

# The Laxenburg Letters

April 2000 - March 2002



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## Foreword

The first Tome of “The Laxenburg Letters” was published a year ago. Since then, we received some encouraging responses and this made us keep our word to publish a second tome, covering the next period of our communications with the IFIP community [April 2000 to March 2002].

The period was rich on events and developments.

IFIP had a very successful Congress 2000. There were over 120 conferences and some 60 proceedings with IFIP’s involvement. Two curriculum projects were implemented with UNESCO and the relations between IFIP and UNESCO were given new impetus. As many of you will remember the Summit meeting in January 2001 was voted by IFIP as the IFIP Event of the Year. The IFIP IT STAR initiative was launched and other initiatives related to membership, developing countries, industry and more were implemented. We held Council ‘01 in Capri (IT) and Council ‘02 in Bled (SI). GA 2001 was in Natal (BR) where during a single session 4 new IFIP members were admitted. These events are recorded in IFIP’s Council and General Assembly documents and Minutes and the corresponding materials and IFIP Press Releases are published on the IFIP web site.

“Laxenburg Letters II” is a humble initiative, containing a random list of messages that you might enjoy looking though on a rainy day, when there is nothing better to do. It is an attempt to send some sunshine your way and if some rays reach you then we have succeeded.

There are 4 sections:

1. Letters with appetizers is the largest part and includes communications with a joke. As you might remember, this deal was struck to prove that **good work and hearty jokes go well together**. The messages are abridged while the jokes remain as they were sent. The milestone message -- our original mail of 7 April 1998 that triggered the series -- is at the end of this section. Some messages related to our lotteries are also included.
2. IFIP Demographics contains our email that announces the results of the first survey that we organized on TC and WG Demographics.
3. From France with Love includes the first interview of the Delivery Co. with the French Vice-Minister for Research. We like this interview a lot and thought that IFIP persons who have not yet read it might appreciate to see it in this book. As many of you know, we are currently publishing on the Internet interviews with IFIP’s 12 Past Presidents and these will also appear as a separate publication in the near future. Finally, under Section
4. The Inside Story, contains an article dedicated to TC 3.



**Plamen Nedkov**

7 April 2002, Baden (AT)

## 1. Letters with Appetizers

Date: **Fri, 07 Apr 2000** 12:29:41 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **IFIP CONGRESS 2000 Blues**

As we get closer to Congress there are some issues worth keeping in mind:

Don't forget that IFIP GA representatives, TC Chairs and Vice Chairs, WG Chairs, Chief Executive Officers of IFIP Full Member Societies and all persons who took part in the Congress Lottery last year will be entitled to a 50 USD discount if they register before May 1st.

By the end of March there were 100 international registrations and 100 registrations from Chinese participants.

Paper review is over and the process of notifications to authors is completed. By April 25, authors are expected to submit their final revised versions and completed registration forms.

...

Greetings from Laxenburg,

The Delivery Co. :-)

### Real Stories for The Non-Technically Inclined

Tech Support: What does the screen say now.

Person: It says, Hit ENTER when ready.

Tech Support: Well?

Person: How do I know when it's ready?

There was an individual who plugged the computer's power strip back into itself and could not understand why the computer would not turn on.

1st Person: Do you know anything about this fax machine?

2nd Person: A little. What's wrong?

1st Person: Well, I sent a fax, and the recipient called back to say all she received was a cover-sheet and a blank page. I tried it again, and the same thing happened.

2nd Person: How did you load the sheet?

1st Person: It's a pretty sensitive memo, and I didn't want anyone else to read it by accident, so I folded it so only the recipient would open it and read it.

Date: **Fri, 14 Apr 2000** 16:03:48 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Friday's Special...Minutes**

You can now rush'n get your personal copy of the Washington IFIP Council Minutes at <http://www.ifip.or.at/>.



Satisfaction guaranteed, accompanying persons are welcome, no requirement for major credit cards!

The Delivery Co.

**Going to the Bank**

A fourth-grade teacher was giving her pupils a lesson in logic. "Here is the situation," she said. "A man is standing up in a boat in the middle of a river, fishing. He loses his balance, falls in, and begins splashing and yelling for help. His wife hears the commotion, knows he can't swim, and runs down to the bank. Why do you think she ran to the bank?"

A girl raised her hand and asked, "To draw out all his savings?"

Date: **Fri, 28 Apr 2000** 15:45:03 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Three Cheers**

Three cheers for three incoming IFIP GA representatives!

\* Mrs. Gro GREGERSEN  
\* John A. N. (JAN) LEE  
\* Abdelmajid MILED

...

Our thanks and warm wishes go to Arne, to Bruce whom we will remember as one of the architects of the process of including both ACM and IEEE CS in the ranks of IFIP Full Members, and to Mongi

...

And to get you thinking about the long (for some) weekend here is a favorite story of one GA representatives of whom you will hear more in future.

The Delivery Co.

**The Wrong Finger**

Two girlfriends meet for coffee.

"You are wearing your wedding ring on the wrong finger", exclaims one.

"I married the wrong man" explains the other.

Date: **Tue, 06 Jun 2000** 15:20:07 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Your Jumbo Reward**

The JUMBO sized June Newsletter is now on at <http://www.ifip.or.at> so hurry, hurry and get your personal copy. 24 pages of pure delight are there. This extraordinary issue is a wonderful lesson of IFIP history and we strongly recommend it to everyone interested in IFIP.

Feel free to announce it to the members of your organizations and give them a free treat.

The Delivery Co.

### **Hot Coffee**

A plane was taking off from Kennedy Airport. After it reached a comfortable cruising altitude, the captain made an announcement over the intercom, "Ladies and gentlemen, this is your captain speaking. Welcome to Flight Number 293, nonstop from New York to London. The weather ahead is good and therefore we should have a smooth and uneventful flight. Now sit back and relax - OH MY GOD!"

Silence.

Then, the captain came back on the intercom and said, "Ladies and Gentlemen, I am so sorry if I scared you earlier, but while I was talking, the flight-attendant brought me a cup of coffee and spilled the hot coffee in my lap. You should see the front of my pants!" A passenger responded, "That's nothing. He should see the back of mine!"

Date: **Tue, 01 Aug 2000** 15:22:51 +0200

From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>

Subject: **NL/September issue**

You are invited to visit <http://www.ifip.or.at> for the SEPTEMBER ISSUE of the IFIP Newsletter.

...

The Delivery Co.

### **Quick Ones** to reward your curiosity ...

Q: What do Eskimos get from sitting on the ice too long?

A: Polaroids.

Q: What do you get when you cross a snowman with a vampire?

A: Frostbite.

Q: How do crazy people go through the forest?

A: They take the psycho path.

Q: Why do gorillas have big nostrils?

A: Because they have big fingers.

Q: How do you get holy water?

A: You boil the hell out of it.

Q: What do prisoners use to call each other?

A: Cell phones.

Q: What lies on the bottom of the ocean and twitches?

A: A nervous wreck.

Date: **Mon, 07 Aug 2000** 09:13:40 +0200

From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>

Subject: **unzipped**

On our way to the office this morning we witnessed the story described at the end of this note and we thought it might keep you smiling through this week. Before that, here is the serious stuff:

1. Is your society involved in ICT Education? Does it work with government on national education policies, curricula, ICT in schools?
2. Are you interested in getting involved in a wider discussion related to ethical aspects of the Internet?
3. Would you think that "Virtual enterprises" is a hot issue?

If so, please visit <http://www.ifip.or.at/> -- we have created a new section "IFIP projects" where you can find documents and links to IFIP projects in these areas. For the recently completed IFIP/UNESCO project on Informatics Curriculum Framework 2000 for Higher Education we have a link to the documentation available at WG 3.2 page and we also provide the document as a pdf file for your convenience.

The Delivery Co.

And now for your moment of mirth-- **Unzipped**

A young lady with a tight mini-skirt tries to get on the Laxenburg bus. The skirt is so tight that she can't make it to the platform. She reaches back and tries to pull down the zipper on the back of her skirt. She tries again to reach the platform unsuccessfully and then again unzips a bit more.

