
Reports and Communications

ISMICK'96

The 4th International Symposium on the Management of Industrial and Corporate Knowledge (ISMICK) was held in Rotterdam, Oct. 21-22, 1996, with some 75 participants. It was organized by the ERASM Center for Knowledge Management of the Erasmus University Rotterdam, in cooperation with the Eindhoven University of Technology, Twijnstra Guddé Management Consultants, and the Institut International pour l'Intelligence Artificielle (IIA). Previous international ISMICK symposia were held in Compiègne, France (1993, 1994, 1995).

Whereas the first two ISMICK symposia focussed on the problems of knowledge management in general, the one of 1995 dealt with *Economics, Structure, and Quality*. ISMICK'96 addressed *Organization, Competence and Methodology*. This topic was outlined in keynote addresses by Dr. J.C.G. STAM, Prof. J.-P. BARTHES, Prof. M.S. VOX, and Dr. A.S. GANGULY.

The proceedings of the Symposium (307p.) were published by Ergon Verlag (see the announcement at the back cover page). For further information turn to Dr. J.F. Schreinemakers, Erasmus University, Faculteit der Bedrijfskunde, Vakgroep Methodologie & Ethiek, Postbus 1738, NL-3000 DR Rotterdam. Fax +31-10 452 0204.

Austrian Commission for Subject Cataloguing

The Commission (abbreviated KofSE) has held several meetings in 1996 in January, April, June, July and September. At the June meeting in Vienna (TU UB) Prof. W. GÖDERT spoke on the possible methods of future subject cataloguing with examples for retrieval interfaces of OPACs and first results of a retrieval test of the MILOS-II Project. The September meeting took place during the Austrian Bibliothekartag in Innsbruck, 4-5 Sept. 1996. In the topical session 2 the following papers were presented: Patrice LANDRY: Perspectives of comparative subject cataloguing: Canada, USA, Europe. - M. KUNZ: Further development of the SWD (Standard Subject Heading File); multilingual standard databases. - F. GEISSELMANN: RSWK 3rd ed. Regensburg Network Classification online).

For further information on the activities of this very active Commission, KofSE, turn to Dr. Margit Sandner, Universitätsbibliothek Wien, Dr. Karl Lueger Ring 1, A-1010 Wien, Austria. Fax (+name) +43-1-4088485. email: margit.sandner@univie.ac.at.

British Classification Research Group

The CRG Meetings 305 and 306 took place at University College London on 12 July and 18 Oct. 1996 respectively. At CRG 305, Mr. MILLS presented a 10-page outline of Class DG Earth sciences in the Bliss Classification, 2nd ed (BC2).

The discussions reported in the minutes treated the enumeration of dependent Processes under special Parts, the problems of Deformation, of Processes and Structures, of Hierarchy of Parts in the main facet, of Textonics and large-scale structures, and of Geomorphology.

At the 306th meeting, an 8-page outline of Class B Physics in BC2 was presented by Mr. Jack MILLS. This had already been discussed in the Oct. 1994 and Nov. 1995 meetings. The present outline incorporated a number of amendments. The full schedule was nearly complete and should be finished before the end of the year. The following subjects were discussed at this meeting: Particular theories (B3L), Classes in Mechanics, Particle Physics (BJ), Bulk Matter Physics (BU) and the citation order between the arrays of particle types. - The next meeting was foreseen for Dec. 6, 1996 at 2:15, UCL. Agenda: Earth Sciences (incl. geography) in BC2.

Infoterm - a Fresh Start

After a long period of financial uncertainty, the International Information Centre for Terminology (Infoterm) is now continuing to operate within a completely new framework. At the beginning of July 1996, the Infoterm office, together with the Wüster Archives, were moved to a new location in a technology centre in the South of Vienna. Although the office was not yet fully operational, the 1996 meetings of the Technical Committee ISO/TC37 "Terminology (principles and coordination)" were successfully organized at the Austrian Standards Institute in the week of 19-23 August 1996. The TC 37 meetings were followed by an International Workshop on "The Multilingual Information Society (MLIS) and Terminology Standardization" at the Hungarian Culture Foundation in Budapest, held on 24 August 1996 on the occasion of the 60th anniversary of the international standardization of terminological principles and methods and the 25th anniversary of Infoterm. This Workshop was organized as a pre-conference tour of the 4th International Congress on Terminology and Knowledge Engineering TKE'96, which was followed by a number of highly interesting workshops and tutorials in Vienna, 26-30 August 1996.

The 29th of August 1996 saw the rebirth of Infoterm as an international association under Austrian law.

Its membership consists (1) of regular members (i.e. natural persons admitted by invitation of the Executive Board), (2) associate members (i.e., national and international terminology organizations or specialized organization and institutions active in the field of terminology), (3) affiliate members (i.e., mostly members of Infoterm member organizations and bodies of associate members).

