

INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

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Note to our readers

With the present issue, in its ninth year of publication, a new name 'INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER' has been chosen for our Newsletter (previously 'new technologies and innovation policy') which reflects more accurately the two main tasks of the Commission's Directorate XIII-C:

- **Promoting the exploitation of Community research results** originating from the CEC's Joint Research Centre and EC sponsored contract research. Thus, DG XIII-C is acting as an intermediary between EC research and its potential users in science and industry;
- **Direct promotion of innovation** and technology transfer, i.e. improvement of the conditions permitting the rapid transnational dissemination of new technologies throughout the European Community via the promotion of transnational technology transfer as an instrument to strengthen the economic cohesion of the Community. The primary aim is to help to overcome some of the many obstacles to innovation through the SPRINT programme in particular.

INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER will regularly inform you about both fields of activity.

Please do not hesitate to contact us for more detailed information on the various projects announced. Your comments and suggestions regarding any aspect of our work would be most welcome.

A.S. STRUB

Director for Exploitation of
R, D&T, Technology Transfer
and Innovation

The preparations for SPRINT-MAIN are running at high pressure. Since the current SPRINT programme will expire by the end of 1988, DG XIII envisages a new five year programme covering those areas of activity which have so far proved successful. It is also intended to enlarge the scope of activity to new fields of action (in particular with regard to innovation-management and pilot projects for full-scale transnational transfer of innovations).

It is hoped that the Commission will adopt the SPRINT Proposal before the summer break, so that a decision by the Council and the Parliament is awaited by the end of 1988 or the beginning of 1989. After the approval of SPRINT-MAIN a new call for proposals will probably be

launched. Although its scope depends on the ongoing discussions, it can be assumed that proposals for at least three schemes, which have proved successful in the current programme, will be invited:

- transnational cooperation between innovation advisory bodies
- transnational cooperation between industrial research associations
- the Europeanisation of technology conferences

'Innovation and Technology Transfer' will inform you in its next issues on the ongoing discussions on SPRINT-MAIN.

Joint research centre: satisfaction at Council decisions — practical details of work for external clients

The decisions taken by the Research Council on the future activities of the Joint Research Centre (JRC) have been well received in Community circles. They should help to definitively relaunch the **activities of five JRC establishments, in particular the one at Ispra (Italy)**, which is by far the most important, thereby bringing an end to a long period of uncertainty. Priority will still be given to research which falls under the Euratom Treaty, however there has been a significant increase in the allocation earmarked for EEC research and work carried out for external clients. Here is the overall allocation for the period 1988-1991:

— EEC research programme	251,7 MECU
— EURATOM research programme	448,3 MECU
— scientific and technical backing for other Commission research	120 MECU
— work for external markets	130 MECU
Total	950 MECU

A substantial amount of the **EURATOM programme** will be given over to reactor safety (148 MECU), waste pro-

cessing (48.5), safety controls (44.5). Priority is given to two objectives in the **EEC research programme**:

quality of life — 146 MECU, including 77 for environment research.

modernisation of the industrial sectors — 106 million, 60 for science and techniques for advanced materials.

These guidelines, which will now be submitted to the EP, mark a significant change in the JRC objectives and working methods.

Work for **external clients** will now take different forms:

- a) scientific and technical support for the Commission services in areas such as teledetection for agriculture or for LDC (Sahel), the environment, energy, etc;
- b) **contracts with third parties** (public or private bodies): research for a Member State or for EUREKA, provision of scientific and technical services, research activities for a group of industrialists (who pay a subscription and an annual fee) etc.

Technology Transfer Networks

— Transnational technological cooperation between enterprises under SPRINT —

We reported several times that under the SPRINT programme a transnational network of specialised intermediaries has been built up (working within chambers of commerce and industry, consultancy bureaux, industrial liaison offices at universities, regional development agencies, etc.). These intermediaries help enterprises to find partners in other European countries with whom they can come to satisfactory technology-based agreements.

About 170 SPRINT contractors in this action are organized in about 50 projects or micro-networks. Most of these have 3 or 4 partners in as many different Community countries.

With this issue of 'Innovation and Technology Transfer' we will start publishing on a regular basis the addresses and contact persons of all SPRINT sponsored advisory bodies and their partners. They will help you in carrying out your transnational technology transfer projects. Do not hesitate to contact them when you think your innovations, new products and processes are eligible for applications abroad.

In this issue we publish the addresses of the advisory bodies in Belgium, the Federal Republic of Germany and Greece:

Belgium

Name and address of advisory body	Partner advisory bodies		Name and address of advisory body	Partner advisory bodies	
CEGOS Belgium S.A. Mr A. Denis 191, Avenue de la croix de guerre B-1120 Brussels Tel.: 32.2-244 44 11 Telex: 25076 Telefax: 32.2-244 44 02	Export Service Centrum Heidemij France Mundt Consulting Company	NL F I	GOM - Limburg Mr Swinnen Kunstlaan 18 B-3500 Hasselt Tel.: 32.11-22 29 64 Telex: 39245 Gomblin b	Goetz Schaudé Innovations-beratung Metaconsult Shekell Moorning Int. Lic. Technology Guidance Ltd.	D F UK IRL
Centre Socran S.A. Mrs Dubois de Rycker Parc ind. de recherches Sart-Tilman B-4900 Angleur Tel.: 32.41-678311 Telex: 42501 Socran b Telefax: 32.41-678300	IMPI, Madrid	E	GOM Vlaams Brabant Mr van Bever Toekomststraat 36-38 B-1800 Vilvoorde Tel.: 32.2-251 14 05 Telex: 64207 GOM b Telefax: 32.2-2515171	Arist Lorraine DTO - Danish Technical Information Service EETAA Industrial Development Authority S.O.F.A.D. Technology Exchange	F DK GR IRL E UK
Creaction Mr J.-P. Henry 140, Rue des Deportés B 6700 Arlon Tel.: 32.63-220378 Telefax: 32.63-219254	CCI de la Meuse CCI Luxembourg Zentrale f. Produktivität & Technologie, Saarbrücken	F L D	GOMOV Mr Piet Desiere Floralapaleis, Bus 6 B-9000 Gent Tel.: 32.91-21 55 11 Telex: 12666 Telefax: 32.91-21 55 00	Asesorax Industrial Zabala CCI Arist Aquitaine	E F
D'Adler Racz Mr D'Adler Racz 10, Chemin macors B-4950 Beaupays Tel.: 32.41-68 73 93 Telex: 25327	Agri Contact Endeme Consultores Infogroup Ltd. Lafora & Comas	DK P GR E	I.P.C.M. Mr Julien Pellis Bd. d'Avroy 28-30B B-4000 Liege Tel: 32.41-23 38 40 Telex: 42037 ipcm b Telefax: 32.41-22 19 76	CCI de Treviso CCI Lille-Roubaix-Tourcoing	I F
Entreprise S.C. Mr Guillaume 13, Rue du Bailli B-1050 Brussels Tel: 32.2-648 49 37	Espace, Lille	F	INNOVI NV Mr van Hoof Bedrijfskpkak Keilberg, Excelsiorlaan 5/B B-1930 Zaventem Tel.: 32.2-720 90 81 Telex: 26435 Telefax: 32.2-726 01 13	CGI-Wolfram Lda. CIMO Sàrl GDS-Tecnogestion S.A.	P F E
GOM - Antwerpen Mr J. Van Keymeulen Desguinlei 102 / Bus 13 B-2018 Antwerpen Tel.: 32.3-2377994 Telex: 34336 gomant	DTO-Danish Technical Information Services Eolas Technical University of Eindhoven	DK IRL NL			

Greece

Name and address of advisory body	Partner advisory bodies		Name and address of advisory body	Partner advisory bodies	
EETAA Mr G Risopoulos 19 Omiro St. GR-10672 Athens Tel.: 30.1-3604461 Telex: 226572 etaa gr	Arist Lorraine DTO - Danish Technical Information Service GOM Vlaams Brabant Industrial Development Authority S.O.F.A.D. Technology Exchange	F DK B IRL E UK	Infogroup Ltd. Filellinon Street 25 GR-10557 Athens	Agricontact D'Adler Racz Endeme Consultores Lafora & Comas	DK B P E
Eommex Dr J. Zirinis 16 Xenias Str. GR-11528 Athens Tel.: 30.1-7702473 Telex: 218819 hmih gr Telefax: 30.1-7799647	CSATA HIT-Hamburger Institut für Technologieförderung	I D	Metek Engineering & Contracting S.A. Mr Ch. Vallerias 357 Mesogion Ave. Halandri GR-15231 Athens Tel: 30.1-6501480 Telex: 223214 atk gr	Eolas LNEC	IRL P

Federal Republic of Germany

Name and address of advisory body	Partner advisory bodies		Name and address of advisory body	Partner advisory bodies	
Dipl.-Ing. K Hübner Schilleralle 15 D-2070 Ahrensburg Tel.: 49.4102-58482 Telex: 2182831 txa d	France Pacific Consultants Sàrl March Technologies Limited Venture Market BV Xenius S. A.	F UK NL E	Haus A D-2800 Bremen 33 Tel.: 49.421-2181	Cimatecs.r.l. Proget, Paris	I F
Erfinderzentrum Norddeutschland Mr Kuschel Friensenstrasse 14 D-3000 Hannover 1 Tel.: 49.511-31 60 57 Telex: 5118452 ezn d Telefax: 49.511-319947	Newtech (CLYWD) Limited The Danish Invention Center Vila Sud	UK DK I	Industrieberatung Lambrecht Dipl.-Ing. J. Lambrecht Max-Rüttgers-Strasse 29 D-8021 Irschenhausen	Bossard Consultants PE Consulting Services	F UK
Gesellschaft für Wirtschaftsförderung Saar mbH Mr N. Breuer Bismarckstrasse 39-41 D-6600 Saarbrücken 3 Tel.: 49.681-68799/0 Telex: 4421219 gwsa d Telefax: 49.681-65758	CRCI Centre - Artist Centre Sagazde Alava S.A.	F E	Kienbaum Mr Alan Spencer Fellenbachstrasse 8 D-4000 Düsseldorf 30 Tel.: 49.2261-703221 Telefax: 49.2261-703138	Arist Alsace Wintech	F UK
GITT GmbH Mr N. Mangalo Postfach 330424 D-8000 Munich 33 Tel.: 49.89-227548 Telex: 5218421 gitt d Telefax: 49.89-7324820	Tosi & C.s.r.l. West Jutland Development Council	I DK	Landesgewerbeanstalt Bayern Mr H. Matter Karolinenstrasse 2-4 D-8500 Nürnberg 1	Industrial Development Authority	IRL
Goetz Schaudé Innovationsberatung Mr Schaudé Finkenstrasse 14 D-7534 Birkenfeld Tel.: 49.7231-480723 Telex: 177231113	GOM - Limburg Metaconsult Shekell Mooring Int. Lic. Technology Guidance Ltd.	B F UK IRL	OTTI Mr Schulz-Harder Dr-Martin-Luther Str. 10 D-8400 Regensburg Tel.: 49.941-58273 Telex: 65883 Telefax: 49.941-54854	Eindhoven Transf. Dept. Univ. of Technology	NL
GUW Krefeld Dr Rainer Koehne Ürdinger Strasse 532 D-4150 Krefeld 1 Tel.: 49.2151-500035 Telex: 8531033	Cabinet J.-P. Petit J.P. Breuer, La synergie franco-allemande	F F	Transfer Dept. Universität Bremen Mr C. Lehmann Bibliothekstrasse, Postfach 330-440 D-2800 Bremen 33 Tel.: 49.421-2183478 Telex: 245811 unibr d Telefax: 49.421-2200350	Centec Business Consultants Scottish Development Agency	DK UK
Hager und Hager Mr B. Hager Schwarzer Bär 2 D-3000 Hannover 91 Tel.: 49.511-445051	Reorg Sàrl	F	VDI/VDE-Technologiezentrum Informations-technik Mr Th. Baaken Königsplatz 36B D-3500 Kassel	Actinove Byrne, Lowe & Associates Durexport SA International Licensing Services Pax Technology Transfer Ltd. Technology Management Consultancy/Helicom techno	F IRL E I UK NL
Handwerkskammer des Saarlandes Mr Brenner Hohenzollernstrasse 47-49 D-6600 Saarbrücken Tel.: 49.681-5809-0	Chambre des métiers Handwerkskammer Trier	L D	WS Heuft - Industrie- & Wirtschafts-Beratung Mr Willi S. Heuft Friedhofstrasse 10 D-7125 Kirchheim Tel.: 49.7143-92333	Industrial Development Authority	IRL
Handwerkskammer Trier Dr Adams Löbstrasse 18 D-5500 Trier Tel.: 49.651-207-0 Telex: 651912 huk d Telefax: 49.651-207115	Chambre des métiers Handwerkskammer des Saarlandes	L D	WVIB Dr K.V. Ullrich Postfach 1748 D-7800 Freiburg i.Br. Tel.: 49.761-70868/0 Telex: 772864 wvib d Telefax: 49.761-7086877	European Technology Entrepreneurs Centre University of Twente/ Transferpunt	UK NL
HIT-Hamburger Institut für Technologie-förderung Mr L. Bickel Zum Fürstenmoor 11 D-2100 Hamburg 90 Tel: 49.40-79240410 Telex: 403384 hit hh d Telefax: 49.41-7909604	Eommex	GR	Z.A.M. der Bayerischen Fachhochschulen Mr H. Stahl Kesslerplatz 12 D-8500 Nürnberg 21 Tel.: 49.911-5880/217	CCI de la Meuse CCI Luxembourg Creaction	F L B
Hochschule Bremen Fachbereich Wirtschaft Universitätsallee GW1 /	CCI Toulouse	F	Zentrale für Produktivität & Technologie Mr Giersch / Mr Bohr Postfach 136-137 D-6600 Saarbrücken Tel: 49.681-5981 Telefax: 49.681-5846125		