Suddenly, she feels two strong hands around her waist, lifting her and depositing her in the bus.

She looks back in rage at the man behind her and shouts, "How dare you"?

The man looks puzzled but confident, "I thought we were getting to know each other after you twice unzipped my jeans".

Date: **Fri, 13 Oct 2000** 13:09:35 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **bucks for bangs**

The GA 2000 Minutes are NOW available at <http://www.ifip.or.at/minutes/beijing2000.htm>



Some will say, "What's the fuss? Minutes are always such a bore". Not these! Just click, download and read. Then, submit your answers to the questions below to <ifip@ifip.or.at>

1. With how many votes was Robert Aiken elected as President Elect?
2. Who is the new Technical Assembly Chair?
3. What is the major change to the IFIP Statutes and Bylaws?
4. Who won a free registration for Congress 2002?

Submission deadline: 20 October. All persons who have submitted correct answers will enter a lottery draw. A commission composed of Brigitte Brauneis and Plamen Nedkov will oversee the draw. Dorothy Hayden will pick out the names of the two lucky winners.

And the PRIZE, a delightful sightseeing tour in the Laxenburg and Baden regions will be followed by DINNER (for 2) organized and hosted by the Delivery Co. There is no expiry date - the two winners (and their wives or partners) can always collect their Award whenever they visit Austria.  
PARTICIPATE, PARTICIPATE, PARTICIPATE and we will make sure there are bucks for your bangs!

The Delivery Co.

Date: **Mon, 30 Oct 2000** 11:53:04 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **bucks for bangs/the Winners**

Here are the correct answers:

1. With how many votes was Robert Aiken elected as President Elect? --25 votes
2. Who is the new Technical Assembly Chair? --K. Brunnstein
3. What is the major change to the IFIP Statutes and Bylaws? --To replace "three quarters majority" vote by a "two thirds majority" requirement
4. Who won a free registration for Congress 2002? --Reino Kurki-Suonio (Finland)

#### THE WINNERS

- \* **Prof. BERNARD CORNU**, WG 3.1 Chair (until 31.12.2000)
- \* **Prof. ARRIGO FRISIANI**, GA representative, Italy/AICA

A Special Award [a bottle of the famous Rotgipfler white wine from the Baden/Gumpoldskirchen region] goes to **Prof. JACQUES BERLEUR**, TC 9 Chair for the fastest reply - 2 hours after the original mail was sent!

Jacques wrote:

"You must imagine at what speed I was able to read the Minutes you wrote so carefully :-)".  
...

P.S. ...and since we think you would enjoy to hear about the reactions of the two lottery winners, here they are:

"Many, many thanks, dear Plamen! It is the first time I win something by reading some minutes ! Your idea was excellent, it makes the minutes more enjoyable! Thank you very much to you, and to the organizers of the lottery ! Sure, I will go to Austria some day and enjoy the sightseeing and the dinner! Austria is a country which I love!"  
BERNARD CORNU, WG 3.1 Chair

"Dear Plamen, Welcome back and thank you for the great news! Of course I will start thinking about the visit as soon I get home but will wait for more details on how to proceed. Greetings to Dorothy, Brigitte and you"  
ARRIGO FRISIANI, Italian GA representative

Date: **Fri, 10 Nov 2000** 13:52:17 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Friday's Special**

Your November Joke AWARD is at the end of this message. However, before you reach the "fun part" please bear with us for a quick update on IFIP EVENTS. The year 2000 is indeed "Golden" for IFIP with 76 events in the IFIP Calendar! For the rest of Nov. and Dec. 2000 we have:

...  
The Delivery Co. :-)

**The Obstinate Cow\***

Have you heard the story of this farmer in Tyrol who had a beautiful but obstinate cow?

This cow was old enough to have a calf. There was another man 10 kilometers down the road with a bull. One day, the farmer attempted to get the cow on his truck and take her down the road to the bull but it was very, very difficult - the cow mooed, wagged its tail and struggled. Finally the farmer succeeded. There were no problems at the other farm and at the end of the day, despite the initial trouble, everything was in full order.

Early next morning, the farmer was eager to see how his cow was doing. He entered the shed but the cow was not there. He went out in the yard and looked everywhere but could not find her.

In desperation, he headed for the barn where he kept his truck with the intention to drive around the farm and see if he could find the escaped cow. To his surprise ... the cow was there, on the truck platform, and waiting!

\*This story is contributed by an Austrian pilot who witnessed the developments as he flew over.

Date: **Wed, 22 Nov 2000** 08:58:16 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Did you know?**

<http://www.ifip.or.at> NOW leads you to the web site of the 17th World Computer Congress, Montreal, 25-30 August 2002. Click and enjoy the "Nouvelle Experience" and a first lesson in "IT Farming". Try it out and then consider linking your society's (TC/WG) URL to the WCC 2002 site.

...

The IFIP Library containing over 600 titles and growing :-)) is presented with an e-list sorted by TCs at <http://www.ifip.or.at/publications/books.htm>

...

The Delivery Co.

It's a **Hercule Poirot drama** this time:

The Laxenburg press reports that 4 police officers were murdered yesterday. Two, when the post office was robbed and two more when they did the reconstruction of the crime.

Date: **Fri, 01 Dec 2000** 12:27:47 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **For your IFIP Toolbox**

During GA 2000 some said they use the IFIP PowerPoint Presentation which is available at <http://www.ifip.or.at> for their IFIP PR activity. This presentation was developed in 1998 and we were pleased to hear that it is appreciated. We have now updated it to reflect the 2000 status. YOU CAN tailor it by inserting additional slides with concrete data related to your WG, TC and Society. This will make it ideal for presentations at meetings, conferences...and when you lobby your boss for travel funds :-))

Instructions for installing are provided. Go to <http://www.ifip.or.at> [or directly to <ftp://ftp.ifip.or.at/pub/presentation/pres.html>] and download it for your PR Arsenal. We also provide an updated pdf version of "This is IFIP"!

The Delivery Co.

Your **Friday's provocation:**

This morning CNN reported the BREAKING NEWS that a gang of hardened criminals is on the run.... Last night they successfully raided Pfizer's Viagra depot.

Date: **Fri, 22 Dec 2000** 11:25:42 +0100

From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>

Subject: **IFIP's Party invitation**

IFIP had another good year and we should not forget that this was made possible thanks to IFIP's greatest resource - its network of people. No doubt you, as makers of this network, will take another look at the events that shaped the outgoing year and make your IFIP wishes for the future.

Since everyone was so good, Santa agreed to visit us at <http://www.ifip.or.at/> with a sack full of goodies. So, come, come to the IFIP web site for your presents. While there, try your luck with the IFIP New Year's Lottery and WIN FREE REGISTRATIONS FOR 3 MAJOR IFIP 2001 EVENTS!

We wish you happy holidays in fortifying your bodies and your souls as befits your many cultures and traditions that interweave the IFIP Alliance.

We wish you a Happy, Peaceful and Successful 2001.

The IFIP Delivery Co. Team

**CHRISTMAS CAKE RECIPE** for all the men out there to help their wives with the Christmas cooking

You'll need the following:

- 1 cup of water
- 1 cup of sugar
- 4 large brown eggs
- 2 cups of dried fruit
- 1 teaspoon of salt
- 1 cup of brown sugar
- Lemon juice
- Nuts
- 1 bottle of whisky

Sample the whisky to check for quality. Take a large bowl. Check the whisky again. To be sure it's the highest quality, pour one level cup and drink. Repeat. Turn on the electric mixer, beat one cup of butter in a large fluffy bowl. Add one teaspoon of sugar and beat again. Make sure the whisky is still OK.

Cry another tup. Tune up the mixer. Beat two leggs and add to the bowl and chuck in the cup of dried fruit. Mix on the turner. If the fired druit gets stuck in the beaterers, pry it goose with a drewscriver.

Sample the whisky to check for tonsistency. Next, sift two cups of salt. Or something. Who cares?

Check the whisky. Now sift the lemon juice and strain your nuts. Add one table. Spoon the sugar or something. Whatever you can find. Grease the oven. Turn the cake tin to 350 degrees. Don't forget to beat off the turner. Throw the bowl out of the window. Check the whisky again and go to bed.