The overall objective of Infoterm is to support specialized communication and knowledge transfer by:

- (1) promoting general cooperation in the field of terminology,
- (2) providing information and terminological activities,
- (3) recording data on terminological publications,
- (4) promoting the preparation of reliable terminologies by subject-field specialists and institutions,
- (5) initiating, organizing and coordinating a) the development and application of harmonized methods, as well as b) the development and utilization

of electronic tools in the field of terminology in particular. Infoterm will continue its role as the international clearinghouse and referral centre in the field of terminology, but will have to focus its services in the future on its members and close cooperation partners. These efforts will concentrate on providing information on terminological activities and the results thereof, and the respective data, publications and services will henceforth increasingly be provided in electronic form. Infoterm will furthermore continue to advise subject specialists and related organizations with respect to the preparation of high-quality terminologies, the application of internationally standardized methods, and state-of-the-art terminology software. Upon request, terminology programmes or projects can be coordinated or monitored. In cooperation with the Austrian Standards Institute Infoterm will continue to administer certain standardizing activities, including the secretariat of the Technical Committee ISO/TC37 *Terminology (principles and co-ordination)* of the International Standards Organization (ISO). The new address and contact information for Infoterm are: International Information Centre for Terminology - Infoterm, Simmeringer Hauptstr. 24, A-1110 Vienna, Austria. Tel.: +43-1-74040-441, Fax: -74040-740.

European Association for Terminology founded at Southern Denmark Business School

The new European Association for Terminology (EAFT) was founded on 3 October 1996 at the Southern Denmark Business School in Kolding on the occasion of the international conference *Language and Business Life*. The founder members were drawn from European terminology organizations, language companies and individuals and representatives of businesses in other sectors.

The groundwork of the Association was prepared in the report produced by the EU-funded POINTER Project (*Proposals for an Operational Infrastructure for Terminology in Europe*), which recommended the establishment of such an organization.

Terminology plays an important role in documentation, and in information retrieval and management, as well as in standardization, translation and lexicography. In other words, terminology is crucial to communication - not only across borders, but also among native speakers of a language.

The main goals of the new, non-profit Association are the promotion of plurilingualism and the creation of the cooperative structures needed at European level to further terminology work and training. In addition, the Association aims to heighten the awareness of the importance of terminology, especially, among decision-makers and domain specialists, who use terminology every day without always being aware of the need for clarity and coherence. European level special interest groups will help the exchange of terminological information related to specific domains, as well as promoting and coordinating user-oriented projects and the reusability of existing resources.

For further information contact: Ms. A. Grinsted, President EAFT, Handelshøjskole Syd, Engstien 1, DK-6000 Kolding,

Denmark. Phone: +45 31 11 11. Fax: +45 32 14 48. Email: annelise@ko.hhs.dk

Ordinal and Symbolic Data Analysis

An international conference on this topic will be held from March 19-21, 1997 at the Technische Hochschule Darmstadt. Invitations have been sent out also via the Internet indicating that this conference continues a sequence of conferences which started with two conferences on ordinal data analysis in March 1992 at the TH Darmstadt and in October 1993 at the University of Massachusetts (Amherst, USA) and continued with the International Conference on Ordinal and Symbolic Data Analysis in June 1995 at the Ecole Nationale Supérieure des Télécommunications, Paris. The theme of the conferences is motivated by the fact that ordinal and symbolic data occur quite frequently, but theoretical tools for handling ordinal and symbolic data are not sufficiently developed. Conference organizers are: E. DIDAY, Paris, M.F. JANOWITZ, Amherst, and R. WILLE, Darmstadt. Invited speakers are: J.P. BARTHELEMY, Brest, J.P. DOIGNON, Bruxelles, B. GANTER, Dresden, H.J. HENNING, Bremen, B. LECLERC, Paris, F. R. McMORRIS, Louisville, P. PATTISON, Melbourne, I. RIVAL, Ottawa, F. ROBERTS, New Brunswick, and P. SUPPES, Stanford. The conference fee will be DM 50 for regular participants. Applications and abstracts should be sent to Prof. Dr. Rudolf Wille, FB Mathematik, TH, Schloßgartenstr. 7, D-64289 Darmstadt. Phone: +49-6151-163415. Fax: -1164011. Email: biedermann@mathematik.th-darmstadt.de

Courses on Conceptual Data Analysis and Conceptual Knowledge Processing, Darmstadt 1997

From March 17-18, 1997, directly preceding the conference announced above, the ERNSTSCHRÖDERZENTRUM FÜR BEGRIFFLICHE WISSENSVERARBEITUNG, Darmstadt, offers two courses of an introductory character on the topics mentioned. The course on the former has the following contents: Tables and contexts, Conceptual hierarchies, Line diagrams, Implications in data, Conceptual analysis of real data, Practical training on the programs CONIMP and DIAGRAM. The introduction to Conceptual Knowledge Processing comprises: Tables and contexts, Development of conceptual scales, Line diagrams of conceptual hierarchies, The structure of Conceptual Data Systems, Application of the programs TOSCANA and ANACONDA.

Target groups are Data Analysts in industry, administration and science, decision makers as well as scientists from various fields such as: sociologists, psychologists, linguists, medics, biologists, etc. The courses will be held at the TH Darmstadt, Schloßgartenstr. 7. The course fee is DM 500.-, reductions will be granted to the staff of universities and polytechnics as well as to students. For further information and registration materials turn to the Ernst Schröder Zentrum für Begriffliche Wissensverarbeitung e.V., Schloßgartenstr. 7, D-64289 Darmstadt.

Cont'd on p.192