COMMUNITY R&D RESULTS:

Under this section "Innovation and Technology Transfer" reports regularly on recent innovations stemming from Community-funded research.

1. Continuous press for assembling laminated wood components

Existing laminating techniques already permit the use of small-diameter timber for structural components in the form of laminated wood. The present invention, made by Mr Burger in the context of the Community 'wood' research programme managed by DG XII/F5, simplifies the manufacture of laminated wood and hence reduces its cost.

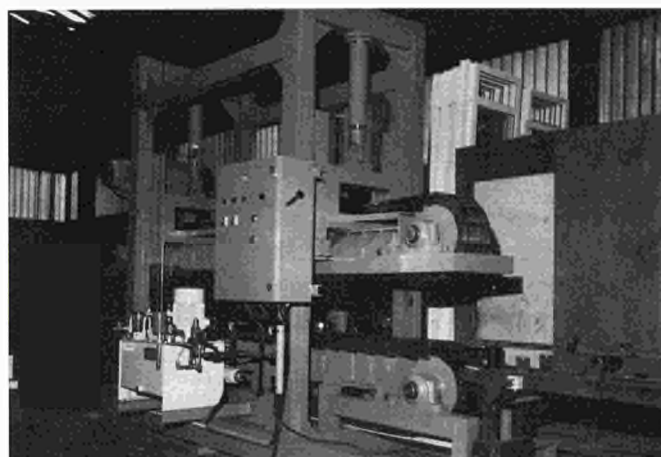
Manufacture is carried out in two phases:

First, a milling machine cuts grooves (rectangular or dovetail) in each of the two pieces to be joined.

The two pieces then move on to a roller conveyor which progressively exerts the necessary pressure to force them together.

One of the advantages of this technique is that it permits close monitoring of groove tolerances and so speeds up manufacturing.

With this press it is possible to make laminated wood components up to 1.2 m in height and 0.32 m in width. The maximum pressure is 80 tonnes. The laminated wood can exit at a speed of 0.30 metres/minute, even as a continuous strip.



The laminated wood press in operation.

Further information is available from:

Ets. Burger
7, Place de la Fleur
F-68160 Ste-Marie-aux-Mines
Tel.: (89) 58 70 66
Telex: 880200 F ALCO Code 502

2. Wood slicer

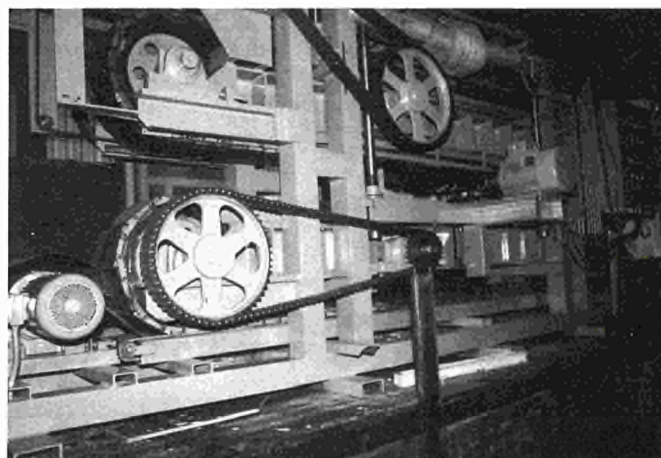
Wooden planks no more than a few millimetres in thickness have traditionally been produced using saw-based techniques.

Until recently, it has proved difficult to produce wooden planks using slicing techniques which, because they eliminate the serious wastage represented by sawdust, could be economically attractive.

A recently developed longitudinal wood slicer exploits the classical plane principle.

The machine performs existing techniques by producing a very high quality slice; the output is unequalled and there is no limitation on the length of wood since the machine incorporates a continuous flow design.

The new machine can produce slices up to 6 mm in thickness. Average production is of the order of 10 m³ of sliced wood/hour.



The new wood slicing machine.

Further information may be obtained from:

Ets. Burger (see above address)

New brochure on Flue gas desulphurization by the ISPRA MARK 13 A process available

Order Form

Please send me your new brochure (language:

DE	DK	EN	ES	F	I	GR	NL	P
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):

Name: _____ Address: _____

Date: _____ Signature: _____

Please return to: Ms Sylvie Richter, CEC, Bâtiment JMO, B4/109, L-2920 LUXEMBURG



6^e RENCONTRES INTERNATIONALES DES INDUSTRIES PAPETIERES 6th INTERNATIONAL MEETING OF THE PAPER INDUSTRIES

PRELIMINARY PROGRAMME

1. - EXHIBITION

Wood / pulp / paper / board / nonwoven / production / converting / printing / machinery and equipment / clothing / control systems / research / technology / maintenance / production management / data processing / expert systems / training.

2. - CONFERENCES (simultaneous translation: French - English - German)

2.1 EUROPEAN ECONOMIC COMMUNITY - "From invention to industrialization"

Thursday 29th september (afternoon): **Research and Development activities within the E.E.C.**

Friday 30th september (morning): **The paper industry confronted with technology transfer.**

2.2 COPACEL (French pulp paper and board industries confederation)

Wednesday 28th september: **Council and specialized meetings**

Thursday 29th september (morning): **"International strategy for European paper industries" with participation of leaders from multinational paper companies.**

3. - COLLOQUIA and CONGRESSES

3.1 TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE PAPER INDUSTRY (A.T.I.P.)

41st Congress (simultaneous translation: French - English)

from Tuesday the 27th to Thursday 29th September: **Theme: Achieving surface characteristics of paper and board required by converters and users.**

3.2 THE TECHNICAL RESEARCH CENTER FOR THE PULP AND PAPER INDUSTRIES (C.T.P.).

Wednesday 28th September: **Theme: Computerized management of production and quality control (C.A.M. and expert systems) (simultaneous translation: French - English)**

3.3 CONFEDERATION OF CONSTRUCTORS FOR THE PAPER MAKING, CONVERTING AND PRINTING INDUSTRIES: (SCIPAG)

Wednesday 28th September: **Conference of the constructors and engineering societies of SCIPAG (Paper section) (simultaneous translation: French - English)**

3.4 TECHNICAL ASSOCIATION OF THE PAPER INDUSTRY (A.T.I.P.)

Wednesday 28th September (afternoon) - Thursday 29th September: **"What kind of maintenance can we expect for the paper industries in the year 2000?"**

3.5 FRENCH ELECTRICITY COMMITTEE

Friday 30th September: **New development of electrical power in the paper industry: drying systems and the stability of the distribution network.**

3.6 RESEARCH CENTRE for the PAPER and BOARD CONVERTING-INDUSTRIES (CRIPAC)

Friday 30th September: **Measurement and quality in converting**

3.7 FRENCH FEDERATION OF PRINTING AND GRAPHICS INDUSTRIES

Friday 30th September: **Printing quality**

3.8 ILLUSTRATED LECTURES - POSTER SESSIONS:

During the course of the event the participants, Paper-makers, Converters, Printers, Suppliers, Constructors, Packaging manufacturers, Research Scientists etc., may avail themselves of rooms equipped with audio-visual material to present their most recent products, promising research results...

4. - THE SCIENTIFIC AWARD

This prize of 50 000 FF will be awarded for research work bringing new scientific knowledge to the field of paper making, the conversion of paper and board, and the graphic industries.

Exposition IP'88 (Grenoble, 27-30 sept. 1988)

Liste des produits exposés sur le stand de la Commission des Communautés Européennes

- * (1) BI-VIS (Machine pour la fabrication de pâte à papier).**
- * (2) BERTIN (Procédé d'hydrolyse de matières ligno-cellulosiques en amont de la fabrication de la pâte.**
- (3) ARMEF (Tracteur Forestier).**
- * (4) KATAFLOX (Composites papier-plastiques non combustibles ex-déchets de boues de papeteries).**
- (5) TERRE (Panneaux isolants phoniques + thermiques ex-vieux papiers).**
- * (6) ANALYSE DES VIBRATIONS DE PIECES TOURNANTES: un outil pour la maintenance.**
- (7) Automatisation de Procédés Industriels.**
- (8) ECHANGEURS DE CHALEUR COMPACTS GAZ-GAZ.**
- (9) LOGICIEL POUR LE CHOIX D'UN ECHANGEUR DE CHALEUR (IRDC, UK).**
- (10) ROLLSCAN (Détection de défauts dans les rouleaux).**
- (11) ANALYSEUR MESURALP (GRENOBLE) D'EAUX USEES.**

N.B. Les produits marqués * font l'objet d'un exposé lors du colloque européen + associé à l'exposition (séance du 30 sept. 1988 avant-midi).

RESEARCH RESULTS OF THE COMMISSION EXHIBITED AT THE 'ACHEMA '88'

The Commission's stand at the International Exhibition on Chemical Engineering and Biotechnology "ACHEMA '88", held in Frankfurt (5-11 June 1988), attracted considerable interest. This was mainly due to the appropriate selection of 10 inventions from European Community research which were exhibited (Oxygen analyser, new process for the synthesis of heterocyclic compounds, Ispra Mark 13A flue gas desulphurization process, PERL'X-2' automatic sample maker for X-ray fluorescence analysis, Real-time monitoring of ammonia concentrations in industrial waste water, Crystal: data processing system for brewing beer, ISOPIPE' high-temperature high-precision gas-controlled heat pipe furnace, automatic continuous-flow physiochemical analyser for liquids, device for measuring volatile organic solvents in water, automatic detector and counter for coliform bacteria in water). The Minister for Research of the Federal Republic of Germany, Dr. Riesenhuber, who visited the stand, was able to appreciate the advanced level of European Community research, both from the Joint Research Centre and from contract research under the various Community R&D programmes. The licencees for Community-owned research results, who have transformed these inventions into industrial applications, were able to make numerous contacts at the "ACHEMA '88" stand and conclude a number of contracts.