MERRY CHRISTMAS! Ho! Ho! Ho!

Date: **Wed, 10 Jan 2001** 10:32:07 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Extended deadline, grants and more**

The deadline for the IFIP lottery submissions is extended to 10 February 2001. As we announced in late December, there are FREE REGISTRATIONS up for grabs at <http://www.ifip.or.at> [click on lottery] for the following IFIP events:

- 7th World Conference on Computers in Education, 29.7-3.8.2001, Copenhagen, [www.wcce2001.dk](http://www.wcce2001.dk)
- 1st IFIP Conference on E-Commerce, e-Business and e-Government, 4 - 5.10.2001, Zurich, [www.ifi.unizh.ch/I3E-conference](http://www.ifi.unizh.ch/I3E-conference)
- 11th PROLAMAT Conference, 7 - 10.11.2001, Budapest, [www.sztaki.hu/conferences/prolamat](http://www.sztaki.hu/conferences/prolamat)
- ...

Finally, we wish to inform you that our Chinese correspondent, Mr. Mengqi Zhou wrote a poem congratulating the New Year and dedicating it to organizations and individuals who helped make Congress 2000 a success story. The idea is really nice and as we felt the poem was intended for everyone who contributed towards the success of IFIP Congress 2000 in Beijing we take this occasion to share it with you.

### **CONGRATULATING THE NEW YEAR**

by **Mengqi Zhou**, 1 Jan 2001, Beijing, China



The spring breeze gently making up the city to usher in the new year, new century and new millennium

All families celebrating the Spring Festival in a peaceful and prosperous atmosphere

At such a joyful occasion we happily remember WCC 2000 and our devoted friends

Let's again share the New Year's happiness and work together in the future and for the future.

Date: **Tue, 23 Jan 2001** 13:37:52 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **More interest, more value**

It seems both conference participants and Conference organizers enjoy the IFIP Lottery scheme. Today, we received a confirmation from the organizers of the 8th International Conference on Human Computer Interaction -- <http://www.interact2001.org>, 9 - 13 July 2001, Tokyo that they offer a free registration in return of an entry in the Lottery.

Don't miss this chance to interact in Tokyo. Great place to be in July! Also Copenhagen and Zurich and Budapest - this Lottery may take you to one of these places.

Are there other organizers out there who may wish to join the fun and benefit from this exposure?

Don't hesitate to contact us to generate more interest and more value!

The Delivery Co.

**Esperanto**

Two teenagers were overheard talking:

"My girlfriend speaks Esperanto."

"Can she speak it fluently?"

"Like a native."

Date: **Thu, 08 Feb 2001** 16:57:59 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Refreshing News**

There are good things happening in TC 5 with the TC5 Project on Virtual Enterprises (IFIP COVE Project).

Those of you interested in the developments are invited to visit our projects' page at <http://www.ifip.or.at/projects.htm> and follow the link to the IFIP Cove Project Newsletter.

The Delivery Co.

**A male pigeon and a female pigeon were sitting on a roof.**

The female pigeon was crying. "But, darling, please believe me", begged her mate. "I'm not engaged! A woman caught me and put this ring round my leg!"

Date: **Fri, 23 Feb 2001** 14:52:58 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Friday's special- The Winner gets it all**

No doubt you are expecting your February story but before that let us do our shameless pitch of IFIP marketing.

1. IFIP Newsletter

...

2. The IFIP Lottery Winners

PROLAMAT 2001 <http://www.sztaki.hu/conferences/prolamat>  
Fasih Ahmed Masood (Vice Chair IEEE Karachi Section, PAKISTAN)

WCCE 2001 <http://www.wcce2001.dk/>  
Christian Gram (member WG2.7, DK)

INTERACT 2001 <http://www.interact2001.org/>  
Catalina Danis (IBM, USA)

I3E 2001 <http://www.ifi.unizh.ch/I3E-conference>

Now here is a ZORRO story, which is hard to believe: We actually do not know the name of the winner. It is probably "Dorucht". We wrote to her/him to ask for a name and association but we have received no reply so far...

Congratulations to the WINNERS! One of the CONDITIONS was that you will help market these events so now you know the result!! Go to the event pages, get in touch with organizers and do your thing in a big way :-))

Finally, it was a long and hectic week and we are all a bit tired and look forward to some fun and the weekend. Below is a story for all the joke lovers to Enjoy.

The Delivery Co.

### **Feb. Story...**

A little boy was attending his first wedding. After the service, his cousin asked him, "How many women can a man marry?"

"Sixteen," the boy responded.

His cousin was amazed that he knew the answer so quickly.

"How do you know that?"

"Easy," the little boy said. "All you have to do is add it up, like the preacher said: '4 better, 4 worse, 4 richer, 4 poorer.'

Date: **Thu, 29 Mar 2001** 14:53:17 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **The continuing IFIP Story: Remember Anatoly?**

Academician Anatol Dorodnicyn (Russia) was the third IFIP President and the last of IFIP's founding fathers to represent his country. He was a world-class scientist, a gentleman "to the marrow of his bones" and ... a chain-smoker. IFIP last saw him 10+ years ago at the IFIP General Assembly meeting in Buenos Aires. He died in 1994.

Anatoly always had a story to tell and at the end of this note we include a joke he shared with us during IFIP's GA in Argentina.

Before that, however, please bear with us for the following:

...

The Delivery Co.

### **Anatol's Story**

An elderly Russian general was fishing along the Moskva river and his chauffeur driven Volga was waiting close by. Just as he was getting bored he checked to see if the bait was still on the hook and to his amazement he pulled out a little gold fish.

"Let me go and I will make you rich", said the fish.

"Ha, Ha, I have everything I need. I have a car, an apartment and a datcha", replied the General.

"Well, I could make you young again", insisted the fish.

That seemed to appeal to the general and, since the fish was small for the pan anyway, he said "Harasho" and let her go.

And then suddenly the sky caved in! The general was again a young man, in the midst of the battle for Stalingrad, with only 2 Molotov cocktails left but with orders to stop another 5 approaching Panther tanks.

Date: **Wed, 11 Apr 2001** 17:57:53 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Minutes, Dinner & Dog walking**

The COUNCIL 2001 MINUTES are ready at <http://www.ifip.or.at/minutes/c2001.htm>



If you read them you will know the answers to:

1. Which IFIP TC will celebrate its 25th Anniversary in May 2001?
2. What is the name of the Award Walter Grafendorfer recently received from the Austrian President.
3. Who is the Chairman of the International Program Committee of Congress 2004
4. In which country will IFIP hold its Council meeting in March 2003?

If you submit the correct answers by 1 May 2001 to <ifip@ifip.or.at> you could win a Dinner for two. All who submit correct answers will enter a lottery draw. The PRIZE - A sightseeing tour in the Laxenburg region followed by a Dinner hosted by the Delivery Co. The Winner and his wife or partner can "collect" the Award whenever they arrange a visit to Laxenburg.

The Delivery Co.

### **Dog walking**

A little girl asked her mother, "Mommy, may I take the dog for a walk around the block?"

Her mom says, "No, because the dog is in heat."

"What does that mean?" asked the child.

"Go ask your father. I think he is in the garage."

The little girl goes to the garage and says, "Daddy, may I take Susie for a walk around the block? I asked Mommy, but she said that Susie was in heat, and for me to ask to you."

Dad said, "Bring Susie over here" He took a rag, soaked it with gasoline, and scrubbed the dog's rear-end with it and said, "Okay, you can go now, but keep Susie on the leash and only go one time around the block."

The little girl left, and returned a short time later with the leash but without the dog. Her Dad asked, "Where is Susie?"

The little girl said, "She will be here in a minute. She ran out of gas about halfway down the block and another dog is pushing her home".

Date: **Wed, 02 May 2001** 16:22:16 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **WCC 2002 & IFIP Lottery results**

Let's first take care of the serious business:

The Calls for Papers for IFIP Congress 2002 in Montreal are now available electronically at <http://www.wcc2002.org> The deadline for paper submissions is 3 December 2001. PLEASE HELP make the IFIP 2002 Flagship Event widely known among your membership.

