: cspune @ wri.co.in
INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON SOFTWARE ENGINEERING AND ITS APPLICATION

Organised by:
Institute of Public Enterprise, O.U. Campus,
Hyderabad, India
in collaboration with
The Institution of Engineers (India), and
in co-operation with
The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.
India Council

The conference will provide an international forum to software professionals, and academicians to deliberate on application of software engineering tools, techniques, methods, and metrics. The conference will broadly focus on software metrics, testing and maintenance. The conference will be addressed by eminent people from different parts of the globe and discuss the contributed papers. The speakers are from USA, France, Australia, Hongkong, India, etc.

Conference Fee:

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<tr>
<th>Before 30th November, 97</th>
<th>After 30th November, 97</th>
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<tr>
<td>Indian Delegates</td>
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<td>Student Delegates</td>
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<td>Tutorial</td>
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Note: The members of IE, IPE, and IEEE are eligible for 10% discount on the above rates.

Tutorials:
Three pre-conference tutorials are also being organized on 18th December, 97. (1) Personal Software Process by Prof. Daniel, USA. (2) Configuration Management, Dr Pratap Mitatil, (3) Software Metrics, Mr Raul Ramak.

Please write to the proforma to:
Pro. M. L. Sakuru
Organizing Secretary
Information Technology Division
Institute of Public Enterprise
O.U. Campus, Hyderabad - 500 007
Tel: (040) 701 8145, 701 8937, Fax: (040) 701 8938, Email: skl@ipou.globemail1.com

Date & Session | Subjects | Subject Code
----------------|----------|-----------------
24-01-1998 Forenoon (Saturday) | Visual Basic 4.0 | VB
                  | Software Engineering | SE
                  | Office Automation-II (Advanced Level) | AOA
                  | Data Communication & Networking | DCN
24-01-1998 Afternoon (Saturday) | Office Automation-I (Entry Level) | EOA
                 | Data Structure through C Language | DTSC
                 | Operating Systems Principles | OS
                 | Structured Systems Analysis & Design | SSAD
25-01-1998 Forenoon (Sunday)  | Entry Level BASIC | EB
                       | Advanced Level COBOL | AC
                       | Relational DBMS & Client/Server Computing | RDBMS
                       | Management Information Systems | MIS
25-01-1998 Afternoon (Sunday) | Entry Level COBOL | EC
                       | Advanced Level BASIC | AB
                       | Object Oriented Programming with C++ | OOPC+
                       | Information Systems Control & Audit | ISCA

Application Cost: Rs.50/-
Syllabus: Rs. 75/- per subject
Mode of Payment: Only by Demand Draft favouring "CSI Headquarters Education" payable at Chennai.

(Completed Application Forms to Reach on or Before 12-12-1997)

Director (Education), Computer Society of India, Educational Headquarters, C.P.T. Campus, Taramani, Chennai - 600 113.
Phone: 2352103 / 2353874
(All trade marks are acknowledged)
SEARCC '97
Students' Programming Competition

Coordinators for selecting National Teams:
Mr. P Unnikrishnan and Prof. J A Gokhale

Coordinator, International Student Programming Competition:
Prof. P Thirumurthy

Age Limit: 17 Yrs. as on 01/01/1997
Date of Competition: 04/12/1997
Venue: National Science Centre
Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Contact person: Mr. P. Unnikrishnan
Accel Automation P. Ltd.
SFI Complex
177, Valluvar Kottam High Road
Chennai - 600 034
Tel.: 044-8232397, 8258658, 8272063
Fax: 044-8272461
Email: accel@giasm01.vsnl.net.in

Details:
Programming Language: Q Basic
Programming solutions of 4 problems.
Problems will be in English.
Operating System: MS DOS 6.3
Duration: 2 hrs.

Students' Micro Mouse Competition

Coordinator for International Micromouse Contests:
Dr. S. S. Agrawal

Age limit: 23 Yrs.
(Participant should be enrolled for a full time course)

Date of Competition: 04/12/1997
Venue: National Science Centre, Pragati Maidan, New Delhi

Contact person: Dr. S S Agrawal
Scientist F and Head
Speach and Computer System Group
Central Electronics Engineering
Research Institute Centre
CSIR Complex, NPL Campus Hillside Road
New Delhi - 110 012
Email: Sagrawal@ceerid.ernet.in
Ph.: (11) 5781467, 5784642, 5716312 • Fax: (11) 5743481

Task: To programme the micro-mouse to go through the given maze in the shortest time.