Dr. Riesenhuber, Minister for Research, visiting the stand of the Commission at the ACHEMA '88

Proceedings of a European Symposium on the utilisation of the results of public R&D published

Concern about the effective utilization of the results of publicly funded R&D within the European Community and its Member States has grown in recent years, since economic and social progress must, through the innovation process, benefit from the translation of these results into new or improved goods, processes and services. In 1987 the Member States completed the ratification of the Single European Act which, *inter alia*, states that 'the Community's aim shall be to strengthen the scientific and technological basis of European industry and to encourage it to become more competitive at international level'.

At the end of 1985, when negotiations leading to the Single European Act were already under way, the Commission therefore decided to hold in September 1986 the first European symposium on the utilization of the results of publicly funded R&D, i. e. their dissemination and exploitation.

It is intended to contribute to the formulation of national and Community policies concerning the utilization of the results of publicly funded R&D and concludes with recommendations and suggestions to this effect.

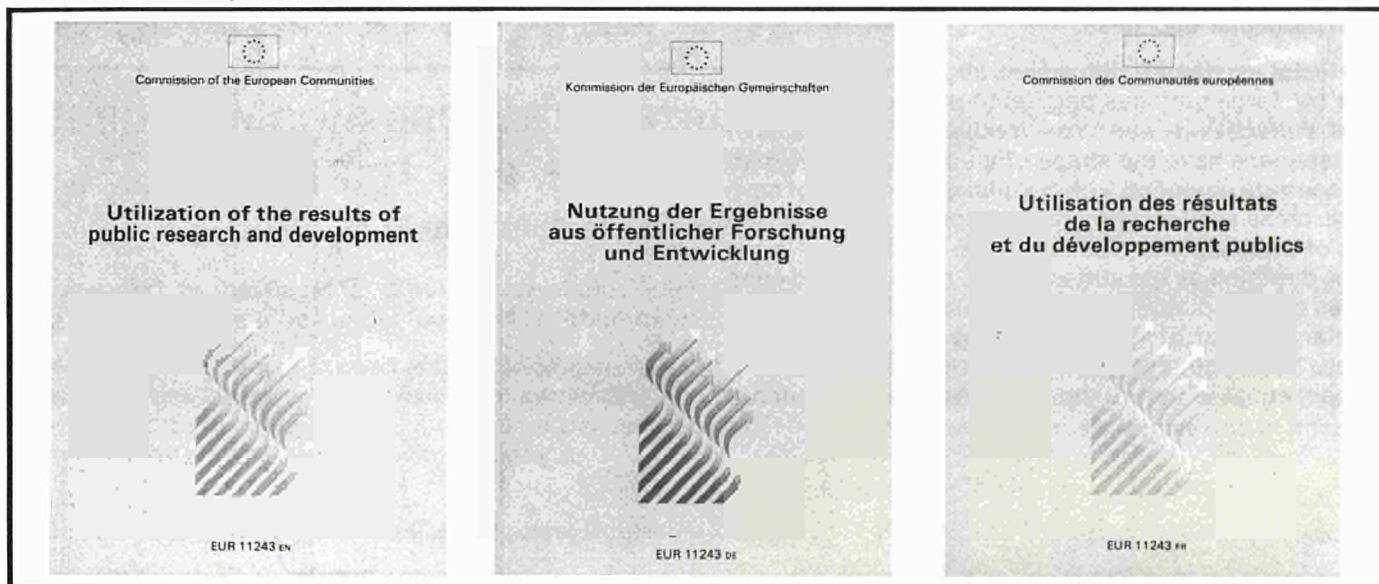
EUR 11243 — Utilization of the results of public research and development

Edited by: H. Corsten, K.-O. Junginger-Dittel — 1988 — XVI, 540 pp., 59 tab., 35 fig., 13 ph. — 16.2 x 22.9 cm

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities

DE, EN, FR — ISBN 92-825-8203-5 — Catalogue number: CD-NA-11243-EN-C

Price (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg: ECU 41.80



Patent applications recently published

The Patent Applications shown in this section concern inventions resulting from EC-funded or cost-shared EC contract research

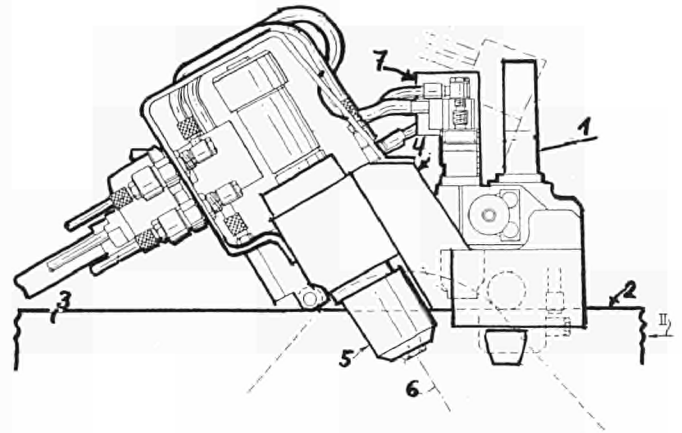
1. WELDING AND/OR CUTTING MACHINE

Inventor: T. RAIMONDI

Ref.: EUR Pat 2188

This machine (1) is intended for use on a workpiece (2) formed by a pair of metal sheets (3) in face to face contact. A movable carriage (4) is mounted on a pair of drive rollers (5) which can be operated to grip the sheets of the workpiece in the nip of the rollers. The axes of rotation (6) of the rollers are arranged so that, as the rollers rotate, forces are generated which cause the carriage to be pulled onto the workpiece. The carriage is capable of transporting welding devices (7) for lip-welding together the sheets of the workpiece or, alternatively, cutter devices for subsequent removal of weld material.

Application of the invention is particularly interesting in fusion research when, for example, certain reactors are provided with duct ports with openings formed of metal sheet pairs of the kind described. After reactor operation, unlike previous remote controlled instruments, this machine is able to cut the remaining welding material and subsequently lip-weld the replacement sheets in one single operation.



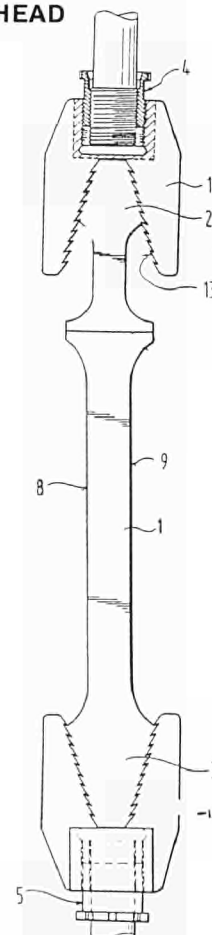
2. DEVICE FOR COUPLING A LONGITUDINAL TESTPIECE AND A DRAWING HEAD

Inventors: C. ALBERTINI, M. MONTAGNANI, G. PROSDOCIMI

Ref.: EUR Pat 2199

This device for coupling a longitudinal metallic testpiece (1) to undergo drawing tests and a drawing head (4, 5) differs from previous devices by its ease of handling and its uniform distribution of drawing forces in the testpiece. It is well suited to thick testpieces even of varying thickness and does not need to be adapted to each particular thickness.

The testpiece has a flattened rectangular cross-section with two large surfaces parallel to each other and two small surfaces inclined to each other. The ends (2, 3) of the testpiece have the shape of an arrow. The inclined surfaces are equipped with parallel grooves (13) of saw-tooth cross-section extending perpendicularly to the axis of the testpiece. The saw-teeth are inclined in the same direction as the surfaces. The drawing head comprises a rigid counterpiece (11) whose shape is complementary to that of the arrow-shaped end of the testpiece. The length of the grooves of the counterpiece is at least equal to that of the grooves on the testpiece.



3. PROCESS FOR SYNTHESIZING HETEROCYCLES USING PALLADIUM CYCLE COMPLEXES

Inventors: M. PFEFFER, F. MAASSARANI

Ref.: EUR Pat 2227

This invention permits the removal of palladium in the course of a reaction by palladium cycle complexes with alkynes and the resultant production of heterocycles by the formation of a carbon/heteratom bond. The palladium cycle complexes are activated in the form of iodine complexes or cationic complexes. When reacting with the alkynes the palladium is eliminated by reduction to its metal state. The process can be used in particular for the synthesis of nitrogenous heterocycles.

4. DEVICE FOR THE RAPID IMAGING OF AN OBJECT

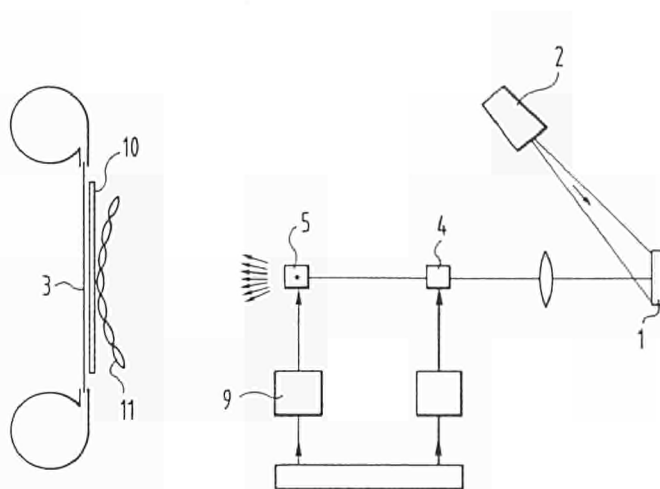
Inventors: C. ALBERTINI, M. MONTAGNANI

Ref.: EUR Pat 2207

Compared to an electronic camera, this device is more robust and reliable, since it does not require high voltages for the deflection of an electron beam. The images provided have a high degree of sharpness.

The object (1) is illuminated by a laser light source (2). A rapid piezo-optical deflector (5) is sited between the object and a light-sensitive film (3) on which the image is scanned along a line. A Pockels cell (4) is sited in the optical path between the object and the deflector. The Pockels cell can be controlled by a sequence of electrical pulses during each scanning cycle of the deflector to which a succession of distinct images of the object is transmitted.

The deflector can be controlled by a generator (9) of electrical pulses whose frequency is a submultiple of the frequency of the control pulses of the Pockels cell. A phosphorus-type image-intensifying screen (10) is situated between the deflector and the film. A converging lens (11) is situated in front of each film zone corresponding to a distinct image.



Further information on the inventions above can be obtained from:

Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General XIII/C/1, Ms L. Gerlach (JMO B4/068),
L-2920 Luxembourg — Tel.: (352) 4301-2922, Telex: 3423/3446 COMEUR LU

EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON STRATEGIES FOR LOCAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

30 - 31 March 1989 at Trinity College, Dublin, Ireland

Organized by the Regional Studies Association, Irish Branch, and sponsored by the Commission of the European Communities under the SPRINT Programme.

Many interventions to support local economic development fail or are less than optimal. This Conference will examine the factors of significance in stimulating innovation, entrepreneurship and growth within a local economy. It will identify the parameters for the design of local economic development strategies and of interventions by private and public organizations.