Now comes the equally serious business:

[Florida must be getting jealous! Not only do we help organize impeccable elections [read about it in the TC 6 report to Council 2001 at [http://www.ifip.or.at/minutes/c2001/tc6\\_report.htm](http://www.ifip.or.at/minutes/c2001/tc6_report.htm) but, what hurts more, some day our lottery will be more valued than the Florida State Lottery]

Who is the Winner of the Council 2001 Lottery?

THE WINNER is **Prof. Dr. Rita DE CALUWE**, Belgian GA rep. and past TC 3 Vice-Chair (1991-1996). Along with her answers Rita wrote: "IFIP's is really a great web site-congratulations! Still enjoying the specials coming with the mails. Happy Easter to the Delivery Co.!"

The Delivery Co.

### **May Story...**

The venue of IFIP Congress 2002 is the 2nd most populous French speaking city in the World and is great for Wining and Dining!

A recent inspection of a restaurant close to the Montreal Convention center produced the following result:

Inspector - "Waiter, do you have frog legs?"

Waiter - "No Sir, I just walk that way"

Date: **Fri, 11 May 2001** 11:07:15 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Friday's Special - TC9, WCC'71 & More**

This Friday's Special consists of two announcements about remarkable IFIP Anniversaries:

\*IFIP-TC 9 celebrates its 25th Anniversary this May

...

\*30 years since IFIP's World Computer Congress'71 in Ljubljana, Slovenia

...

The Delivery Co.

**Gardening**

Old Joe was spotted gathering up horse manure out on the road. His neighbor called to him over the garden wall: "What are you going to do with the manure, then?"

"I'm putting it on my rhubarb," Joe replied.

"Really? We put custard on ours," his neighbor retorted.

Date: **Wed, 23 May 2001** 10:35:30 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **DO YOU DO IT?**

We do IT with imagination and flair, yet gently and responsibly. We interconnect and turn fantasies into reality.

If you visit the NEW IFIP URL at <http://www.ifip.or.at> you will understand what we mean. You will fall in love at a glance. Not working? Take a second look <http://www.ifip.or.at>

An IT World at your fingertips. Plug in, capitalize on ideas and be inspired! The rest is technical.

**P.S.** ... and don't give up too easily. A new relationship demands time! Pop out the menus and navigate the links! Click, click, click and be a connoisseur of an IT World of opportunities.

The Delivery Co.

**Rear light not working...**

A policeman stopped a motorist one evening and said, "You realize that your rear light isn't working?"

The driver jumped out of the car and ran to see. He began to swear and looked really upset.

"Really, sir! It's not that serious," said the policeman sympathetically.

"Of, yes it is! My caravan has disappeared."

Date: **Tue, 14 Aug 2001** 17:33:33 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **GA documents**

This is to draw your attention to the GA 2001 reports on the site. Click on the "GA 2001 Agenda & Reports" item and follow the links.

The Delivery Co.

**P.S. ... some signs to expect :-)**

**A sign in a bus, Natal:** When you exit the bus, please be sure to lower your head and watch your step. If you miss your step and hit your head, please lower your voice and watch your language. Thank you.

**Instructions posted in a river cruise ship, Amazon:** The chairs in the cabin are for the ladies. Gentlemen are not to make use of them till the ladies are seated.

Date: **Fri, 24 Aug 2001** 13:48:11 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **1 year left to WCC 2002 + your Friday's Special**

Tomorrow will be exactly one year from the Opening of IFIP's World Congress 2002 in Montreal, 25-30 August 2002. We will start the countdown with the following news:

- \* The Quebec (provincial) government has promised significant sponsorship;
- \* Quebec Premier, Bernard Landry, is expected to be at the Opening and so are other Canadian bigwigs;
- \* The Canadian Space Agency, also the site of the Canadarm, as well as Radarsat 2, the unique satellite that is known for its world famous pictures from outer space, has agreed to provide VIP tours during the week of the congress;

The Organizing Committee is committed to make Congress 2002 the best IFIP ever had! Visit the Congress site <http://www.wcc2002.org> for more and spread the message. The site can be accessed via <http://www.ifip.or.at> and while there please don't forget to click on "IFIP Newsroom" (right upper corner) where we have posted some fresh info about recently published IFIP books.

The Delivery Co.

### **Friday's Special**

A famous body-builder had an act where he would squeeze an orange until it was dry and then challenge anyone to get another drop of juice out of it.

One day, a skinny, elderly man took the dry orange shell and managed to extract a whole spoonful of juice from it.

Everyone gasped and asked what kind of job he did.

"I used to be a tax collector", he replied.

Date: **Tue, 28 Aug 2001** 11:51:58 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Samba Time**



It's luggage-packing time again, this time for a flight to Natal, Brazil for the IFIP General Assembly, 1-5 September.

...

The Delivery Co.

P.S. As we struggle on to the airport you can enjoy **Your Reward**

A lady lost her handbag during a day of shopping. It was found by an honest little boy and returned to her.

Looking in her purse, she commented, "Hmmm.... That's funny. When I lost my bag there was a \$20 bill in it. Now there are twenty singles."

The boy quickly replied, "That's right, lady. The last time I found a lady's purse, she didn't have change for a reward."

Date: **Fri, 12 Oct 2001** 09:06:45 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **Are You Ready?**



Are you ready for another Minutes reading exercise?

The GA 2001 Minutes are now loaded in htm and pdf format at <http://www.ifip.or.at/minutes.htm>

The questions you have to answer this time are:

1. What is the organization from Oman admitted as IFIP Full Member?
2. Who is the new Chairman of the Committee for Cooperation with Industry?
3. Where will the IFIP Council in March 2002 take place?
4. Which IFIP event in 2003 will develop a "Vilnius Declaration"?

The answers to these questions can be found in the Minutes. All of you who submit correct answers to the 4 questions by 19 October latest will enter a draw. There will be ONE winner. The price is a dinner for two with the Delivery Co. at a mutually agreed time!

Now it's your chance to win and become famous! REMEMBER, Bernard Cornu won and the French Minister of Education appointed him as Head of the project for the "European Residence dedicated to Educational Multimedia".

Good luck,

The Delivery Co.

P.S. and to keep your spirits high while reading, here is a **True story** related to the Minutes. We were going through the final stage of proof-reading and it was observed that at one place it was said that " ... it was time for IFIP to search and find new "reproductive" activities in order to..."

We changed "reproductive" to "worthwhile" in the pdf version and that is how it will appear in the official hard copy [... but left the htm with "reproductive"].

The first one of you to copy, paste in a message and send back to us the full sentence from the htm version will get 1 free IFIP book at his choice published by Kluwer during this year. The winner will be entitled select a title from the announcements in the IFIP Newsroom!

We must, however, say that it's **NOT TRUE** to say men only have sex in their minds.

They also have power, football, playing darts, making money and drinking beer on them :-)

Date: **Wed, 24 Oct 2001** 12:03:55 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **YOU were Ready: THE WINNERS**

Apropos "Lottery **Winners**" -- A wife comes running home from the store and into the house screaming at the top of her lungs, "Pack, pack! I won the lottery!"

The husband, all excited, runs up to her and says, "Pack? Where are we going? The islands? The mountains? Pack for where?"

The wife replies, "I don't give a damn. Just pack and GET OUT!"

We were delighted to have so many participants in our GA 2001 Minutes Reading Competition from countries as far afield as Argentina and Albania, Australia and the USA.

The winners are:

1. For fast reproduction of the "Reproductive" sentence: **Otto Spaniol** (DE, Past TC 6 Chair) was first to read, copy, paste and send back the "reproductive" sentence which proves that a Communications Man is a Speedy IT Gonzales

2. Draw with correct answers to the 4 questions: **Ashley Goldsworthy** is the Winner this time. In view of his initiatives and willingness to support IFIP, one could say that Prof. Goldsworthy is the IFIP "Comeback Kid", to borrow a phrase from the political jargon describing the US Prez who led between the Bushes. Ashley has 27 years of active service in IFIP...

