

No 2/90

User registration-reminder

Newly registered ECHO users will receive one password only, i.e. an eight character password terminating with the character 'D'.

Both versions of Eurodicautom will be accessible under the same password.

Existing users having Eurodicautom passwords terminating with the character 'E' can continue using them until the 01/07/90. Should you have any questions relating to the above, please contact the Helpdesk.

Training

All readers may remain up-to-date on all training dates and locations by entering the following command:
INFO SEMINARS

New Fax service for TED

ECHO is delighted to announce the arrival of a new and innovative FAX service for TED (Tenders Electronic Daily) which has been tailor-made especially for those people that cannot avail of the existing telex or online services.

Information from TED, the electronic version of the 'S' supplement of the Official Journal can now be transmitted to you automatically by fax. Similar to the telex service, selected notices of public contracts chosen on the basis of a number of keywords corresponding to your organisation's activity profile will be sent to you directly on the morning of their publication.

Depending upon the output format chosen, users will be invoiced per document sent. Tariffs have yet to be formally announced but should be similar to those of the TED telex service. For further details, please contact the ECHO Helpdesk.

More comprehensive Guide to European Information Services



As you have probably discovered during your recent logons to ECHO, the European Information Industry Association (EIIA) is seeking users for a user-survey on DIANEGUIDE. EIIA has been awarded a contract by the Commission (DG XIII), under which it should be studied how the DIANEGUIDE could be turned into a proper guide to European Electronic Information Services. The items to be studied are:

- ◆ which products should be included in the guide?
- ◆ which geographical areas should be covered?
- ◆ which output-options should be available to users?
- ◆ how the guide should be marketed?

In addition to this, EIIA will establish a network with correspondents in all EEC-countries, a network that will supply input to the guide.

In order to get some indications about the preferences of the

(potential) users, EIIA currently seeks people who will participate in the user-survey.

If you are interested in participating, or if you have view-points or comments to the study, you are kindly asked to drop your name and address etc. in the ECHO mail-box, or to contact the project leader:

Lennart Scharff
EIIA-Secretariat
B.P. 262
L-2012 Luxembourg
Tel.: +352 434183

BROKERSGUIDE BROKERSGUIDE

a) Update

In our efforts to update the current version of 'Brokersguide,' questionnaires were mailed out recently to all information brokers listed in the file. With approximately 25% of the total number of respondents having replied to date, we have already been able to update a considerable number of records. To locate the above-mentioned records, simply enter the following command:

FIND UD=90\$
(UD = update date)

b) Printed version :

'Brokersguide' is now available in printed form! Please note that this new publication will be distributed FREE of charge and will initially be limited to the English language only. If you are interested in receiving a copy of the above, please send your request to the ECHO Customer service via fax, mailbox or telex.

Modification of fieldlabel

Please note that the following field labels will be altered shortly:

BROKERSGUIDE:

Field label

(old)(new)
CNNA
DTDEP
CDCOM
TFTEL
TXTLX
MXMBX
VXVTX
FXFAX

DIANEGUIDE:

(old)(new)
NAT ACT

Users will be notified directly after the logon procedure once the

above-mentioned modifications have come into effect. For a temporary period, both the old and new field labels will operate concurrently although the INFO file will list only the newly adopted field identifiers. Eventually, those fields which have been replaced will be phased out over a period of time.

To remain up-to-date as changes occur, please read all system 'broadcast' messages with care.

New service features

We would like to introduce you to two new features of the ECHO database service which we are convinced will facilitate and render more successful searching on ECHO.

The new features are:

a) Menu-guided versions of Brokersguide, Dianeguide and TED.

Every user now has menu access to the above-mentioned databases. By entering the command:

CALL DIANE

directly after the logon procedure, the system will automatically present you with the opening menu of Dianeguide and Brokersguide.

