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PRESS RELEASE

KNOWING ALL ABOUT 1992 THE EASY WAY :
INFO 92 SERVING CITIZENS AND THE ECONOMIC SCENE

A new database, INFO 92, created by the European Commission will allow EC citizens, also through videotex, to find an easy access to precise information about all aspects of the achievement of the Internal Market.

The database was officially presented to the public by Vice-President Martin Bangemann on Friday, April 21 in Brussels.

INFO 92 will be accessible as of June 1, 1989 both through Videotex and a database system. Until September 30, 1989, information retrieval will be free of charge for sequences of 10 minutes each. As of October 1, the cost of consulting INFO 92 will be 10 ECU per hour on-line.

INFO 92 will be immediately available in English, French, German and Dutch. By the end of June 1989, all other linguistic versions, except Greek, will be available.

Europe live and transparent

The June 1985 publication of the Commission's White Paper and the Single European Act, which took effect in July 1987, have committed the Community to the most ambitious project since the Treaty of Rome : an area without internal borders.

Almost all the proposals have either been accepted or are currently under negotiation. To varying degrees, all of them will influence the legal environment in which firms operate. The main thrust of these proposals is towards increased competition and simplified regulations. They will help to facilitate the professional and private lives of European citizens.

The Commission wants to finalise its proposal programme in 1989, so that everyone then will be able to find out about the regulatory environment of 1992.

New decision procedures have considerably increased the rapidity of the decision process : since July 1987, half of the decisions taken were adopted.

What fundamental opportunities will be available, and which concrete measures have been implemented by the Community? To answer these questions, INFO 92 will give everyone access to concise, precise information. Using this information, anyone will be able to evaluate the impact and consequences of these measures on their own activities.

INFO 92 is aimed at everyone - citizens, consumers, industry leaders, investors, researchers, tourists, television audiences, students - a direct source to discover objectives and advances. To do so, INFO 92 has selected concrete information rapidly made available, but also rapidly updated.

INFO 92 : available in Videotex and Database versions

The Videotex version allows text consultation via video screens, using a very wide range of equipment connected to normal switched telephone lines or specialized data transmission networks. Thanks to its transmission speed, its almost instantaneous ability to update information and its dialogue procedures which require no prior training, Videotex can meet the needs of both the general public and professionals.

Queries are based on a tree chart and successive menu choices guide users step by step through their search. For INFO 92 the service currently offered covers the completion of the Single Market, particularly the implementation of the White Paper.

The cost of consulting INFO 92 is 10 ECUs per hour on-line.

The Database version is based on experience acquired from SCAD, a documentation database operational since April 1983 which contains over 80.000 bibliographic references; the INFO 92 database, updated weekly, allows :

- more flexible search methods to be used on the Videotex version information;
- identification of recent advances;
- searches for all references to a given dossier: Community directives, official publications, public documents, and position papers from employers and labor.

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