And to reward you all, we have the "October" Story at the end of this note. Before that, however, please bear with us for another shameless IFIP marketing pitch:

When you buy a house and you are not too tight on the budget there are three things that matter -- Location, Location and Location! If we wish IFIP to continue being successful there are three things to focus on -- EXCELLENCE, ORGANIZATION and PROMOTION. Some day, we intend to write a book about this and NOW we hope to solicit your support in the PROMOTION part.

We need to ensure Locations, Locations and Locations so as to provide visibility to IFIP. You could all take the initiative to prepare short articles about an IFIP activity for your Member society journals and for other publications. Our Member societies, TCs and WGs could review the links they provide to the IFIP web-site and consider having them more prominently displayed. Our TC and WG Chairs are also encouraged to check and ensure the updating of their TC/WG sites as some of them are quite outdated. Many of you, especially TC and WG Chairs, attend meetings and conferences where they could deliver an IFIP presentation. To facilitate you, we have a PowerPoint presentation at <ftp://ftp.ifip.or.at/pub/presentation/pres.html> which, you could enhance with additional slides depending on your talk. Our Marketing Committee has developed marketing guidelines, which are available at [http://www.ifip.or.at/minutes/ga2001/marketing\\_guidelines.htm](http://www.ifip.or.at/minutes/ga2001/marketing_guidelines.htm)

The Delivery Co.

### **Reproducing in the Outback**

Henry had died 10 years ago and his wife Mary was still in deep sorrow. One day, Mary met a lady who claimed supersensory abilities in establishing contact with the dead. A session was arranged and as the crystal ball rotated Mary could suddenly hear Henry's voice:

"Is that you Henry?", Mary inquired with joy. "It's me", said Henry. "How are you?", asked Mary. "Oh, it's pretty routine. I eat a bit, I sleep a bit and I make love".

With astonishment Mary probed further: "Do such things happen in Heaven?"

"Who said I am in Heaven? I am reincarnated as a rabbit in the Australian Outback"

Date: **Fri, 30 Nov 2001** 10:27:43 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **THINK BIG - WCC 2002**

Are you disappointed for not having received your November Joke? Well, you should not be because we are still in November, besides, we needed a "GRRREAT NEWS" story to send a great Joke along with.

The news come from Montreal where George and Jan, the OC and IPC Chairs, together with their crew met recently to work the IFIP Congress puzzle.

\*\*\* So far 40 excellent proposals for tutorials and workshops are received from Australia, Austria, Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, India, Ireland, Italy, the Netherlands, Norway, Sweden, UK, Ukraine and the USA.

\*\*\* UNESCO and IFIP are discussing a proposal for a Roundtable during the Congress to address issues of interest to the UN World Summit of the Information Society (Geneva, 2003)

\*\*\* Due to many pleas and promises of many IT professionals to prepare and submit their Congress papers during Christmas and the New Year holidays

THE PAPER SUBMISSION DEADLINE IS EXTENDED FROM 3 DECEMBER 2001 TO 11 JANUARY 2002 but ... Be AWARE [and that's where the spicy part is], ALL AUTHORS WHO SUBMIT THEIR PAPERS BEFORE 31 DECEMBER will be eligible to win a FREE WEEKEND IN MONTREAL AT A 5-STAR HOTEL.

And that's not all! The juicier part is that the Free Weekend includes a CANDLELIGHT DINNER for two (the OC might arrange for a violinist to play Mozart at the table ;-)) and a bottle of Champagne.

So, THINK BIG and don't miss this once in a lifetime chance to win the exceptional "Free Montreal weekend" by submitting your paper before 31 December 2001.

The Delivery Co.

### **Texas is Bigger**

There once was a blind man who decided to visit Texas. When he arrived on the plane, he felt the seats and said, "Wow, these seats are big!" The person next to him answered, "Everything is big in Texas."

When he finally arrived in Texas, he decided to visit a bar. Upon arriving in the bar, he ordered a beer and got a mug placed between his hands. He exclaimed, "Wow these mugs are big!" The bartender replied, "Everything is big in Texas."

After a couple of beers, the blind man asked the bartender where the bathroom was located. The bartender replied, "Second door to the right." The blind man headed for the bathroom, but accidentally tripped over and

skipped the second door. Instead, he entered the third door, which led to the swimming pool and fell into the pool by accident.

Scared to death, the blind man started shouting, "Don't flush, don't flush!"

Date: **Wed, 19 Dec 2001** 16:43:44 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **The Last Story for 2001**

If we portray 2001 as a Shakespearean play, now would be the time for the actors to step forward and take their masks off, bow and let the Audience appraise by cheering or booing.

The global stage showed international efforts to help assert human dignity and solidarity but, regrettably, there were many senseless deeds and losses. The IFIP scene was happier in our eyes. One GA representative recently wrote that "[IFIP] is a wonderful society where a group of volunteers work for free in order to reduce some of the world barriers" and that in IFIP "we do cooperative work on trust and easily become friends." These words reflect our feelings. In 2001 the spirit of solidarity of the IT profession was inspiring and we can be proud of the results: IFIP was involved in 65 events and in over 30 publications. IFIP grew as a "communicative" society and it reached out within the UN network to assist international efforts in alleviating some of the global "ills" of the digital divide.

If you reminisce about 2001 in IFIPland we hope you will experience an overall feeling of content. There were many good actors -- IFIP Member Societies, GA representatives, TC and WG members and officers, editors, event organizers and other IFIP supporters -- who demonstrated their perpetual belief in what IFIP stands for.

The many volunteers who were the Cast are now the Audience.

During 2001 the Delivery Co. was privileged to work with all of you so as to ensure that the IFIP banners fly higher. Now, when we drop the mask of the Delivery Co., we remain Dorothy, Brigitte and Plamen -- <http://www.ifip.or.at/secretariat/christmas.jpg> -- facing you and hoping you will not judge us too harshly for our shortcomings. We tried hard to invoke noble aspirations for Achievement, Friendship, Joy and Reward. There were some 80 circular mails to the IFIP community [ <http://www.ifip.or.at/mail> ] and we hope that these, along with the many other communications, helped expand the frontiers of IFIPland.

We wish you Health, Happiness and Peace in 2002.

Plamen, Dorothy and Brigitte



**Untypical stories for Christmas ;-)**

A mother chimpanzee to her baby chimp somewhere in the African jungle: "Your father and I feel you are now old enough to know the truth. There is no such person as Tarzan..."

... and nearby in the same jungle a plane had crashed and there were only two survivors, two beautiful blondes. A cannibal and his sons found them. The sons drooled in anticipation of the feast they would have, but the father took one look at the girls and ordered: "Take them home for X-mas. We'll eat your mother and aunt instead".

Since some of the ladies out there might get angry with this "food gatherer" joke here is something special for them:

There are 4 stages in a man's life - 1. He believes in Santa 2. He does not believe in Santa 3. He plays Santa 4. He looks like Santa

Hope everyone is happy now :-)) Merry Christmas ho, ho, ho ... Santa "No.3"

Date: **Wed, 09 Jan 2002** 13:43:51 +0100  
 From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
 Subject: **The First Story for 2002**

The Last Story <http://www.ifip.or.at/mail/msg00094.html> generated an overwhelming response and we wish to thank you all for the nice words and warm feelings. It is impossible to include all the messages we received at the end of 2001. To give you a flavor, we have selected a line or two from the mails of ONLY 6 IFIP Silver Core Holders of whom you probably have not heard for quite a while: Here they are:

**OTTO SPANIOL**, DE [TC 6 Chair 1992-1997, SC Holder] "Your informations and (in particular) your monthly jokes are brilliant!!!"

**KAREN DUNCAN**, USA, [IFIP Publications Officer until 1989, SC Holder] "I was going to vote for the regular e-mail communications from the Secretariat, as the most significant IFIP event of the year! I've enjoyed hearing from you regularly." PN - Karen and I first met in Koprivshitsa (BG) at about the time the Berlin wall crumbled. Her visit was intended to help me learn about the IFIP Publications process. It was followed by a lot of email communications resulting in a smooth transition, however, one project still remains outstanding - rafting on the Colorado river with Karen and her husband, George Glaser [an IFIP Vice-President 1982 - 1988]

**VEITH RISAK**, AT [Past President of OCG, SC Holder] " Thanks for your nice mails.I think, that by this IFIP is more and more visible... I think, such positive societies [P.N.: IFIP and OCG] can do a lot for a good international climate. Perhaps we should think, how we could go more public (in a broader sense)."