For further information contact:

Gerry Sweeney, SICA, 44 Fitzwilliam Square, Dublin 2

EEC Publications on industrial property

- Patent Information and Documentation in Western Europe, Commission of the European Communities, An Inventory of Services available to the Public, Third Edition — Edited by Brenda M. Rimmer and K.G. Saur, EUR 6614 (1988 Edition)
- The application of recent software technology to access to patent information systems, Commission of the European Communities, Report — 1987 — EUR 11326 EN
- One century of technical progress based on an analysis of German patent statistics, J. Slama — Osteuropa-Institut, Commission of the European Communities Report, 1987, EUR 11044 EN
- Patent Infringement Litigation Costs — A Practical Worldwide Survey, Commission of the European Communities and André Bouju, Longman Group UK Limited, 1987, ISBN 0 85121 324 3
- Patent Portfolio — Methode einer Technik des strategischen Patentmanagements, Prof. Dr. Werner Pfeiffer, Lehrstuhl für Industriebetriebslehre — Universität Erlangen-Nürnberg, (in Bearbeitung)

Further information on the publications above can be obtained from:

Commission of the European Communities
Directorate-General XIII/C-3
Attn: Mr M. Parmentier
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel.: (352) 4301-3153
Telex: 3423/3446 COMEUR LU

PATENT INFRINGEMENT LITIGATION COSTS: A Practical Worldwide Survey

**The Editor: André Bouju, Professor of Patent Law (CEIPI),
European Patent and Trademark Attorney with contributors from 18 countries**

Commissioned by the EEC, this practical worldwide survey on patent infringement litigation gives you essential information on costs incurred by the patent owner when suing an infringer.

Immediate evaluation

Designed to enable you to make an immediate evaluation of the costs and duration of an infringement suit, it demonstrates how to assess the economic advantages of initiating such an action and budget for future fees.

Country-by-Country

Each individual country is covered in a separate chapter, which starts with a general survey on the basic rules of the infringement suit. It goes on to examine the important roles of the individuals acting on behalf of the plaintiff (or defendant) in the proceedings.

A study of the costs of patent infringement in 18 different countries, this book analyses the

different steps of patent litigation procedure and the costs involved at each stage.

Unique tables summarise the calculation of the costs and helpful flow charts illustrate the infringement suit procedure.

Easy to use

With charts to clarify this complex and often costly area of the law, this international survey enables you to make country by country comparisons of costs that can be incurred by you or your client.

About the editor

André Bouju, Professor of Patent Law, is both a European Patent Attorney and Patent & Trademark Attorney. With extensive international experience, he has written many successful books on different aspects of patent law.

November 1987

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**PATENT INFRINGEMENT
085121 3243**

Prof. Straus: European Scientists perceive a need for a novelty grace period

A recent study launched by the CEC by Prof. J. Straus, Max Planck Institute for Patent Law, Munich

The aim of this study was to conduct a survey based on interviews on the communication, publication and patenting practices of scientists and researchers working outside industry in the EC Member States and to establish thereby what views are held on the nationally and internationally debated possibility of introducing a 'novelty grace period' into national patent law and international or regional patent agreements. The study was carried out in five Member States of the EC and covered 120 scientists and researchers in 19 research establishments in which research is conducted in virtually all scientific fields.

The study showed that for the scientists communication is a top priority even before results are published, since all those interviewed discussed the results of their work with their colleagues before publication. Practically all of the scientists who were interviewed conducted research jointly with members of staff of other research establishments.

Contrary to a widely held view the survey showed that scientists working outside industry are also fully aware of the significance of patents as a means of innovation. Almost 90% of those interviewed claimed to have knowledge of patent law. Moreover, 75% had already made patentable inventions and in most cases had also filed applications for patents. Most of these applications (90%) had led to the granting of a patent, and almost 60% of the patented inventions were actually exploited. The majority of those interviewed belong to research establishments with their own advisory centres for patenting and exploitation problems which offered

those interested the chance to engage, at the expense of the institution, a patent or other lawyer as counsel for questions relating to patents. As regards advisory centres located outside the institutes concerned, many complaints were made about inefficiency.

Finally the survey showed that 41.66% of those interviewed considered the introduction of a novelty grace period as 'indispensable' and 53.34% as 'desirable'. Only 5% of those interviewed considered such a move 'not necessary', i.e. 95% were in favor of the introduction or reintroduction of a novelty grace period. A majority of 58.33% preferred a 12-month period, 30% a 6-month period and only 5.83% considered a longer period necessary, while remaining largely convinced that a period of 6 or 12 months would substantially improve the current situation.

EUR 11271 — The significance of the novelty grace period for non-industrial research in the countries of the European Economic Community

J. Straus — 1988 — VI, 52 pp. — 21.0 x 29.7 cm

Luxembourg: Office for Official Publications of the European Communities

ISBN 92-825-8073-3 — Catalogue number: CD-NA-11271-EN-C

Price (excluding VAT) in Luxembourg

ECU 5 BFR 200 IRL 4 UKL 3.50 USD 6

EARLY RECOGNITION OF TECHNICAL TRENDS ON THE BASIS OF PATENT DATA

Dr Bornemann, Member of the CIT Working Group on 'Innovation and Patents', informed us about the results so far achieved in ongoing research projects in the field of early recognition of technical trends on the basis of patent data in the Federal Republic of Germany. Below we publish some excerpts from Dr Bornemann's letter: "Three relevant research projects are currently underway:

1. 'Early recognition of technical trends on the basis of patent data'

Initial reports under this title have already been published by Dr K. Faust in:

- a) Ifo-Studien zur Strukturforschung 9, München 1987,
- b) and an abstract in Ifo-Schnelldienst 30/87.

A cluster-programme system is used to identify technical fields of major future potential. Designed for automatic searching, this system sorts out from the approximately 60 000 subject areas of the International Patent Classification those whose growth rate, in terms of patent applications, exceeds a preset limit (above-average increase in patent applications). The inventions are classified by subject area and then 'clustered', i.e. automatically grouped into technical fields — thus making allowances for the fact that many key inventions emerge across established research fields. Through appropriate modification of the limits, it is possible to extend the cluster and increase the number of references.

In order to ensure that only good-quality patents are considered, the research is limited to inventions for which patent applications have been filed in more than one country.

Further practice and development of this technique is planned.

2. The concordance method developed by Dr Greif and Georg Potkowik (both working for the German Patent Office).

The concordance method combines the International Patent Classification (IPC) with the German industrial classification of economic activities. Depending on whether the patent data are classified on the basis of the former or the latter, differing information can be obtained with regard to the direction, scale and diffuseness of technological flows. A report is due to be published before the end of the year under the title

'Patente und Wirtschaftszweige'
(Zusammenführung der internationalen Patentklassifikation und der Systematik der Wirtschaftszweige).

3. Work being carried out by the Fraunhofer Institut für Systemtechnik und Innovationsforschung (ISI) on forecasting technical trends using patent data.

The ISI Institut has already published a report entitled

'Technikprognosen mit Patentindikatoren'. (Publisher: TÜV Rheinland, Cologne)"

CONFERENCES AND SYMPOSIA

EUROPÄISCHE HOLZBAUKONFERENZ EUROPEAN CONFERENCE ON TIMBER STRUCTURES CONFÉRENCE EUROPÉENNE SUR LES STRUCTURES EN BOIS

Luxembourg, 14-16. IX. 1988

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International conference 'Pyrolysis and gasification' Luxembourg, 23.-25. May 1989

The Commission of the European Communities is organizing an international conference on the pyrolysis and gasification of waste materials (including plastics, rubber and wood wastes, various forms of biomass and other low-grade solid fuels) as a potential resource for:

- (i) the production of storable fuels, chemical intermediates, synthesis gas, monomers, or activated carbon;
- (ii) the fuelling of spark-ignited engines, gas turbines or retrofitted boilers.

Weitere Auskünfte erteilt:
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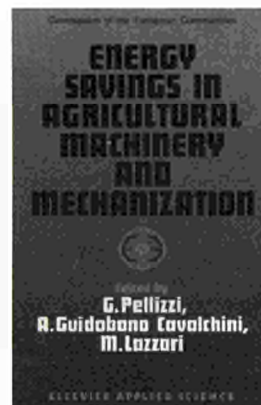
PUBLICATIONS

A selection of recent publications from the Scientific and Technical Communications Service

Energy Savings in Agricultural Machinery and Mechanization

This study contains a comprehensive list of the types of agricultural machinery and related farming practices in the European Community, and assesses the energy-saving potential of each. It was carried out under the demonstration programme of the Commission's Directorate-General for Energy.

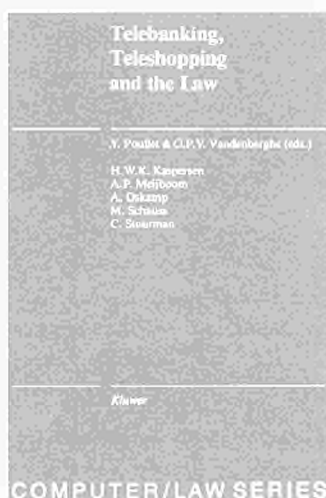
EUR 11247 ix + 143 pp ISBN 1-85166-236-7
Published by Elsevier Applied Science Publishers, Crown House, Linton Road, Barking, Essex IG11 8 JU, England



New Information Technology and Industrial Change: The Italian Case

A review of the impact of new technology, based on the experience of Italian industry, issued by the FAST (Forecasting and Assessment in Science and Technology) programme of the Commission of the European Communities.

EUR 11379 ix + 157 pp ISBN 90-277-2747-3
Published by Kluwer Academic Publishers, P.O. Box 17, 3300 AA Dordrecht, The Netherlands



Telebanking, Teleshopping and the Law

The introduction of new technologies to two of the most important service industries — banking and retailing — raises a variety of legal problems to do with contractual issues, evidence, signature authentication, liability, privacy protection, unfair competition, fraud and extrajurisdictional questions. The Directorate-General Telecommunications, Information Industries and Innovation commissioned this study in order to examine in detail these problems, which will have to be overcome in order to take full advantage of the new technologies in the context of the free Community market.

xi + 388 pp ISBN 90 6544 349 5
Published by Kluwer Law and Taxation Publishers, Dordrecht, The Netherlands

Radiation Protection Programme Progress Report 1987

Provides an overview of the results of about 320 individual research projects supported under the Radiation Protection Programme of the Commission of the European Communities. The projects are classified under the following headings: Radiation dosimetry and its interpretation, Behaviour and control of radionuclides in the environment, Non-stochastic effects of ionizing radiation, Radiation carcinogenesis, Genetic effects of ionizing radiation, Evaluation of radiation risks and optimization of protection.

EUR 11464 x + 1,753 pp ISBN 92-825-8337-6
Published by the Office for Official Publications of the European Communities, L-2985 Luxembourg

Treatment of Lignocellulosics with White Rot Fungi

The amount of unexploited or badly exploited lignocellulosic by-products in the European Community is considerable. The major by-product is cereal straw, of which there is an estimated yearly surplus of 24 million tons, which is often either burned or ploughed back into the soil. The low digestibility and nutritive value, combined with the bulky nature of these by-products, hampers their use. One solution, examined in this report based on a workshop held by the Directorate-General for Science, Research and Development, is to use white rot fungi to convert lignocellulosic waste, to allow it to be used in applications such as the production of animal feeds, enzymes and chemicals, and the cultivation of edible fungi, in particular mushrooms.

