Dieter Brombach Retires as EUG Chairman





John Whitney makes the presentation to Dieter Brombach

Dieter Brombach hands over the reigns to William Beeckman

Since the European User Group (EUG) was founded in 1987 at Graz, Austria, Dieter Brombach of the Paul Scherer Institute, Switzerland has been its popular Chairman. However due to his impending retirement from PSI this year, Dieter has now decided to hand over the reigns.

At the last EUG Meeting, at the Chalmers University, Gothenberg, John Whitney presented Dieter with a silver salver and a book about Oxford in recognition of his efforts over the 14 years. Dieter's good humoured control of the meetings and knowledge of the OPERA-3d software will be sadly missed by all his colleagues and friends who wish him a happy and well earned retirement. Dieter has promised that he will still continue his interest in the User Group and hopes to attend future events as an honorary delegate.

At the 2001 meeting the Group elected William Beeckman of IBA Belgium as its new Chairman. William is an experienced user of OPERA and will make a valuable contribution to the user community. Details of this years European meeting, which is expected to be in the UK, and the other user group meetings will be posted on the VF website.

New Versions Lead VF to Record Sales

As predicted in the last edition of VECTOR, the 2001 fiscal year proved to be another record year for Vector Fields. Whereas many companies experienced a difficult year, new versions of the OPERA and CONCERTO software helped VF to turn in another excellent result.

The domestic US market was particularly buoyant with an increase in software sales of 34%. The Asia Pacific and European markets also had a good year.

Vector Fields philosophy of technology transfer with the focus on customer needs has proved to be crucial. The combination of world class software with top qualitiy application support and training provides a partnership giving users confidence in this important area of technology.

Vector Fields Software in Brief OPERA Suite

For 2D and 3D analysis of static and low frequency fields using finite element analysis. Incorporates TOSCA, ELEKTRA, CARMEN and SCALA modules.

CONCERTO Suite

For 3D EM field analysis of RF and microwave devices using finite difference time domain methods. Incorporates pre and post processor, simulation and optimisation modules.

For details complete and return coupon on page 8.

Staff Profiles Additional staff for the Development Team

Edward Xu

Edward joined Vector Fields in April 2001 as a Development E n g i n e e r, f o I I o w i n g post-doctorate work at the



University of Leeds and UMIST where he was a Research Fellow and Research Associate respectively. His research involved computational simulation of Microwave devices.

His collaboration with Vector Fields goes back to his time at King's College London and South Bank University, where he worked on finite element simulation at high frequency. His work on computational electromagnetics started sixteen years ago when lecturing in Zhejiang University, China, after being awarded BSc and MSc degrees by the university. In his leisure time, Edward loves scenic photography and wandering in the countryside.

Gordon Aird

G o r d o n started at Vector Fields in May 2001 and joined the R&D group in Oxford as a Development

Engineer. Gordon is a graduate of Glasgow University, where he studied for a BSc in Physics and Mathematics and more recently for his PhD in Computational Physics.

His postgraduate work, with BAe Sytems, involved the development of applications for the prediction of the magnetic signature of mine countermeasures craft and frigates. The finite element method and the study of different mesh generation techniques were a large part of this work. His experience in these areas has lead him to join the Vector Fields team. Gordon is currently working on enhancements to the automatic mesh generator of the geometric modeller. Gordon is a keen traveller and enjoys spending time abroad especially when he is off on a skiing holiday.