**SYLVIA CHARP**, USA, [WG 3.3 Chair -1971-1977, SC Holder] "I have thoroughly enjoyed all of your messages. Unfortunately I have not been active in IFIP for a number of reasons but I remember fondly all of my friends and the time I spent on all of the activities with which I was involved... I am still involved with international activities, but not through IFIP. Perhaps, it is time to get reacquainted." P.N.-- WE HOPE THE TC 3 MANAGEMENT WILL TAKE NOTE OF SYLVIA'S INTENTIONS!

**TOM VAN WEERT**, NL [WG 3.2 Chair 1996-2001, SC Holder] "Now that I have stepped down as Chair of Working Group 3.2 I also want to thank you and your staff for your support and humorous contributions. IFIP needs a Delivery Co. like yours!" [P.N. Tom is one of the authors of the IFIP-UNESCO ICT Curriculum for Higher Education -- <http://www.ifip.or.at/pdf/ICF2001.pdf>]

And here is a very special note from **MARIA TOTH**, HU, [OC Co-Chair, IFIP Congress 1998, SC Holder] "Dear Santa No 3! I have made for you and Dorothy a few recognitions during the last years, but far not so

many as many times I'm thinking with acknowledgement, gratefully of both of you. Your wonderful personalities make IFIP human and friendly beyond the perfect controlling and administrative fulfillment of the work." P.N. Thank you, Maria for being so generous!

Several of you were intrigued by the analogy of 2001 with a Shakespearean play in the Last Story. Some asked us how we see the international scene and the internal IFIP stage during 2002. The international 2002 scene is hard to predict, judging from an apocryphal photo <http://www.ifip.or.at/secretariat/jokeimages/Photofamille.jpg> we received in early Jan 2002 from neutral Switzerland. Would 2002 be "deja vu", as the body language and seating arrangement suggest, or would the gentlemen invite others and sit around the round table? If they could only find their Delivery Co.!

As to the IFIP 2002 scene, two IFIP officers – Acting President W. Grafendorfer and Executive Director P. Nedkov -- were interviewed publicly on what they personally think should be the guiding principle of IFIP this year [<http://www.ifip.or.at/minutes/C2000/heads.jpg>]. Their unanimous response was: "Soft on Diversity, Hard on Process".

A primary effort in 2002 would be the IFIP Congress -- <http://www.wcc2002.org>. If you have not yet submitted a paper, there are still some days to write it! In all cases, the Delivery Co. hopes to see you all in Montreal!

Finally, once again, thank you very much for your generous words. We take it that we have passed the 2001 Audition and we look forward to future pleasant and productive cyberspace and bio encounters.

The Delivery Co.

P.S. **J.A.N. Lee**, USA (IEEE CS GA Representative to IFIP, SC Holder) responded to the Last Story with a VERY LAST Story as follows[In response to the part about the 4 stages of a man's life]:

"I tell the story of the **FIVE stages of man's life**:

At a very early stage of his life, when a girl smiles at him, he hits her!

At the next stage, when a girl smiles at him, he blushes and turns away!

In the teenage years, when a girl smiles at him, he smiles back!

In middle age, when a girl smiles at him, he looks around to see if his wife noticed!

At my age, when a girl smiles at him, he checks his zip!"

Date: **Fri, 22 Feb 2002** 13:11:52 +0100

From: Plamen Nedkov <[nedkov@ifip.or.at](mailto:nedkov@ifip.or.at)>

Subject: **Another Special**

We keep on being asked whether we have put anything away for a rainy day?

Well, next to our rubber boots, we have treasured a brand new Internet address. You can also bookmark <http://www.ifip.org> to access the IFIP Internet site. It took some patience as it was reserved, but now the promised .ORG path to IFIPland is ours!

The Delivery Co.

**Heavenly stories:**

Adam was feeling rather lonely in paradise. He asked for some company. "That's no problem," God replied. "I'll make you a perfect mate. She'll not only be beautiful and clever, she'll also look after your every need and never argue with you. However, perfection is expensive. She'll cost you an arm and a leg." Adam thought for a while, then said: "What can you give me for ... say, a rib?"

Eve's husband arrived in Heaven and asked St. Peter if his wife was there. "Which Eve do you mean? We have lots of Eves here," he replied. "Can you tell me something about her?" "Well, the last thing she said before she died was that she would turn in her grave if I was ever unfaithful to her," answered the husband. "Ah, you mean Revolving Eve, then!" said the angel.

And here is the original email that started the series:

Date: **Tue, 07 Apr 1998** 15:10:05 +0200  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **For your Easter basket**

This is no marketing wisecrack at the expense of the Beaujolais (remember, it came after the GA '97 Minutes) but a simple announcement saying that the Manchester Council 98 Minutes are now available. Go get them while they are still warm at <http://www.ifip.or.at/minutes.htm>

THE GOOD NEWS: The Delivery Co. is an animal friendly entity and avoids spurring camels for fast deliveries. With e-mail and the Web you are comfortably positioned in the midst of the IFIP virtual whirlpool.

THE BAD NEWS: We are sorry we don't provide yarn spinners. You are actually encouraged to read the Minutes and to follow-up on actions relating to you and the entity you represent. Other action-oriented messages are in the pipeline!

As a token of our appreciation for your support please find a reward at the end.

Season's Greetings and Servus from Laxenburg,

The Delivery Co. 😊

**The Burglar**

A burglar breaks into a house at midnight. Once inside, he hears a voice in the dark that says, "JESUS IS WATCHING YOU!"

The burglar stops for a moment, then continues to move throughout the house. Once again he hears this voice: "Jesus is watching you!"

The burglar, nervous, turns on a light and sees that the voice is actually coming from a birdcage, and there's a little parrot in it.

He approaches the parrot and says: "Oh, you really scared me for a moment, what is your name, birdie?"

"My name is Peter" answers the parrot.

The burglar says, "Peter is a weird name for a parrot."

The parrot says: "Think so? I think "Jesus" for a Doberman is even weirder!"

## 2. IFIP Demographics

Date: **Tue, 13 Jun 2000** 10:54:57 +0200  
 From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
 Subject: **IFIP Demographics**

We wish to thank you for the valuable input you provided to our survey on IFIP demographics.

This is the first organized survey and the main reason for it is to gain a better understanding of the state of demographics in IFIP. It is taken for granted that IFIP is an academic entity with hardly any industrial representation. We wished to find out whether that is really so and based on the results to see what can be done in order to make IFIP more appealing to representatives from Industry. Then, there is the issue of women who in principle are under-represented in the IT and IP field. The membership of IFIP's WGs is based on merit, however, the percentage of women indicates whether IFIP and the IT community are doing enough to make the profession appealing to women. We were also interested to see if there is an inflow of young professionals, which for some TCs and WGs is a serious concern. Some of the figures are approximate but valuable and we are hopeful they will help identify patterns and trends.

