

# ACM SIGAda FACT SHEET

## The ACM Special Interest Group on Ada Programming Language

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A powerful resource for the software community's ongoing understanding of the scientific, technical and organizational aspects of Ada language's use, standardization, environments, and implementations.

**URL:**<http://www.acm.org/sigada/>

### **Mission Statement**

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The ACM SIG on Ada deals with the Ada language and a broad span of issues related to its usage, teaching, standardization, and implementation. SIGAda members include practitioners, educators, researchers, and managers from a wide range of organizations in industry, academia, and government. Among the topics that SIGAda addresses are software engineering practice (with a particular focus on object tech.), real-time applications, high-integrity & safety-critical systems, high-integrity and safety-critical systems, software education, and large-scale system development. SIGAda explores these issues through an annual multi-track international conference, special-purpose Working Groups, active local chapters, and its quarterly Ada Letters publication.

### **Demographics**

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Design, implementation and maintenance of software systems. Software development, management or procurement of software-intensive systems.

### **Awards**

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#### ***Outstanding Ada Community Contribution***

Recognizes broad, lasting contribute to overall state of Ada Technology and usage

#### ***ACM SIGAda Distinguished Service***

Recognizes exceptional "volunteer" contribute to SIGAda activities and products

# From the Editor's Desk

*Alok Srivastava*

Welcome to this issue of Ada Letters. In this issue Cyrille Comar, Pat Rogers have demonstrated that although Ada has a static notion of types and implementations typically provide statically-linked executables, dynamic extensions are possible even while the client program continues to execute. Additionally, they have demonstrated that the concept of "plug-ins" invoked via dynamic dispatching provides a high-level, robust mechanism compared to the typical approach using only string names to identify the operation to invoke. Karl Nyberg presented a little documentary case of using Ada95 to develop a small utility to recover data from a FAT (File Allocation Table) formatted file system on a Windows 98 disk drive. No issue on reusable components would be complete without an update from a regular Ada Letters contributor, Trudy Levine.

Of interest to all Ada users and enthusiasts is the new revision to the Ada language, Ada 2005. Inside you'll find information on SIGAda 2005 (November 13-17 in Atlanta) and Ada-Europe 2006 (5-9 June 2006 in Porto, Portugal). These conferences will be great opportunities to learn more about what is in the new revision of the Ada language, and how implementations of Ada 2005 are accomplished, as well as other research and industry uses of Ada.

Ada Letters would be a great place to submit articles on your experiences with the language revision, tips on how to do things with the new language features, as well as to describe success stories using Ada. We'll look forward to your submission. You can submit either a MS Word or Adobe PDF file (with 1" margins and no page numbers) to our technical editor:

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We look forward to hearing from you!

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## Editorial Policy (from Alok Srivastava, Managing Editor)

As the editor of Ada Letters, I'd like to thank you for your continued support of ACM SIGAda, and encourage you to submit articles for publication. In addition, if there is some way we can make Ada Letters more useful to you, please let me know. Note that Ada Letters is now on the web! See [http://www.acm.org/sigada/ada\\_letters/index.html](http://www.acm.org/sigada/ada_letters/index.html). The newest two issues are available only to SIGAda members. Older issues beginning March 2000 are available to all.

Now that Ada is standing on its own merits without the support of the DoD, lots of people and organizations have stepped up to provide new tools, mechanisms for compiler validation/assessment, and standards (especially ASIS). Ada Letters is a venue for you to share your successes and ideas with others in the Ada community—be sure to take advantage of it so that we can all benefit from each other's learning and experience.

Ada Letters is published four times a year, with the exception of special issues. As some of the other ACM Special Interest Group periodicals will change, **Ada Letters will also be transitioning from quarterly to a tri-annual publication.** The revised schedule and submission deadlines will be announced in the next issues of Ada Letters. Current submission deadlines for all material are as follows:

Deadline	Issue	Deadline	Issue
December 1	March	June 1	September
March 1	June	September 1	December

### Guidelines for Authors

Letters, announcements and book reviews should be sent directly to the Managing Editor by the deadline, and will normally appear in the issue corresponding to that deadline.

Proposed articles are to be submitted to the Technical Editor. Any article will be considered for publication, provided that topic is of interest to the SIGAda membership. Previously published articles are welcome, provided the previous publisher or copyright holder grants permission. In particular, keeping with the theme of recent SIGAda conferences, we are particularly interested in submissions that demonstrate that "Ada Works." For example, a description of how Ada helped you with a particular project, or a description of how to solve a task in Ada are suitable.

Although Ada Letters is not a refereed publication, acceptance is subject to the review and discretion of the Technical Editor. In order to appear in a particular issue, articles must be submitted far enough in advance of the deadline to allow for review/edit cycles. Backlogs may result in an article's being delayed for two or more issues. Contact the Managing Editor for information on the current publishing queue.

Articles should be submitted electronically in one of the following formats: MS Word (preferred), Postscript, or Adobe Acrobat. All submissions must be formatted for US Letter paper (8.5" x 11") with one inch margins on each side (for a total print area of 6.5" x 9") with no page numbers, headers or footers. Full justification of text is preferred, with proportional font (preferably Times New Roman, or equivalent) of no less than 10 points. Code insertions should be presented in a non-proportional font such as Courier.

The title should be centered, followed by author information (also centered). The author's name, organization name and address, telephone number, and e-mail address should be given. For previously published articles, please give an introductory statement (in a distinctive font) or a footnote on the first page identifying the previous publication.

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**Back Issues**

Back issues of Ada Letters can be ordered at the price of \$6.00 per issue for ACM or SIGAda members; and \$9.00 per issue for non-ACM members. Information on availability, contact the ACM Order Department at 1-800-342-6626 or 410-528-4261. Checks and credit cards only are accepted and payment must be enclosed with the order. Specify volume and issue number as well as date of publication. Orders must be sent to:

ACM Order Department, P.O. Box 12114, Church Street Station, New York, NY 10257 or via FAX: 301-528-8550.

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