EUR 11252 vi + 122 ISBN 1-85166-241-3
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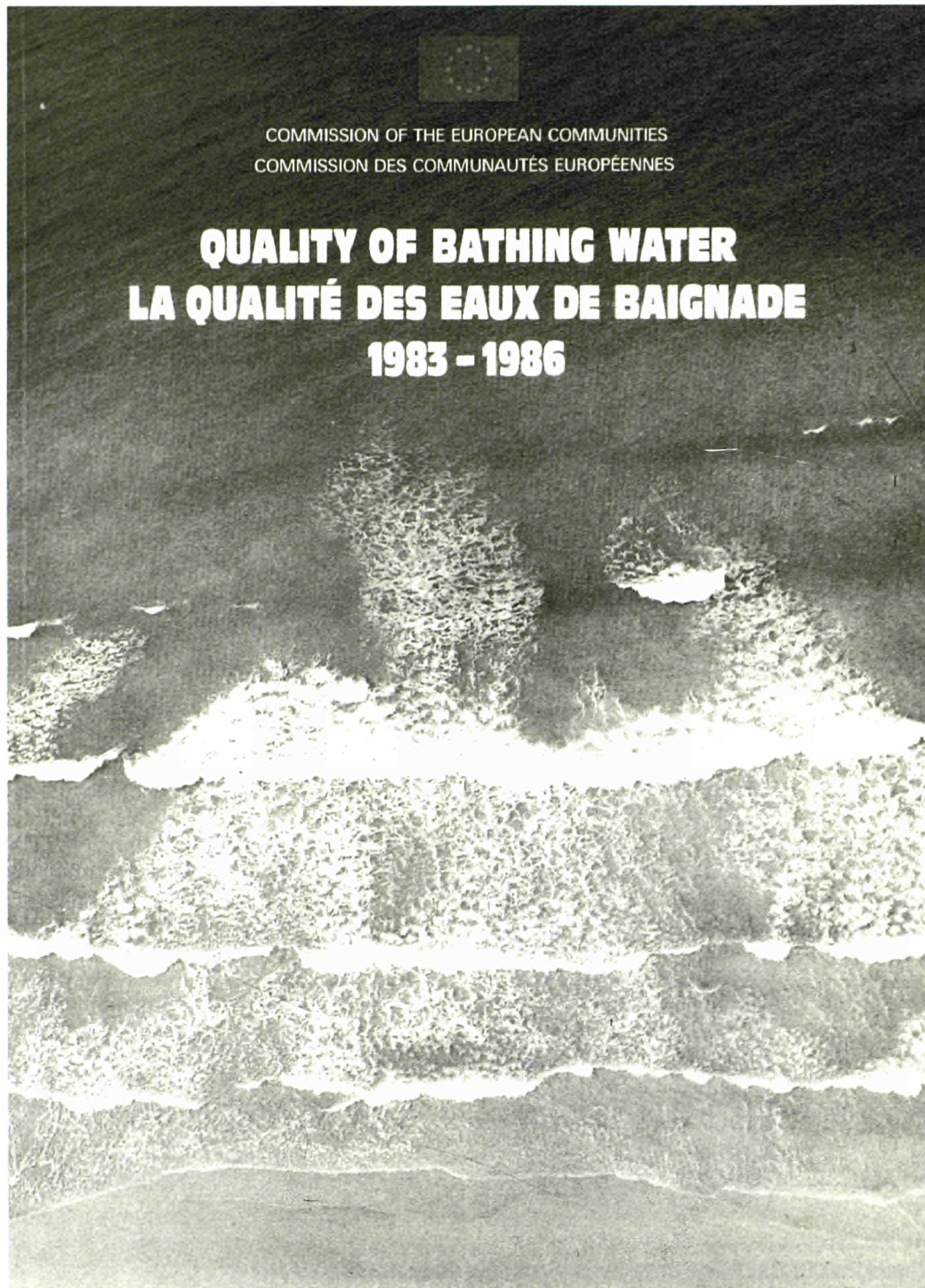
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STUDY ON QUALITY OF BATHING WATER JUST PUBLISHED

Seit vielen Jahren besteht in der Öffentlichkeit der Wunsch, über Umweltfragen detailliert informiert zu werden; die Richtlinie vom 8. Dezember 1975 bezüglich der Qualität der Badegewässer entspricht diesem Wunsch, indem sie die Mitgliedstaaten auffordert, der Kommission regelmäßig einen — mit ihrem Einverständnis für die Veröffentlichung bestimmten — Bericht über die Badegewässer und ihre wesentlichsten Merkmale zu übermitteln.

Der vorliegende Bericht enthält Karten, die Aufschluß über die im Laufe der Badesaison 1986 festgestellte mikrobiologische Qualität des Badewassers geben.

Offentligheden har i mange år ønsket at råde over detaljerede oplysninger vedrørende miljøspørgsmål; af denne grund anmodes medlemsstaterne i direktivet af den 8. december 1975 vedrørende badevands kvalitet om regelmæssigt at tilsende Kommissionen en rapport om badevand og sidstnævntes karakteristikker.

Idet medlemsstaterne er indforstået hermed, offentliggør Kommissionen de oplysninger, der er blevet opnået desangående.

Herværende rapport indeholder kort, der viser badevandets mikrobiologiske kvalitet i løbet af badesæsonen 1986.

Depuis de nombreuses années, l'opinion publique a souhaité disposer d'une information détaillée sur les questions relatives à l'environnement; c'est la raison pour laquelle la directive du 8 décembre 1975 concernant la qualité des eaux de baignade demande aux États membres de communiquer régulièrement à la Commission un rapport sur ces eaux et leurs caractéristiques les plus significatives.

La Commission publie, avec l'accord préalable de l'État membre concerné, les informations obtenues en la matière.

Le présent rapport contient des cartes présentant la qualité microbiologique des eaux de baignade observée au cours de la saison balnéaire 1986.

Molti anni or sono, l'opinione pubblica ha espresso il desiderio di disporre di informazioni particolareggiate sulle questioni relative all'ambiente; per questo motivo, la direttiva dell'8 dicembre 1975 relativa alla qualità delle acque di balneazione invitava gli Stati membri a trasmettere regolarmente alla Commissione una relazione sulle acque di balneazione e le loro caratteristiche più significative.

La Commissione pubblica quindi, previo accordo dello Stato membro interessato, le informazioni raccolte in merito.

Il presente rapporto contiene le carte che illustrano la qualità microbiologica dell'acqua nelle zone balneari, esaminata durante la stagione 1986.

Te beschikken over gedetailleerde informatie inzake leefmilieu is sedert vele jaren de wens geweest van de publieke opinie. Om deze reden vraagt de richtlijn van 8 december 1975 betreffende de zwemwaterkwaliteit aan de Lid-Staten regelmatig een verslag in te dienen bij de Commissie over het zwemwater en zijn meest betekenisvolle karakteristieken.

Na voorafgaandelijke goedkeuring van de Lid-Staat publiceert de Commissie de verstrekte informatie.

Onderhavig verslag bevat kaarten waarop de microbiologische kwaliteit van het zwemwater wordt weergegeven zoals deze waargenomen werd gedurende het badseizoen 1986.

For many years now, there has been public demand for detailed information on environmental questions; it is for this reason that the Directive of 8 December 1975 concerning the quality of bathing water requires Member States to submit regular reports to the Commission on their bathing water and the most significant characteristics thereof, which have to be published with their agreement.

This report contains maps indicating the microbiological quality of bathing waters observed during the 1986 bathing season.

SPRINT, THE EUROPEAN PROGRAMME FOR INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER



Technologie, Innovation & Management — Herausforderung für Europa Technology, Innovation and Management — A Challenge for Europe

The Business Association of Industrial Enterprises Baden (WVIB), the Chamber of Industry and Commerce (IHK) Freiburg and the Technologie-Zentrum Freiburg GmbH are jointly organizing the **European Congress „T.I.M.E.: Technology, Innovation & Management — Challenge for Europe“** from 7 - 10 September 1988 in Freiburg, the 'Black Forest Metropolis', West Germany.

The Congress will take place under the patronage of Dr. Karl-Heinz Narjes, Vice-President of the Commission of the European Communities, and Dr. Rolf Böhme, Mayor of the City of Freiburg. The Congress is supported under the SPRINT-Programme of the Commission of the European Communities.

European technology-based firms are facing new challenges. Short product cycles call for constant innovation, together with new organisational structures. The completion of the European Internal Market in 1992 will increase this pressure and open up new opportunities, through stiffer competition, easier access to the national markets of the Member States and the need for closer cooperation between European companies.

The International Congress will offer fresh perspectives, with emphasis on creativity management and innovation, contract research and development, the impact of Europe in 1992, European Patent Law, venture

capital aspects — and serve as a 'market place' for information and European contacts. All of this in a relaxing and enjoyable setting.

Working languages are German, English and French.

The Congress will chiefly address technology-based enterprises from the entire European Common Market, as well as from Switzerland and Austria. The subjects dealt with will also be of interest to commercial and service enterprises that are developing new management ideas in preparation for 1992.

The Congress will serve as a forum for an exchange of information, and is designed to provide an opportunity for contact-making, for instance through the presentation of European programmes. Attractive sight-seeing and social activities will round off the programme.

It will be run in conjunction with the Fourth European Seminar and Tutorial on Industrial Software Technology by EWICS (European Workshop on Industrial Computer Systems): 'Managing Complexity in Software Engineering'.

For further information, please contact:

Technologie-Zentrum Freiburg GmbH
Wippertstr. 2, 7800 Freiburg
Tel. (0) 761-40 92 04 (40 48 00)

VENTURE CAPITAL FUND RAISING IN EUROPE OVERTAKES THE UNITED STATES

- + 43% growth in total funds to ECU 13 billion
- + 52% growth in new investments in Europe

For the first time, the expansion of funds for Europe's fast-growing venture capital industry has overtaken the United States. New European venture funds raised in 1987 totalled ECU 3.9 billion*, compared to ECU 3.8 billion by US venture investors.

Though the total pool of VC funds in the USA at ECU 22 billion (\$29 billion) still dominates the world market, Europe's VC pool rose 42.9% during 1987 to ECU 13 billion, while US growth slowed down to 20%. Actual venture capital type investments made in 1987 rose an impressive 52% from ECU 1.9 billion to ECU 2.94 billion.

These results emerge from the latest annual survey of the European Venture Capital Association (EVCA) carried out by Peat Marwick McLintock and the member firms of KPMG (Klynveld Peat Marwick Goerdeler).

For further information, please contact:

Nigel Griffiths, Eurocommunications Group,
Tel: (32.2) 640.92.23
John Hustler, Peat Marwick McLintock,
Tel: (44.1) 236.8000

*Provisional figures based on initial response. Final data to be published in the EVCA 1988 Yearbook which will be available in July.

NEW SPRINT ACTIVITY ENVISAGED ON VALUE ANALYSIS

Under the SPRINT programme it is planned to set up an ad hoc working group on value analysis, with a view to strengthening European cooperation in this field of the innovation process. Organisations from 5 Member States are already involved in developing such a European confederation. Others have expressed interest in joining this activity. The aims of such cooperation and concerted action are, for example to foster awareness concerning the important impact of value analysis on innovation, to exchange national experience and to set up a common European base for value analysis. It is expected that this new group will commence its activities in 1988.

Further information can be obtained from:

Mr F. Mahieux, CEC, JMO B4/102, L-2920 LUXEMBOURG, Tel.: (352) 4301-4370, Fax: (352) 4301-4129, Tlx: 3423 COM-EUR LU

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THE LANGUAGE OF ENGINEERING: A TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER PROJECT UNDER THE SPRINT PROGRAMME

A typical example of inter-firm cooperation which came about under the SPRINT transnational networks can be found in the field of engineering.

The Irish Industrial Development Authority (IDA), Dublin, and the Wirtschaftsverband Industrieller Unternehmen Baden (WVIB), Freiburg in Breisgau, have been systematically trying to set up partnerships between small firms in their respective regions. They are selective in their approach to the problem, inasmuch as they only organise a visit for the head of a firm if they have identified at least one entrepreneur in the other region who is likely, on commercial and technical grounds, to be a good 'fit'.

Here is the story told by the head of an Irish firm who took part in such a visit.