Registered TED users not too well acquainted with the CCL retrieval language now have a second 'menu' option available to them by simple entering the command:

CALL TED

Currently 'menu' screens exist in English only, but it should be noted that other language versions are planned and will be implemented shortly. Despite the above, users may however continue to search in any one of the available database language versions by entering keywords etc. in the language of their choice. e.g. even though you may be searching in the German version of the Dianeguide file, the menu screen will for the time being appear in English.

b) Database Technical sheets

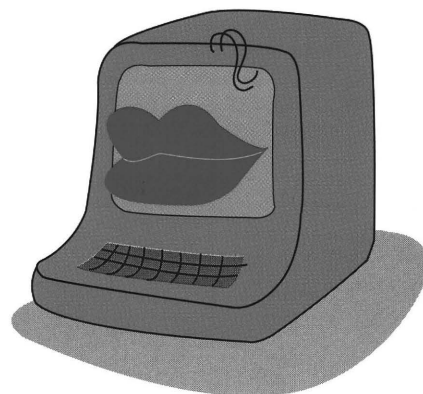
The preparation of technical sheets for each of the ECHO files was announced in the previous issue of Echonews. We are now pleased to declare the availability of technical sheets for:

Brokersguide; Dianeguide and TED (for TED customers only). These first issues should be considered as prototypes and hence, we would greatly welcome your comments, criticisms or suggestions if possible.

Technical sheets for the other databases are in preparation and will be made available in due course.

We hope that the above features will be of assistance to you and we look forward to receiving your comments.

ECHO Experiments commenced...



Voice in/out project (Trial run)

Trial users for the recently announced voice operated information service on ECHO will be able to experiment with this new retrieval technique from 5th June onwards for about 6 weeks. Test manuals have been sent out to all trial users.

Please note that it is still not too late to come forth as a volunteer to experiment with and provide feedback for this innovative service. If you would like to be amongst the first to put this new prototype to the test, please contact the ECHO helpdesk without delay!

Natural language access to Dianeguide

The newly developed natural language access version to the Dianeguide database will become operational for test users between the 1st and 15th of July 1990. For further details, please contact the Helpdesk service. The opening of the service for all customers is expected by September 1990 latest.

TED corner IEL

No special tariffs for 'Brokers' in future.

ECHO is pleased to announce that as from 01/07/90 onwards all TED users will be invoiced on the same basis, i.e. there will be no longer be a special tariff for information brokers. The database producer, the Office for Official Publications, stated that from this period onwards, usage of TED and its archive files will be billed to all users at the rate of 36 ECU per connect hour (or 0.60 ECU per connect minute). It may also be worth noting that ECHO does not intend to implement a fee for documents that are 'screened' whilst searching online in TED.

Improved searchability for 'Awarding Authorities'.

The first paragraph in a public procurement document, pre-information publication, invitation to tender or contract award publication provides the name and address of the awarding authority, i.e. the public organisation wishing to 'purchase' or to undertake construction work. ECHO has now introduced a new field entitled 'Awarding Unit' with the corresponding field label 'AU' which contains the name of the organisation, limited to a maximum of 70 characters.

Users may search directly in this field or in freetext , e.g.:

FIND AU=\$POST\$
or, FIND HOSPITAL\$/AU

to locate all documents containing the words "POST" or "HOSPITAL".

Users may also select the 'AU' field for viewing with the SHOW command by specifying the field name as a format parameter, e.g.:

SHOW F=AU

It should be noted that the contents of the 'AU' have not been translated into the different

Community languages, unlike other parts of the TED database. We would advise you therefore to view the descriptions of the different awarding authorities following a search for documents relating to a specific country, e.g.:

FIND CY=FR
SHOW F=TI;AU;TD

to obtain the titles, awarding authorities and documents types of tender documents. Should you have any suggestions as to how ECHO might improve searchability within the TED database, please forward your ideas to the Customer support service.

Menu-guided access now available.

To use TED effectively , a normal user is required to have a certain understanding of the contents and structure of the database, a knowledge of the rules concerning public procurement, and of course must be familiar with the commands of the Common Command Language, used by ECHO.

All of the above can however represent a barrier, especially if the database is not consulted on a daily basis. In order to simplify the entire search procedure, ECHO has developed a menu-interface for the TED file to facilitate easier life for the casual user in particular.

