

SIGAda

The ACM Special Interest Group on Ada

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Dear SIGAda Members:

We are pleased to dedicate this issue to the proceedings of the 12th International Real-Time Applications Workshop (IRTAW 12), which was held in Pousada Monte de Sta. Luzia, Viana do Castelo, Portugal from 15-19 September 2003. This workshop has provided real benefit to the Ada community by addressing issues to make the Ada language effective in achieving real-time requirements. There were 22 participants representing 9 countries. For those into real-time applications, these proceedings will be extremely valuable. Even if you are not, there are several sections that you might want to pay close attention. For example, a Session Summary on New Core Language Features will provide information on the direction ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22 WG9 is taking for the new real-time related features planned for the Ada 2005 Amendment to the Ada ISO language standard. Many of these features evolved from previous IRTAW meetings. SIGAda thanks the IRTAW for this important contribution and we are very happy to publish these proceedings. A very special thanks to all those involved in making the 12th IRTAW a success: Ricardo Barbosa, John Barnes, Ben Brosgol, Alan Burns, Arnaud Charlet, Marc Richard-Foy, Brian Dobbins, J. Javier Gutiérrez, Michael González-Harbour, Niklas Holsti, Bruce Lewis, Ricardo Maia, Stephen Michell, Javier Miranda, Morten Nielsen, Luís Miguel Pinho, Juan Antonio de la Puente, Jorge Real, Mario Aldea Rivas, George Romanski, Joyce Tokar, Tullio Vardanega, Andy Wellings, and Juan Zamorano. This group is taking a well-deserved breather since new inputs for the Ada 2005 Amendment is now frozen.

As you know, SIGAda is one of approximately 30-40 Special Interest Groups (SIGs) under ACM. Recently ACM tasked each of the SIGs to identify the special membership benefits one receives by being a member of that SIG. The SIGAda Executive Community did some thinking and identified the following benefits one receives by being a SIGAda member:

1. Be part of a powerful resource for the software community's ongoing understanding of the scientific, technical, and organizational aspects of the use, standardization, environments, and implementations of the Ada language.
2. Keep you up to date with the latest Ada-related technical developments.
3. Provide you with focused resources and forums for discussion on Ada issues.
4. Help you network with colleagues outside your immediate employ.
5. Provide you with opportunities to help evolve the Ada language.
6. Provide you with opportunities to help benefit the entire Ada community.
7. Provide you with opportunities to help advance your professional career.



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8. Provide you with an annual International SIGAda Conference dedicated to Ada technologies.
9. Provide you with a quarterly professional newsletter, *ACM Ada Letters*, which is the best way to stay current on Ada and Ada community happenings.

We hope you are experiencing each of these benefits and find them to be valuable to you. We would be very interested in hearing from you if you see other benefits of being a member that are not articulated here. Perhaps these additional benefits are ones that we can strengthen so they will also benefit many others in the Ada community.

The Category C Liaison between ISO/IEC JTC1/SC22 WG9 has been in effect for approximately one year. One of the major benefits of this important liaison is the capability to keep abreast of what WG9 and more importantly, the WG9 Ada Rapporteur Group (ARG) is doing. In the past, there was little insight as to what might be in the evolving Ada standard. I am pleased to report that the Convenor of WG9, Mr. Jim Moore, and the Convenor of the ARG, Dr. Pascal Leroy, will both be speaking at SIGAda 2003 directly addressing the standardization process and the types of things that will be included in the new Amendment to ISO/IEC 8652:1995, the Ada 95 Language Reference Manual. In addition, Dr. Tullio Vardanega will be giving us some insight into the important Ravenscar Model. This model will allow the use of restricted tasking for applications having the highest integrity requirements. We are now part of this exciting process and we have a front row seat in the evolution of Ada.

There are a number of important Ada conferences in the near future. These include:

- **SIGAda 2003** – 7-11 December 2003 - ACM SIGAda Annual International Conference on the Ada Programming Language - San Diego, California => <http://www.acm.org/sigada/conf/sigada2003>
- **STC 2004** – 19-22 April 2004 - Software Technology Conference (STC 2004) - Salt Lake City, Utah => <http://www.stc-online.org/>
- **Ada-Europe 2004** – 14-18 June 2004 - 9th International Conference on Reliable Software Technologies - Palma de Mallorca, Spain => <http://dmi.uib.es/~AE2004/>
- **SIGAda 2004** – Date and location are TBD. Its URL will be <http://www.acm.org/sigada/conf/sigada2004>.

As noted, our SIGAda 2003 Conference will be in San Diego, California from 7-11 December 2003. The venue will be at the Red Lion Hanalei Hotel, set amidst tropical palms and lush, inviting gardens; it is convenient to the San Diego recreational and sight-seeing attractions. We have a terrific technical program lined up. Very special thanks to Dr. Robert Leif, the Conference Chair, Lt. Colonel Ricky Sward, the Program Chair, and the SIGAda 2003 Conference Committee for all their hard work. We are looking forward to a very special time!

We have already starting to get the ball in motion for SIGAda 2004. We expect it to be in the late fall of 2004, but exactly when and where, we don't know. If you are interested in actively participating in this conference, please contact me at colket@acm.org. We look forward to hearing from you!

Sincerely yours,



Currie Colket
Chair ACM SIGAda