Pat Byrne, together with his three brothers, runs a company called Burnside Engineering Ltd. in Ballymoon, County Carlow. Their annual turnover is about IR£ 2,500,000 (3,250,000 ECU) and they have 60 employees. They specialise in the production of hydraulic cylinders for mobile machinery used in earthmoving, quarrying and agriculture, for instance. Their Irish and United Kingdom customers take about 70% of their production, and most of the rest goes to Scandinavian countries.

Pat Byrne was introduced to the head of a family firm in Germany with about 30 employees. The German company also specialises in the production of hydraulic cylinders, but only for indoor applications in factories. Its products are more sophisticated than those of Burnside Engineering and have a higher added value.

The two companies thus found that they were not competitors, but had a sufficient understanding of each

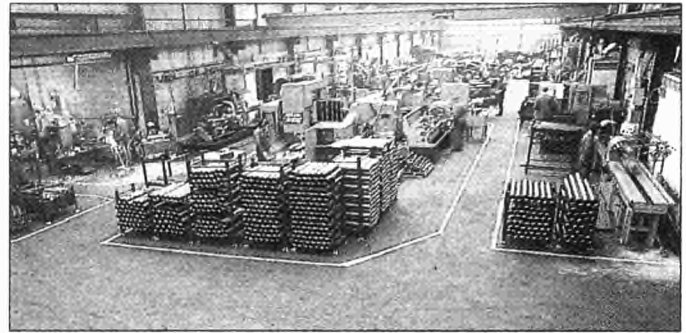


Figure 1: The machining section of Burnside Engineering's factory showing twin production lines.

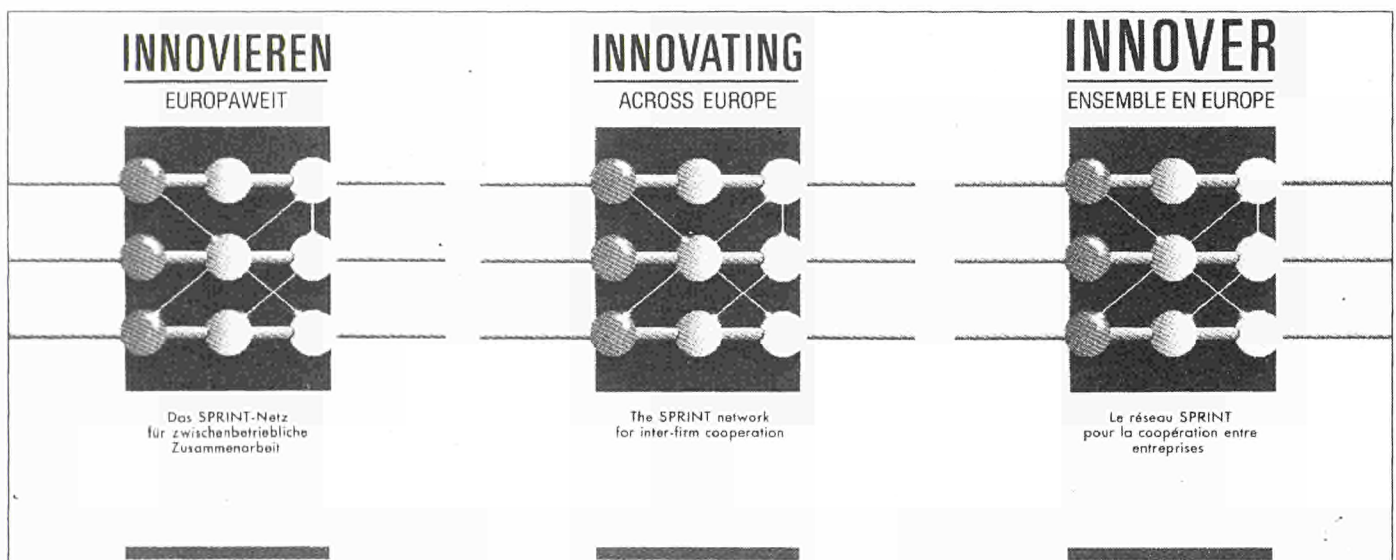
other's technologies to be able to work together constructively.

Negotiations are still under way, but several opportunities for cooperation are open.

First, they could facilitate the penetration of each other's products in their respective markets by offering the other company's products alongside their own.

Secondly it would be hardly possible to limit such an arrangement to purely commercial considerations, given the considerable technological content of the products. In such circumstances, a deep knowledge of the partner's products, with the technology transfer that this implies, is the essence of good salesmanship. This could bring along interesting secondary advantages, Burnside learning from the sophisticated approach of the German firm, and the latter from Burnside's experience in production management.

When Pat Byrne first met his potential partner, he experienced difficulty in communicating with him, because



The brochure can be obtained free of charge from:

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Directorate-General XIII-C
Mr R. Miège
Jean Monnet Building
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel.: (352) 4301-4180
Telex: 3423 COMEUR LU



Figure 2: Personnel lift of the scissors type incorporating Burnside hydraulic cylinders.

he knew no German, and his interlocutor's knowledge of English was scanty, but, to quote his own words, 'we soon discovered that we were speaking the same language'.

Should the negotiations fall through for some reason, he is sure of one thing: an irreversible change has taken place in Burnside's attitude towards trading in continental Europe.

Pat BYRNE

BURNSIDE ENGINEERING

Ballymoon, Bagenalston
Co. Carlow
Ireland
Tel.: (3 53) 50 32 13 64

Georg ALBRECHT

WVIB

Wirtschaftsverband Industrieller
Unternehmen Baden, Holbeinstr. 16
D-7800 Freiburg/Breisgau
Tel.: (49) 7 61-70 86 80

Frank MURRAY

IDA

Industrial Development Authority
Wilton Park House, Wilton Place
Dublin 2, Ireland
Tel.: (3 53) 1-68 84 44

IMPROVING THE USE OF PATENTS IN GREECE

A SPRINT activity successfully completed

At the end of 1985 a contract was signed between the Commission and the Greek Patent Office (Ministry of Industry, Energy and Technology) to improve the use of patents in Greece as a source of information on technology. This project, which has come to an end, mainly concerned the following points:

- **in-house** training of **Patent Office staff**;
- training of **Patent Office staff abroad**;
- training of **Patent Office users**;

- **supply of data** in the form of on-line links with international data banks (patent information and patent documentation);

- **equipping the Patent Office, training material, etc.**

The subsidy of the Commission for these measures amounted to 125.000 ECU. All measures were undertaken with the assistance of experts from other Member States, in particular the national Patent Offices.

SUBCONTRACTING AND EUROPEAN INDUSTRIAL COOPERATION TRADE FAIR

Valencia, 14 to 18 November 1988

What is the reason for a Trade Fair for Subcontracting and European Industrial Cooperation? What significance, meaning and scope, from the point of view of industrial projects, does the EEC's aim for 1992 have with respect to the creation of an internal European market which is free of technical, fiscal and financial obstacles so that people, goods and capital can circulate at will?

Valencia is the capital of the Valencian Community, located midway along the western Mediterranean coast, with good links to the most important European cities, and where the tradition of international trade is part of the region's very history and economic development. Valencia, as a leader in Spanish exports, is a natural meeting place for business from abroad. Not by chance does Valencia host 24 International Trade Fairs each year.

Valencia '88 is conceived as a platform where economic operators, institutions and public and private organizations of the EEC can meet, get to know one another, exchange ideas, coordinate positions and share in projects for technological innovation and industrial and commercial specialisation, in order to turn company cooperation into a truly effective instrument for management at European level.

Valencia will be the meeting point for:

- Auxiliary industries in all sectors of economic activity, both the traditional metal and plastic sectors as well as those concerned with consumer goods such as textiles and clothing, wood-working and furniture, leather and footwear, ceramics, the food industry, toys and related articles. . . and where the application of new technologies in these activities is essential.

- Supporting firms in the services sector: Maintenance, software, consulting firms, brokers, patent offices, industrial franchises, innovation design, technology transfer, automation, industrial design, CAD-CAM etc.
- Organizations and institutions for quality control, standardisation, certification etc.
- European programmes and projects in the most important scientific and technical areas: Eureka, Airbus, Esprit, but above all, SPRINT, where SMEs can channel their cooperation.

1988, VALENCIA MEETING POINT

- Community, regional and national offices and organizations for promotion, technological innovation, creation of firms and for specialised training.
- Chambers of Commerce and Industry, European industrial, territorial or trade associations.

Valencia in 1988 will be the meeting point for Subcontracting, Cooperation and Management for European Industrial Innovation.



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FERIA DE LA INDUSTRIA AUXILIAR
Y COOPERACION EUROPEA



News from TII, the European Association for the Transfer of Technologies and Industrial Information

TII PROGRAMME OF EVENTS

- 15 — 16 September 1988: **Seminar:** Innovation Financing by Venture Capital (London)
- 3 — 5 October 1988: **Group visit** to Bordeaux
- 19 — 20 October 1988: **Seminar:** Marketing of Information Services (Madrid)
- 4 — 5 November 1988: **Group visit** to Turin
- 9 — 10 November 1988: **Seminar:** Marketing of Innovative Products (Bilbao)
- November 1988: **Seminar:** Technology Auditing (Porto), date to be confirmed
- November 1988: **Seminar:** Marketing of Information Services (Athens), date to be confirmed
- 1 — 2 December 1988: **Conference:** 'Fifth International Conference on Innovation and Regional Development' (Berlin), in association with EBN, the Technical University of Berlin and the Technology Transfer Agency (TVA) Berlin.
- 6 — 7 December 1988: **Seminar:** Practice and legal protection of technology transfer (Luxembourg)
- Spring 1989: **Conference:** 'Innovation and technological development of firms: Europe facing the challenge of 1992', date and venue to be confirmed

For further details please contact the T.I.I. Secretariat: 3 rue des Capucins, L-1313 Luxembourg, Tel. (352) 46 30 35

EVCA DATABASE GOES LIVE

The objective of the EVCA database is to facilitate transnational VC investing by making EVCA members aware of the investment opportunities, markets and technologies in each country, by giving early warning of investment opportunities and by facilitating communication.

The database has several files. One is a member file with two components: a first part on general information with an underlying file on the funds under management for those companies with a dual structure.

Notice Board

The system has an investment opportunity file which is not on the database but is part of the electronic mail service. In a standardised format, the EVCA Secretariat will be able to feed in every morning opportunities for syndication in Europe. Members just communicate their information to the Secretariat to put on the notice board next morning for all Members to see. The portfolio file on our completed investments will help members look for opportunities for syndication, for sy-

nergies, mergers and acquisitions with other portfolio companies. **This file will only be accessible to those who provide information.**

Today 20 members have contributed information on more than 300 companies. Quite a number of large organisations have promised to provide information on their portfolios.

The System

It is a full screen system using an IBM PC (or compatible) asynchronous modem, 300 or 1200 baud, needing just a small piece of software to give full screen capability.

INFO EVCA is published free for members of the European Venture Capital Association. Copies are available on subscription to non-members.

INFO EVCA is also published in French. Copies are available from the EVCA Secretariat.

EVCA, Clos du Parnasse 11F, B-1040 Brussels, Tel.: + 32.2.513.74.39. Fax: + 32.2.513.63.97. Telex: (046) 23379.

EUROPEAN COOPERATION NEEDED IN THE BRUSH INDUSTRY

Interbrossa 1988, the world's biggest fair in the brush industry, was held in Freiburg (D) at the beginning of May. About 11,000 experts from 14 different countries visited the 165 stands. During the fair, for the first time an international technology transfer conference, sponsored by SPRINT, was organised in order to discuss perspectives of the impact of the single market and to devise strategies to strengthen cooperation in the European brush industry, which is concentrated in Reggio Emilia (I), in the South West of the Federal Republic of Germany and in Izgem (B). It was agreed to publish a do-

cument on this workshop containing practical orientated information on the possibilities of transnational cooperation.