The menu offers the user a selection of typical search strategies to choose from. e.g. looking for the latest update and limiting this result to 'invitations to tender' from a specific country. Every user registered for TED has automatic access to the menu version of the file by simply entering the command :

CALL TED

The menu version is available in English only for the time being but it should be noted that all other Community language versions are planned and will be implemented in due course.

We would invite you to experiment with the new menu-guided version of TED and to provide us with your comments or criticisms as soon as possible. Remember that your feedback will enable us to improve the nature of our service !

DB news Corner

If you look this time into our DIANEGUIDE database you will find a lot of new Danish databases. Most of them will probably be unfamiliar to you. However, if you are interested in databases from Denmark, these will be of high value to you. Although for the time being there is only a Danish abstract (remember that the latest databases are always in the original language), the translations into all Community languages will follow two to three weeks later.

EIS - GUIDE:

We would once again like to draw your attention to the front page article where we ask you to give your comments for a future and more comprehensive DIANEGUIDE (working title: EIS - GUIDE - European Information Services guide). Your views will help us to produce an inventory, which is as close as possible to the user needs.

Multilingual HELP messages

You may have noticed recently that ECHO's error messages have become more and more European, i.e. they now exist in German, Dutch, French, English and Italian. The remaining Community languages will follow in due course.

Users may change their "dialogue language" by altering the new parameter 'LANG' with the following command sequence:

```
DEF LANG = XXXX
```

where XXXX is the language code requested.

Language codes are as follows:

ENGL	= English
FREN	= French
DUTH	= Dutch
GERM	= German
ITAL	= Italian

Some typical error messages are as follows:

a) in English:

" Either the word 'XXXX' that you are looking for does not exist or your entry contains an error. Correct your entry or continue with another entry."

in French:

" Ou bien le mot 'XXXX' que vous recherchez n'existe pas, ou bien vous avez commis une erreur lors de l'entree des donnees; corrigez votre entree ou introduisez d'autres donnees."

b) in English:

"The command entered is incorrect. Check the command against the list of commands or the system manual."

in French:

" La commande introduite est incorrecte. Veuillez verifier en consultant le cas echeant la liste des commandes ou le manuel systeme."



The framework programme:

THE COMMUNITY'S RESEARCH STRATEGY FOR THE PERIOD 1990- 1994 :

The Commission adopts the specific programmes of the new Research and Technological Development 'Programme'. Barely two days after the Council's formal adoption on 23 April of the third framework programme of Community research and technological development (1990-1994), the Commission gave the green light to the proposals aimed at putting the programme into effect. It adopted all the proposals for specific programmes on its agenda of 25 April, i.e. almost all of the specific programmes envisaged by the framework programme (13 out of 15). By presenting nearly all the specific programmes to Parliament and to the Council immediately and en bloc, the Commission is doing everything in its power to ensure that the new framework programme will be implemented rapidly, fully and consistently. The importance of this implementation for European industry lies in helping it face the challenge of international competition which is making itself felt more and more as the large internal market looms just around the corner. The very marked simplification and formal harmonization of the new programmes (all the proposals are based on the same model) will, incidentally, smooth the procedure for approving them and subsequently facilitate their management and access to them by interested parties, especially the small and medium-sized firms.

THE AIM :

The launch of the operational phase of Community research and technological development activities arising from the third framework programme is a sign that one of the policies that form the foundation of the Single Act is being intensified. In a world economy which is characterised by fierce industrial competition, and in a large open market, the Community now possesses a tool with which, always respecting the principle of subsidiarity, it can guarantee the support which is needed to maintain the international competitiveness of European industry. The European Community is the world's most open market for imports. In 1989 the total level of imported goods and commodities coming into the twelve Member States of the Community was 1,100 billion dollars compared with 480 for the United States and 190 for Japan. This is why the Community must, as laid down in the Single Act, strengthen the scientific and technological foundations of its industry.