A total of 43 TC and WG Chairs responded [38 WG submissions + 5 TC submissions] to the following questions:

### 1. Please provide a breakdown [in percentage] of the membership of your TC/WG according to the following 4 categories:

- \* **Industry**( incl. manufacturing, banks and insurance and consulting firms, software and IT production companies, the service sector) \_\_\_\_\_%
- \* **University/Education** \_\_\_\_\_%
- \* **Government** \_\_\_\_\_%
- \* **Other** \_\_\_\_\_%

If possible, please provide a rough estimate of the Industry representatives that work for major transnational corporations. \_\_\_\_\_%

2. What is the % of women in the membership of your TC/WG? \_\_\_\_\_%

3. If members below 40 can be qualified as "Young" what would be their percentage in the overall membership of your TC/WG? \_\_\_\_\_%

4. Are there any other issues related to the demographics of your TC/WG, which you feel important to share?

The preliminary results are as follows:

#### 1. WGs only: Based on 38 WG submissions - average -

- \* **Industry** -18%
- \* **University/Education** -75.6%
- \* **Government** - 3.6%
- \* **Other** - 2.9%
- \* **Women** -12.4%
- \* **" Young"** -19.7%

#### 2. TCs only: Based on 5 TC submissions - average -

- \* **Industry** -18.3%
- \* **University/Education** -70.1%

*Government	- 5.2%
*Other	- 7.3%
*Women	-12.6%
*"Young"	-15.0%

### 3. Combined WGs & TCs (38 WGS + 5 TCs) - average -

*Industry	-18.1%
*University/Education	-75.0%
*Government	- 3.8%
*Other	- 3.5%
*Women	-12.4%
*"Young"	-19.4%

A number of you reported that members of their WGs are predominantly from industrially developed countries, specifically USA, Western Europe and Japan and wished that their membership extends more towards developing and countries in transition. Some were concerned about the need to involve younger people in WG activities. Others felt that according to question no. 1 it was difficult to categorize members that are involved both in academia and industry, therefore this leads to a lower industry percentage.

IFIP's Committee for Cooperation with Industry and our Executive Board will further analyze the results and take your comments into account. We plan to review the results during IFIP's General Assembly in August and will, of course, keep you informed.

Sincerely yours,

**Takeo Miura**  
Chair, CII

**Plamen Nedkov**  
Executive Director, IFIP

### 3. From France with Love

Date: **Fri, 09 Nov 2001** 09:11:50 +0100  
From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>  
Subject: **From France with Love / Interview with A. Costes**

What is the French Vice-Minister's advice to the IFIP General Assembly?  
What should the Program Committee for IFIP Congress 2004 be aware of?  
What are the origins of WG 10.4?

Click here @ <http://www.ifip.or.at/secretariat/costes.htm> to find the answers.

The Delivery Co.

Exclusive Interview of the Delivery Co. with Prof. Alain Costes



**Left to right:** J.-C. Laprie, P. Nedkov, A. Costes and R. Aiken

**Alain Costes** is French Vice-Minister for Research and oversees the Directorate for Technology. He is Founding Vice-Chair of WG 10.4 on Dependable Computing and Fault-Tolerance, an IFIP Silver Core Holder since 1986 and Chairman of the Support Committee of IFIP Congress 2004 in Toulouse. Most importantly for IFIP, he is a strong believer in international cooperation, a keen supporter of IFIP and a Friend of the Delivery Co.

In conjunction with the participation of the IFIP President and the Executive Director in UNESCO's General Conference in Paris, Dr. Jean-Claude Laprie, French GA representative to IFIP, took the initiative to arrange a number of meetings with representatives of the French research community, industry and the public sector. Mr. Costes hosted a meeting and lunch at the Ministry of Research on 31 October and then accompanied the IFIP representatives to Toulouse for further meetings and discussions.

This interview was done on 2 November in the office of Prof. Costes at the Laboratoire d'Analyse et d'Architecture des Systemes (LAAS) in Toulouse.

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**Delivery Co.:** Alain, we know that you were one of the persons who played a major role in the establishment of IFIP WG 10.4 on Dependable Computing and Fault-Tolerance. Please share with us your recollections of the early days and the current work.

**Alain Costes:** The idea of forming an international group on Dependable Computing and Fault-Tolerance had floated around since the first Symposium on Fault-Tolerant Computing of the IEEE Computer Society in 1971. The founder and chairman of this event, Prof. Algirdas Avizienis from the University of California at Los Angeles, and I felt that an international organization such as IFIP could provide a natural home base for the group. The concept of WG 10.4 was formulated during the IFIP Working Conference on Reliable Computing and Fault Tolerance in September 1979 in London. Prof. Avizienis and I were both strongly involved in the event and we proposed the formation of the Group within IFIP. The proposal was accepted and Prof. Avizienis became the Founding Chair of the group and I was appointed as Vice Chairman. We both served in these posts until 1986.

WG 10.4 has held 38 meetings between 1981 and the end of 2000: 18 in the USA, 7 in France, 2 each in Canada, Germany, and Japan and one meeting in Australia, Austria, England, Italy, India, South Africa, Tunisia.

Seven IFIP Working Conferences on Dependable Computing for Critical Applications (DCCA) were organized by WG 10.4:

1989 - in Santa Barbara, California, USA,  
1991 - in Tucson, Arizona, USA,  
1992 - in Palermo, Sicily, Italy,  
1994 - in San Diego, California, USA,  
1995 - in Urbana-Champaign, Illinois, USA  
1997 - in Grainau (Garmisch-Partenkirchen), Germany,  
1999 - in San Jose California, USA.

Since 1982, WG 10.4 is a cooperating sponsor of the annual International Symposium on Fault-Tolerant Computing, organized by the TC on Fault-Tolerant Computing of the IEEE Computer Society.

In 2000 the IFIP "DCCA" series and the IEEE CS Symposium series were integrated to form the jointly sponsored IFIP-IEEE CS International Conference on Dependable Systems and Networks (DSN). The first DSN conference was in June 2000 in New York City, USA and the second edition was held in Gothenburg, Sweden in July 2001.

There are 3 persons with outstanding contributions to the work of WG 10.4. These are the Founding Chair, A. Avizienis, the Past Chair Jean-Claude Laprie and the late William C. Carter. Last year we instituted an IEEE CS-IFIP "William C. Carter" Award for Ph.D. students in the area of Fault-Tolerant Computing.

**Delivery Co.:** Your work at the WG level and your participation in IFIP Congresses and IFIP events make you a valuable resource person for advice on IFIP matters. Last year, you attended the IFIP General Assembly meeting in Beijing to support the French invitation for IFIP Congress 2004 in Toulouse. Is there anything that you wish to convey to the IFIP General Assembly?

**Alain Costes:** It is very important to say that at the working group level IFIP has a wealth of professional resources, depth of research excellence, specificity and continuity which are prerequisites for ongoing and future activities. The IFIP General Assembly offers a different environment. It is a management-oriented. The national GA representatives, who do not necessarily have to be specialized in IFIP WG topics, represent their societies and help forge the key parameters of IFIP's policy and strategy.

It is imperative for IFIP to be aware of emerging new areas of research and technology. For this reason, it may be a good idea if, along with the business issues, national GA representatives are invited to report on significant research results and new areas of interest at the national level. IFIP needs to keep such major developments on its radar screen and if necessary to take them onboard as new areas of activity. It is important that national GA representatives work closely with their TC members and WG representatives based in their country so as to rethink themes and activities and suggest necessary changes. Both IFIP and the national members could benefit from such links and closer partnership.

**Delivery Co.:** Is there any theme or topic for Congress 2004 that you consider particularly relevant?

**Alain Costes:** Many topics could be incorporated in the program but I find it essential to stress that the IPC needs to ensure a dynamic link between Research, Industry and Society if we wish the Congress to be successful. Such a link is important not only for IFIP, the Ministry of Research also places a lot of emphasis on these interrelated areas.

**Delivery Co.:** You are a Vice-Minister and your responsibilities include the Directorate for Technology at the Ministry of Research. Which areas does your Directorate cover?

**Alain Costes:** There are four main areas of activity overseen by the Directorate. These are Aeronautics and Space research, Life Sciences (including biotechnology, pharmacology), Science and Technology in Information and Communication, and Environment (energy incl. nuclear energy and transportation). We also

have a supplementary activity related to Information and Communication Technology at all levels of education.

**Delivery Co.:** We recently informed the IFIP Community about a project in Grenoble [PN ref. <http://www.ifip.or.at/mail/msg00074.html>]. Is the Ministry involved?

**Alain Costes:** Yes, the project "European Residence dedicated to Educational Multimedia" is an activity falling within the scope of responsibilities of the Ministry of Research. I am glad that Prof. Cornu is closely associated with IFIP.