This documentation and further information on the Interbrossa can be obtained from:

Mr Rainer Grüb
Verlag Dr. Grüb Nachf.
Schwarzwaldstr. 26
D-7800 Freiburg i. Br.
Tel.: (0049-0761) 70559
Tlx.: 772730 bors d

FIRST PAN-EUROPEAN CONFERENCE JUNE 23rd - 24th 1988 'LICENSING IN EUROPE'

Looking ahead to 1992 LES Britain and Ireland took 'Licensing in Europe' as the theme for their 1988 Pan European conference. Over 150 delegates from all over Europe plus representatives from Australia, New Zealand, India, China and the USA gathered near London's Heathrow Airport to discuss aspects of product licensing and technology transfer within and outside to Europe.

Michael Cooper, President of LES Britain and Ireland paid tribute to the SPRINT programme of the European Commission for its sponsorship of the event. His hope, expressed at the opening, was that the First Pan-European Conference would be followed by similar events in the other European countries. This challenge has been accepted by LES Italy who will host next year's European Conference.

The conference was divided into three sessions, Financial Aspects, Licensing Agreements with a European Party and Enforcement of Rights in Europe, thus devoting its range of presentations to the strong needs Europe is faced with in the next years. Further information on the LES Conference can be obtained from:

Mr Ian TRAILL
Commission of the European Communities
Directorate-General XIII/C/1
JMO B4/105
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel.: (352) 4301-4532
Fax : (352) 4301-4129
Tlx : 3423/3446 COMEUR LU

HUMAN ASPECTS OF ROBOT SYSTEMS

In Newsletter 57 we reported that the Commission is running under the SPRINT programme a campaign to promote the awareness of robotics and its application in Irish industry. This activity gave rise to a seminar organised by the European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working conditions on 'Human-orientated implementation of industrial robot systems' in Ashfore, Co. Wicklow, Ireland.

Holger Nollek from IPA and Kevin McGuigan from EOLAS, the Irish Science and Technology Agency, proved with practical examples that a human-orientated approach is not only feasible but leads to significant improvements in working conditions and safety standards. Even though experience with robot technology is not so advanced in Ireland today, management and union representatives agreed to look at future installations of industrial robot systems in Ireland not only in purely economic and technical terms.

The concern of the union in this field related particularly to the effect on employment. This problem was tackled by Dr Werner Wobbe from the FAST programme in Brussels. He pointed out that the replacement ratio of an industrial robot to the number of workers varies significantly. As an average figure a 1:4 ratio can be assumed. He also placed the whole problem in a wider framework of 'production' systems. Europe had the strategic choice between a technology-centered approach, which would lead in the long run to the 'unmanned' factory, and a skill-based approach. 'The latter

strategy' seems to be the better choice for a long-term European industrial policy.'

'Human-orientated planning of new technology is technically and economically feasible'. This was the final remark of Mr Nicolaisen, an engineer from the Fraunhofer Institut for Manufacturing, Engineering and Automation (IPA) in Stuttgart.

Further information on human aspects of robot systems can be obtained from:

Dr Krieger
European Foundation for the Improvement of Living and Working Conditions
Loughlinstown House, Shankill
IRL-DUBLIN
Tel.: (01) 826888

Mr Nollek/Mr Nicolaisen
Fraunhofer Institut für Produktionstechnik und Automatisierung
Nobelstraße 12
D-7000 STUTTGART 80
Tel.: (49-711) 6868-134

Dr Wobbe
CEC/DG XIII/H/2
B-34 01/30
200, rue de loi
B-1049 BRUSSELS
Tel.: (32-2) 2350879

**12. Europäische
Kongressmesse für
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FIRST INTERNATIONAL CONGRESS ON ACTUATORS

'ACTUATOR '88', Bremen — June 9-10, 1988

VDI/VDE TECHNOLOGIEZENTRUM
INFORMATIONSTECHNIK GmbH

The first international technology transfer conference 'ACTUATOR '88' was organized by the VDI/VDE Technologiezentrum Informationstechnik GmbH in Bremen on 9 and 10 June 1988 in Bremen. Actuators have a wide range of application. They are required to start, stop, control and regulate processes in virtually all areas of engineering and must be able to keep pace with the level of efficiency provided by microelectronics.

The papers presented by international experts addressed the following issues: hydraulics/pneumatics, power semiconductors, electric drive systems, new actuator concepts. The nearly 200 participants were able to appreciate the advanced level and the high quality of the various presentations. In addition, the multilateral and international contacts amongst experts from the various fields of application of actuators led to the idea of setting up a European federation/cooperation (as has been done in the field of other technologies linked with, or affected by, microelectronics, e.g. sensor technology).

'ACTUATOR '88' was supported by the Commission of the EEC under the SPRINT programme.

The proceedings and further information on Actuator '88' can be obtained from Dr Schröer, VDI/VDE Technologiezentrum Informationstechnik GmbH, Am Wall 119, D-2800 Bremen 1, Tel.: 49 (421) 170531. The next congress on actuators is scheduled for 1990.

PROCEEDINGS
ACTUATOR '88
INTERNATIONALER
WISSENSCHAFTSTRANSFER-
KONGRESS
Bremen, 9.-10. Juni 1988
ACTUATOR '88
INTERNATIONAL
TECHNOLOGY-TRANSFER
CONGRESS
Bremen, from 9 to 10 June 1988



4th Annual Conference at the Heriot-Watt Conference Centre, EDINBURGH

On Thursday and Friday, 6th and 7th April, 1989

SUBJECT

'THE ROLE OF SCIENCE PARKS IN THE PROMOTION
OF INNOVATION AND THE TRANSFER OF TECHNOLOGY'

*A two-day residential conference during the first
Edinburgh Festival of Science and Technology
(3rd-12th April 1989)*

Supported by the Commission of the European Communities under
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KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock

TII The European Association for the transfer of Technologies,
Innovation and Industrial Information;

ADT The Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutscher Technologie-und
Gründerzentren,

Make a note for your forward planner **NOW**.

For further details contact: Brian Worrall, UKSPA
— 44 Four Oaks Road, Sutton Coldfield, B74 2TL, England.



4^{ème} Conférence Annuelle au Centre de Conférences Heriot-Watt, EDIMBOURG

Les jeudi et vendredi 6 et 7 avril 1989

SUJET:

'LE ROLE DES PARCS SCIENTIFIQUES DANS LA PROMOTION
DES INNOVATIONS ET LE TRANSFERT DE TECHNOLOGIES'

*Une conférence résidentielle de deux jours, au cours
du premier Festival de la Science et de la Technologie d'Edimbourg
(3-12 avril 1989)*

Dans le cadre du programme 'SPRINT' de la Commission des
Communautés Européennes, et organisée conjointement par:

KPMG Peat Marwick McLintock

TII (Association Européenne pour le Transfert de Technologies,
Innovation et Information Industrielle;)

ADT (Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutscher Technologie-und
Gründerzentren.)

Notez **DÈS MAINTENANT** ces dates dans votre agenda.

Pour tout autre renseignement, veuillez contacter: Brian Worrall, UKSPA
— 44 Four Oaks Road, Sutton Coldfield, B74 2TL, Angleterre.



ANNUAL PROGRESS REPORT ON THE PLAN FOR THE TRANSNATIONAL DEVELOPMENT OF THE SUPPORTING INFRASTRUCTURE FOR INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY TRANSFER

The Commission has approved the 1986 annual progress report on the Plan for the Transnational Development of the Supporting Infrastructure for Innovation and Technology Transfer, which was the predecessor of SPRINT. This report is now being submitted to

the Council and the Parliament. Although it has been delayed, we publish below some excerpts from this report, since it provides an excellent overview of the whole range of activity meanwhile continuing under the SPRINT programme:

INTRODUCTION

The general intention of the programme was to speed up and simplify the processes for transforming research results into new products, processes and services at both national and Community levels, and to accelerate the diffusion of innovation throughout the Community. Special importance is attached to the problems faced by the small-to-medium-sized enterprises which play such a dominant role in the economies of all Community Member States, and the Commission is assisted in its work by the Consultative Committee on Innovation and Technology Transfer (CIT). The Commission wishes to record its gratitude to CIT for its invaluable advice in implementing the Innovation Plan.

The programme was formulated in terms of four specific categories of activity

- A. 'Transnational Cooperation in the Field of Innovation'
- B. 'Coordination of National Innovation Policies'
- C. 'Ensuring greater Community-wide availability of information on Innovation and Technology Transfer'
- D. 'Improving the Innovation Infrastructure of less favoured regions.'

The four areas of activity will now be discussed in more detail.

A. TRANSNATIONAL COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF INNOVATION

The objectives of this part of the programme were to improve the transnational integration of 'national innovation infrastructure networks, to increase transnational cooperation in the field of 'venture capital, and establish transnational cooperation 'in the interfacing of research and industry.'

These have been approached from a number of different aspects, and, to a large extent, efforts have been concentrated on SMEs.

A.1 Innovation infrastructure networks

A major aspect of the Innovation Plan is the development of transnational cooperation between small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). Part A of the programme attempts to facilitate this by concentrating on the 'technology transfer and innovation management advisory services,' (such as Chambers of Commerce, Regional Development Authorities, private technology and management consultants), which serve the SMEs in the different Member States, and has endeavoured to establish 'transnational networks of such advisory services.' The intention is for these networks to form lasting information exchange systems which will foster and facilitate transnational collaboration between the small and medium-sized enterprises.

As in the two previous years, a Call for Proposals was made offering partial financing for the implementation of transnational cooperation, particularly involving the new Member States, Spain and Portugal. 21 proposals were accepted in this round, making a total of 68 in the three years of the programme. These contacts have involved public and private advisory bodies and have already led to more than 50 transnational technology transfer contracts between firms being assisted by the advisory services receiving aid.

The particular steps being taken to improve the European network of intermediaries and to foster transnational cooperation already include 'exploratory visits' and 'professional secondments' which were started in 1984 as preparatory activities. These actions were found to be successful and were continued in 1986 with the European Association for the Transfer of Technology, Innovation and Industrial Information (TII) (see section below) acting as management agent for the Commission.

The object of these two activities was to encourage members of public and private innovation and technology management advisory services across the Community to get to know each other, to study working practices in other countries and to explore the possibilities for transnational cooperation.

During 1986 three two-to-three-day exploratory visits were made by groups of up to 20 members to Bristol (UK), Bilbao (Spain) and Dublin (Ireland). Additionally, twenty two-to-three-week and two three-month secondments were supported to establish contacts between advisory bodies in, for example, Madrid and Brighton, Rome and Paris, Thessaloniki and Hamburg, Gloucester and Lisbon, etc.

During the reporting year support has been given, again, for 'guided visits by groups of entrepreneurs and managers' from one Member State to technology fairs in another Member State. This attracted considerable interest, with 33 proposals being received. Of these, 22 were accepted for subsidy support.

'The European Association for the Transfer of Technology, Innovation and Industrial Information, TII', which was founded in 1984 with help from the Commission to create an European association of the main organisations involved in innovation and technology transfer, now has over 200 member organizations including university/industry liaison bodies, private, public and semi-public innovation and technology consultants, Chambers of Commerce and Industry, etc.

In 1986 continued support was provided under the Innovation Plan, and TII continued the activities initiated in the previous years, including the management of some actions under the Transnational Plan on behalf of the Commission. Additionally, a business plan has been drawn up to describe the Association's intended development in the next few years.

A.2 Transnational cooperation in the field of venture capital

In 1986, support was also given to the European Venture Capital Association (EVCA), a non-profit-making institution based in Brussels. EVCA now has 160 members, which is an increase on the previous years.