The Community's research strategy during the period 1990-1994 will concentrate upon three main areas in order to take into account major challenges that have already been identified: industrial competitiveness through the application of enabling technologies (microelectronics, telecommunications and new materials); the management of natural resources (environment, biotechnologies

and energy) and, finally, the achievement of maximum mobility, in particular for young European researchers. The main lines of the framework programme in the field of research are as follows:

- ◆ Telematic systems and the large internal market
- ◆ The challenges of the environment, health and biotechnology
- ◆ A Europe of young researchers.

A look at the different proposals of the third framework programme reveals a change in the priorities for Community action. The share of funds allocated to research in the environmental field (ECU 414 million), to biotechnology (ECU 164 million), to agro industrial research (ECU 333 million) and to the mobility of research workers (ECU 518 million) has increased significantly compared with the past, reflecting an innovative new approach. In absolute terms, however, information technology (ECU 1362 million) and the industrial technologies (ECU 748 million) maintain nevertheless their importance.

NEW DIMENSIONS

Like the new framework programme for which they are the implementing tools, the various specific programmes, while building on the results of previous research, do not in any way merely continue activities already underway. On the contrary, they have entirely new perspectives, sometimes as regards the substance of the programmes and sometimes the way in which they are managed. The following are just the five main aspects that are new to the programme:

- ◆ The first concerns the specific research effort that is to be made in the field of telematics systems in areas of general interest. The aim here is to make it possible to interconnect the different networks currently existing in the different Member States so as to set up a veritable "European Nervous System". Such a system is essential to the effective completion of the single market. Only when it is in place will effective manage-

ment flows be possible after the frontiers have been legally abolished, especially in the customs, transport and social security areas.

- ◆ Secondly, particular attention has been given to the exploitation of human capital and mobility. The specific programme on this is intended to encourage, in part by awarding training grants, the participation of research workers (especially young ones) in high-level research activities in centres of excellence, networks of centres of excellence or specialist installations. The objective is to provide training and mobility opportunities for some 5000 researchers over the five years of the programme.
- ◆ Thirdly, among the horizontal aspects, the evolution of that area reserved for the environment must be underlined. Environment will in future extend beyond the boundaries of the specific programme devoted to it: it has now become a dimension of all the Community's research efforts. An example of this, in the industrial area of transport, is the clean car project that is already under study in the present Brite-Euram programme.
- ◆ Fourthly, the accent has been placed on the prenormative dimension of Community developed research, particularly in the context of biotechnology and the environment. The aim is to increase, by effective research activities, the scientific and technical knowledge that is the essential prerequisite for the joint formulation of common legislation.
- ◆ A fifth and final innovation concerns the management of the programmes. Besides the traditional method of selecting participants by means of public calls for proposals, the possibility has been introduced of making use, in exceptional circumstances, of a 'special' procedure. This possibility, enables unsolicited proposals (spontaneous proposals not made in response to a call) to be taken into consideration, but only if these proposals meet the programme objectives and make a significant contribution in terms of originality and innovativeness.

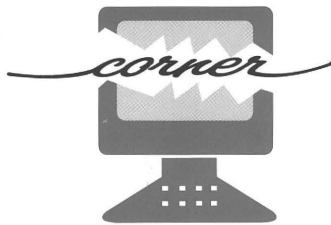
The aim is to effectively face up to the specific demands of research in which progress is being made at an increasingly rapid rate and where unforeseeable breakthroughs often occur. How ECHO complements the Framework

Programme: How many firms commence R&D programmes only to discover later that somebody else has already created the product in question? Reinventing the wheel occurs only too often and European industry pays dearly in wasted resources and vexation. Likewise, how many executives realise after a disaster that all of the necessary indications and warnings about how to avoid it had already been presented to them, but were hidden amidst a mass of irrelevant information? Most small and medium firms spend little or nothing on information. More time spent on market intelligence could however go a long way to creating profits. How can they become more efficient, improve profitability and remain up to date on what their competitors are doing? The answer involves obtaining access to the following information: news; advice; intelligence and experience.