**Delivery Co.:** You are born in Toulouse and you have gone up the research and administration ladders in your field -- you were for 12 years Director of the Lab before Jean-Claude took over. You were President of the National Institute of Polytechnics in Toulouse until October 2000 and then before the end of your term you had to leave for Paris with your new appointment. What do you miss in Paris?

**Alain Costes:** Actually, every Friday I am back in Toulouse for the weekend. The moment I am back I try to forget my work at the Ministry and to concentrate on my research interests in the environment of LAAS.

**Delivery Co.:** We hope to have some 2,500 participants for our Congress in Toulouse. Some of them are connoisseurs of the French cuisine and would definitely appreciate a good recommendation for wining and dining. Any suggestions?

**Alain Costes:** Now that's very hard to do since there are many good restaurants in Toulouse. The Restaurant d'Opera, where we were last night, is a "two Michelin stars" establishment and not much can go wrong there but, of course, a meal could be expensive. One typical French restaurant, which the delegates could check out is the Brasserie "Flo" with good cuisine and a nice view of the Garonne.

**Delivery Co.:** Any special dish or drink of the region?

**Alain Costes:** The Gaillac is a local wine and the region is famous for its Armagnac. A local dish for the delegates to try is "Cassoulet" consisting of white beans, Toulouse sausages, confit de canard (duck conserve). [PN- After the interview we did some research and found a recipe at [http://www.saveurs.sympatico.ca/ency\\_3/haricot/casoulet.htm](http://www.saveurs.sympatico.ca/ency_3/haricot/casoulet.htm)]

**Delivery Co.:** Hobbies?

**Alain Costes:** Tennis, Swimming, Belote [PN – French card game, also very popular in Bulgaria]

**Delivery Co.:** Do you follow the communications of the Delivery Co.? Can we expect to see you some day in Laxenburg?

**Alain Costes:** Yes, indeed! I get your mail at LAAS and I would appreciate if you could also subscribe me with the Ministry ID. I would like to visit you in Laxenburg and I will let you know.

#### 4. The Inside Story

Date: **Wed, 01 Aug 2001 14:13:58 +0200**

From: Plamen Nedkov <nedkov@ifip.or.at>

Subject: **The Inside Story: A Fresh Look at TC 3 ...or is TC 3 a Healthy Baby?**

The World Conference on Computers and Education (WCCE 2001), 29 July – 3 August 2001, unrolls this week in Copenhagen and presents an opportunity for a fresh look at IFIP's TC 3 on Education. It is a tricky business to write about a TC if you are not a member but we take the challenge with a good intention to put TC 3 in the limelight. The TC 3 Chair and the WCCE Conference Chair will certainly produce a WCCE report later on, which will offer more in-depth material for GA 2001 and for the IFIP Newsletter.

TC 3 operationally came into existence in 1963. Since then, it was chaired by R. A. Buckingham † (UK) 1963-1972, D.H. Wolbers (NL) 1972-1978, J. Hebenstreit (FR) 1978-1984, W. Brauer (DE) 1985-1990, P. Bollerslev (DK) 1991-1996, and B. Samways UK since 1996. Its first major activity in the 60-ies was the organization of a series of seminars primarily to assist developing countries. The first WCCE was held in Amsterdam in August 1970.

TC 3 provides a significant part of the IFIP-UNESCO cooperation content. TC 3 experts have developed a series of IFIP-UNESCO curriculum projects, some of them translated in as many as 7 languages. Currently, IFIP's relations with UNESCO's Institute on IT in Education, based in Moscow, are set on a successful track. IFIP representatives, among them Messrs. Cornu (FR), Morel (CH), Sinko (FI) and Knierzinger (AT), helped launch a series of intergovernmental seminars for Education Ministers and other high-ranking decision makers. IFIP was a leading partner in the organization of the Second UNESCO International Congress on Education and Informatics in Moscow in 1996 where 2 past presidents, Messrs. Bl. Sendov (BG) and K. Bauknecht (CH), along with the current one (then TC 3 Chair) were involved.

In recent years, TC 3 and its WGs are annually kept busy with some 2-3 major events and certainly there is potential for further conference activities. TC 3 helped organize the ICEUT conference during WCC 2000 format in Beijing and features prominently on the program of WCC 2002 in Montreal. The Committee continues its involvement in the International Olympiad in Informatics (IOI) and has a long record of publications. The success of the Journal on "Education and Information Technologies" is a major endeavor at present.

In 1993, TC 3 charged Mr. Peter Bollerslev with the responsibility to organize the 7th Conference in the WCCE series in Copenhagen. WCCE is the second largest series of IFIP conferences and for certain conferences, for example WCCE '90 in Sydney, Australia, there were some 2400 participants. The conferences are organized every 5 years -- the 6th WCCE was in Birmingham in 1995 and the 8th WCCE, and first in Africa, will convene in Cape Town, South Africa in 2005.

In Copenhagen, Brian Samways, the TC 3 Chair, led his team of Officers and Working group Chairs on the conference catwalk to display some of the major achievements in ICT and Education. During the formal Opening Ceremony on Monday, 30 July, a Danish trio disguised in Scottish attire played the bagpipes. This puzzled everyone and the Conference Chair (and IFIP President) explained that this was so in order to test the shrewdness of the attendees. He promised to give an explanation by the end of the conference. The Conference Chair then reported that there were some 1,200 participants from 66 countries and 250 paper presentations were scheduled from 38 countries!

Mrs. Margarethe Vestager, an impressive young lady who is also the Danish Minister for Education, talked about the Danish experience. Then another impressive lady, Mrs. Aicha Bah Diallo, Deputy ADG of UNESCO for Education, addressed the conference on behalf of the UNESCO Director General and underlined the strategic importance UNESCO assigns to its partnership with IFIP. The IFIP-UNESCO partnership in Education was singled out for a special session on Tuesday, 31st August.

The Opening coincided with the birthday of an IFIP Silver Core holder and past WG 3.5 Chair, Erling Schmid. In one corner of the Program Committee room, another trio, composed of President Elect R. Aiken, IFIP Honorary Member and WCCE 2001 Treasurer, A. Melbye, and the IFIP Executive Director, made an attempt

to sing Happy Birthday. Erling seemed not to be particularly impressed by this performance and looked forward to the reception that evening at City Hall.

The conference exhibition hosted a booth of IFIP's publisher, Kluwer and its representative was busy selling IFIP proceedings. All WCCE participants were given a one-year's free subscription to the TC 3 Journal on EIT hoping that many of them will continue subscribing in future.

A Press conference was held that afternoon and some of the Conference sponsors -- Sun Microsystems, Lego Dacta, Learning Lab DK, Centrinity, Gyldendal -- were given the opportunity to explain why their companies find it important to interact with the ICT in Education community.

Prior to the Opening Ceremony, TC 3 held its business meetings with all its WG officers and a record membership attendance. Six of the attendees -- J. Wibe, IPC Chair of WCC 2002, P. Bollerslev, President and Danish GA representative, R. Aiken, President Elect and GA representative of ACM, R. Morel, TC 3 Vice-Chair and GA rep of Switzerland, A. del Moral, new TC 3 Spanish representative and IFIP GA representative, and B. Samways, TC 3 Chair and WCCE 2001 Program Chair -- will be in Natal, Brazil for the IFIP General Assembly 2001, and this fact alone is an indicator of TC3's involvement in IFIP.

The IFIP Executive Director was offered the possibility to address the TC3 officers and members and to talk about IFIP activities, partnerships, opportunities and challenges. He was given a warm welcome and was particularly happy to observe TC 3's commitment to IFIP and to its objectives and operations. A meeting with Prof. A. Kristjansdottir, representative of Iceland, was dedicated to explore possibilities for the Icelandic Society for information Processing to join IFIP as a Full Member. Together with the TC3 Chair, the ED also met with representatives of Mexico who felt that Mexico should be an IFIP member.

And finally, when the meetings were over and the evening was expectant, the TC 3 community was hosted by the local organizers in splendid style. The hunger was subdued and the thirst was quenched and on this front, as on the education front, TC 3 proved to be a Healthy Baby...and, as you know, healthy babies always demand a little more :-)

The Delivery Co.  
Copenhagen – Laxenburg, 30 July, 2001