Among EVCA's many activities during the year, special men-

tion should be made of a major conference, 'Financing Growth Companies in Europe', which took place in June in Munich and which was attended by representatives of venture capital companies, banks, industry and government.

A.3 Transnational cooperation between industry-linked research associations

A restricted call for proposals for transnational cooperation projects was issued to industry-linked research associations selected by the CIT delegates from the individual Member States. There were 70 applications, of which 16 were selected, involving a total of 75 research associations.

The second topic was approached by launching a transnational pilot project for an experimental exchange of information and experience on national policies regarding the 'modernisation of traditional industries', on new technologies and on

new products. Attention is being concentrated on three selected sectors; textiles, footwear and traditional ceramics, and the activities include:

- direct transnational exchanges of expert consultants to SMEs;
- visits by manufacturers to their counterparts in the same industrial sector in other countries;
- seminars for exchanging experience and information;
- preparation of information material in various languages.



EURO ABSTRACTS SECTION I

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Scientific and technical research in certain key areas, such as alternative energy sources, environmental research, nuclear reactor safety, radiation protection, thermonuclear fusion and others is being carried out by the Commission of the European Communities in its Joint Research Centres (direct actions) or through re-

search contracts with national research organizations and industry (indirect actions). Current information on published results from these research actions is announced in the monthly abstracts journal 'euro abstracts' — Section I.

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Scientific and technical research in coal, steel and social matters.

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B. COORDINATION OF NATIONAL INNOVATION PROMOTION POLICIES

The intention in this part of the programme is to improve the efficiency of national innovation promotion policies by increasing the degree of coordination between them, and to add

complementary transnational components where possible and appropriate.

B.1 Improving the utilisation of the results of public or publicly funded R&D

The studies were complemented by a symposium on the utilisation of the results of public and publicly funded R&D which was organised by the Commission in Luxembourg on 23-25

September, 1986, and attended by about 450 representatives from the fields of politics, administration, industry and research, and other interested institutions.

B.2 Patents and innovation

Patents play a crucial role in the innovation process and a CIT sub-group was established in July 1986 to accomplish a range of tasks which extend the Commission's activities with regard to patent information. Specifically, the sub-group is to examine possibilities of improving the utilisation of patents, particularly in order to promote innovation.

During 1986, the work of the CIT sub-group concentrated on:

- the drawing up of an inventory of existing and planned measures in the Member States for the promotion of innovation through the patent system;

- the identification of necessary studies and possible activities in this field;
- examination of the practicability of the recommendations made during previous studies. These have touched, for example, on the re-introduction of the period of grace, costs in patent infringement proceedings, influence of the duration of protection on innovation, and conditions and instruments for encouraging patent applications in the European Community.

B.3 Design and innovation

There is tendency for manufacturers, and particularly SMEs, to overlook the importance of design in their innovation, production and marketing activities. To help overcome this, the CIT established a 'Design and Innovation' working group whose main objectives are to increase awareness of the importance of design and to provide information on the role of design in the innovation process.

A wide range of activities has been undertaken, including

- publications: The intention of the publications is to help industrial managers to appreciate the importance of design and to improve their access to the design community. Five titles have been selected for support:
 - Design Management in Practice
 - The design-based enterprise

- The Corporate Design Programme
- 'Design : WHY ?'
- Index of design lecturers at universities and design centres.
- Seminars: A Design Management Consultancy Seminar involving about 15 managers of large organisations was held in cooperation with the British Design Council and the Kilkenny Design Workshop (IRL).
- Exchanges of staff between design centres in different Member States.
- An initial experiment to promote direct cooperation between SMEs in France and the United Kingdom with a view to devising joint design strategies.

C. COMMUNITY-WIDE INFORMATION ON INNOVATION AND TECHNOLOGY

Information and information flow are to the innovation process and the emphasis of this part of the programme has been on improving the Community-wide availability of information on innovation and technology transfer — particularly for SMEs.

C1. Dissemination of R&D results

The dissemination of R&D results has been approached through e.g. the Europeanisation of conferences on technology and innovation.

Here aid is given to conference organisers to bring speakers from other Member States, to reach potential participants

from other countries, and to translate and circulate the proceedings throughout the Community. During 1986, 23 conferences were selected for support, bringing to 65 the total number supported since the beginning of the programme. The conferences cover a wide range of topics in the field of new technologies and innovation.

C.3 Community-wide dissemination of information on technical standards and regulations: ICONÉ data base

The Member States have developed large, often specifically national technical standards. The work needed to achieve technical harmonization at the European and international levels is still far from complete, so that it is often very difficult for companies, especially SMEs, to identify the requirements of different national standards when trying to market a new product.

The Commission proposed a partial solution to this problem through the compilation of a comparative index linking and comparing national and European standards (ICONÉ data base). This work is being carried out under contract to the Commission by ECS (European Committee for Standardization) in collaboration with the standardization institutes of the various Member States.

D. INNOVATION INFRASTRUCTURE FOR LESS FAVOURED REGIONS

The aim of this part of the programme is to assist areas of the Community which cannot participate fully in the innovation activities because they lack the necessary innovation and technology transfer infrastructure.

Initial actions in this area must be carefully selected and monitored because, unlike the mutual-exchange activities carried out in the other parts of the programme, they involve a one-way transfer of technology, experience and information. They cannot be implemented without transnational cooperation, and care must be taken in selection and in execution to ensure that they are successfully accomplished. 1986 was the first year in which fairly large-scale projects of this nature were undertaken and three specific schemes were set in motion.

D.1 Robotics in Ireland

A number of measures are being implemented to achieve a wider appreciation of the benefits of robotics by Irish SMEs and to encourage the wider application of robotics technology. Foreign experts are being called in as speakers at a

series of seminars being held throughout Ireland, and as trainers of staff in Irish companies. They are also being used to assist selected Irish SMEs in a number of case studies to assess the possibilities of using robotics for specific applications.

D.2 Increased use of patents in Greece as a source of information on technology

Greece has been an importer of technology for the last 40 years. This was not without consequences for the building up of its innovation and technology transfer infrastructure. In an effort to improve the situation and to ease the flow of information to Greek industry, this action is intended to increase awareness in Greece of the usefulness of patents as a source of information and to improve the flow of patent information. Specifically, support is to be provided for:

(a) in-house training of Patent Office staff; (b) training of Patent Office staff abroad; (c) training for Patent Office users; (d) supply of data through on-line links with international data banks (patents information and patent documentation); (e) equipping the Patent Office, training material, etc.

The activities started in 1986, with the main emphasis being on items (b) and (c): training Greek Patent Office staff abroad, and training users of the Patent Office.

D.3 Setting up 'active information centres' for key Greek industries

In order to improve the competitiveness of Greek industry, the Greek Government has set up R&D companies for three key industrial sectors (textiles, iron and steel and marine technology). These companies are to provide various service functions for the benefit of the appropriate industry, including providing access to R&D, evaluation of R&D, undertaking R&D activities on their own account, and technology training.

With the help of the Commission each of the three companies will also host an 'Active Information Centre', to provide information and counselling in their own industrial sector. Emphasis is being placed on aid for training and on information aids (including specialist literature, a computer-aided system for accessing relevant information available abroad, and other similar measures).

EUROPEAN COLLOQUIUM IP' 88 Grenoble

29th — 30th September 1988

FROM INVENTION TO INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT

The Commission of the European Communities is taking part in IP'88: this represents the most important exhibition in the paper industry to take place within the territory of the member states. In view of the expansion taking place in the paper industry the CEC would like to draw attention at this time to the efforts necessary for improving the competition situation in this area. At the same time it would like to provide an overview of achievements to date as well as of future projects.

Thus, the Europe Days of the Colloquium is designed to illustrate the advantages of the combined action of the results of research and technological innovation taking place at the European level.

In addition to organising the European Colloquium in the framework of IP'88 the CEC will also sponsor an exhibition stand at IP'88. Some of the products already being employed in manufacturing will be exhibited, products which are the result of European research work and which represent inventions of major importance to the paper industry.

A listing of the products exhibited is to be found on page 6 of "Innovation and Technology Transfer"

Conferences under the SPRINT Programme

Under the SPRINT-Programme the Commission is promoting the 'Europeanisation' of conferences on new technologies. Here is an overview of some of the forthcoming conferences:

Date	Conference	Venue	Organizer
31. 8. - 2. 9. 1988	Conférence européenne sur la fissuration des bétons	St-Remy lès Chevreuses (F)	Institut technique du bâtiment et des travaux publics, St Remy lès Chevreuses
13. - 15. 9. 1988	Telecommunications in the EEC: the highway to the future	Newcastle upon Tyne (UK)	MARI Advanced Microelectronics Ltd., Newcastle
7. - 10. 9. 1988	T.I.M.E. Challenge for Europe / Technology, Innovation and Management	Freiburg (D)	Technologie-Zentrum Freiburg (TFZ) GmbH
14. - 15. 9. 1988	Offshore Multiphase Production Technology	London (UK)	Dr Peter A Wood, BHRA, The Fluid Engineering Centre, Cranfield (UK)
19. - 23. 9. 1988	Engineering geology as related to the study, preservation and protection of ancient works, monuments and historical sites	Athens (GR)	Greek National Group of the International Association of Engineering Geology, Athens
26. - 28. 9. 1988	Simposio Europeo sobre Efluentes Textiles: Reciclado. Reutilización y Disminución de la Contaminación	Terrassa (ES)	Instituto de investigación textil, Terrassa
4. - 6. 10. 1988	Intelligence artificielle et PME	Biarritz (F)	Institut du logiciel et des systèmes, Bayonne (F)
12. - 14. 10. 1988	Progrès récents dans les échangeurs de chaleur	Grenoble (F)	CEA/GREth — Groupement pour la recherche sur les échangeurs thermiques, Grenoble
13. - 14. 10. 1988	Eclat 88: 2nd European Conference on laser treatment of materials	Nauheim (D)	Deutscher Verband für Schweißtechnik e.V., Düsseldorf
2. - 4. 11. 1988	MICATEC — 3e Forum sur l'utilisation de la micro-informatique dans les bureaux d'étude	Paris (F)	CETIM Centre technique des industries mécaniques, Senlis (F)
10. - 11. 11. 1988	Aerospace Spinn-off to SMEs	Eindhoven (NL)	Mikrocentrum, Delft (NL), Flemish Aerospace Group, Antwerpen (B)
15. 11. 1988	1st European Symposium on Automated Assembly	Eindhoven (NL)	Vereniging voor produktietechniek, Zoetermeer (NL)
26. - 27. 1. 1989	Methods and techniques for implementing manufacturing systems in SMEs	Amsterdam (NL)	Intervisie, Leiden (NL), Forschungsinstitut für Rationalisierung, Aachen (D), Brighton Polytechnic, Centre for Business Research, Brighton (UK)
6. - 7. 4. 1989	The role of science parks in the promotion of innovation and the transfer of technology	Edinburgh (UK)	U.K. Science Park Association, Birmingham, Peat Marwick McLintock, London, Arbeitsgemeinschaft Deutscher Technologie- und Gründerzentrum, Syke (D), Association TII, Luxembourg

Further information can be obtained from: Commission of the European Communities, Directorate-General XIII/C/1, Attn.: Mr T. Jones (JMO B4/103), L-2920 Luxembourg, Tel.: (352) 4301-3461, Telex: 3423/3446 COMEUR LU

CDAJ88003ENC

Stop press:

Commission proposes SPRINT-MAIN

Brussels — 19 July 1988 — The commission has adopted the proposal concerning the principal phase (1989-1993) of SPRINT (SPRINT-MAIN) initiated by Vice-President Narjes. This proposal foresees a budget of 130 Mio. ECU, and will now be submitted to the Council and the Parliament.