To help Europeans in all walks of life become more efficient, the European Commission launched an AWARENESS campaign (of which ECHO is a part) under its IMPACT programme with the aim of:

- a) telling people what sort of information is available, and
- b) making access to the main information sources more easy.

ECHO offers a range of information on research, which will be integrated into a comprehensive information service called 'CORDIS' (Community Research and Development Information Service). As more and more information becomes available in electronic form, users often find it difficult to keep track of what is on offer, hence, consulting ECHO (e.g. DIANEGUIDE) not only makes sense, but could even prove to be a life-saver for many small companies.



From 03/05/90 onwards, ECHO has installed a new 48 kbit entry to the mainframe computer with 40 virtual circuits (parallel entries)..

The implementation of this new 'highway' is a further indication of the amount of the traffic that ECHO is having to cope with... another sign of the host organisation's increasing importance for introducing people into the world of online. 1/3 of the traffic is via public passwords.

I would like to order the following video(s):

- ☐ ECHO short (without CCL)
☐ ECHO long (with CCL)
☐ TED
 each 15.-ECU

Language:

- ☐ English
☐ French
☐ German
☐ Italian
☐ Spanish

Format:

- ☐ VHS

System

- ☐ Pal ☐ Secam

I would also like to receive the new ECHO Manual(cost price 10.-ECU)

Name.....

Org.:.....

Street.....

City.....

Country.....

A cheque ofECU is included (no delivery without cheque)

ECHO Training

ECHO will be organising a series of CCL training courses and Information days in various towns throughout Europe over the coming months.

If you would like to become familiar with the retrieval technique of the CCL (Common Command Language), or, would simply like to know a bit more about ECHO and the European Information Market, please contact the ECHO Help-desk for further details on how to register at the following address:

ECHO Help-desk
 B.P. 2373
 L- 1023 Luxembourg
 LUXEMBOURG G.D.

Tel: +352-48 80 41
 Fax: +352-48 80 40
 Tlx: 2181 eurolu

COURSE DATES AND LOCATIONS:

Information Days :

Paris 19/06/90 (FR)
 Copenagen 08/10/90 (DA)
 09/10/90 (DA)
 Rome 02/10/90 (FR)
 London 02/10/90 (EN)

CCL Training Days :

Paris 20/06/90 (FR)
 Rome 02/10/90 (FR)
 London 03/10/90 (EN)
 Copenhagen 10/10/90 (DA)
 Copenhagen 11/10/90 (DA)

Database Days: (for experienced users only)

Paris 21/06/90 (FR)

(XX) course language

Remark:

All the courses are open to everybody. Participants need not be ECHO clients.

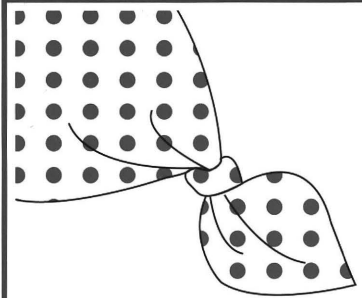
The aim is to train people in the basic techniques of information retrieval.

NEU!

Deutsche Ted Nutzer können ab sofort mit dem Befehl

CALL TEDD

die deutsche Version des Menüs testen. Teilen Sie uns bitte Ihre Erfahrungen mit.



DIARY DATES

ECHO will be represented at the following exhibitions over the coming months:

Exhibitions:

London LONDON LANG. SHOW
 19-21/06/90
 Rome EURINFO
 18-20 09/90
 Lisbon EXPOLINGUA
 03-05/10/90
 Herning TECHN. CEN. CENT.
 11-15/10/90
 Milan SMAU
 04-08/10/90
 Paris INFODIAL
 17-20/90

Ask the ECHO helpdesk for availability of tickets

ECHO

ECHO News is a bi-monthly publication of the European Commission Host Organisation POB 2373, L-1023 LUXEMBOURG

A service provided by the Commission of the European Communities DGXIII: Telecommunications, Information Industries and Innovation

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Printed by:
 Edit -Press
 Esch/Alzette - Luxembourg

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