#### **New CORDIS host**

The CORDIS databases have migrated to the new CORDIS host. The telnet access for Internet users, as well as the numbers for PSDN (e.g. X.25) and dial-up have changed:

- for Internet users the command is telnet apollo.cordis.lu.
- PSDN/PSS/PAD users need to use the NUA (Network User Address) +270 442136;
- dial-up users need to dial +352 438642.

The databases are also available on the CORDIS Web at http://www.cordis.lu/Further details can be found on page 8.

## "New look" for documentation

In order to create a common corporate image reflecting the high quality initiatives of DG XIII/E, ECHO facts for users has been redesigned to reflect this new image. The ultimate aim is for all products and publications emanating from this Directorate of the Commission to be recognisable instantly, thus aiding the end-user. This strong visual appearance has been extended to all of our documentation, which, when it requires to be reprinted, will reflect this "new look".

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# European action for multimedia content



Mid-January in Luxembourg saw the launch of the new Multimedia Information Demonstration and Support Network: MIDAS-NET.

The agenda of the initial meeting included presentations on the political scenario, communication policy and effective work methods, support and administration, and other topics of particular pertinence. Presentations by two external experts (from Deutsche Telekom and the UK Department of Trade and Industry) gave a practical and tangible slant to the proceedings.

This network of proactive advisory centres, established under the INFO2000 Programme, is aimed at stimulating interest, demonstrating new products in the multimedia market, and assisting information users to exploit the potential of multimedia content. The focus is on providing practical advice on how to use the existing services and applications for maximum efficiency, especially those involving European multimedia content. The intention is to show businesses and citizens how they can benefit from multimedia information, and to guide them towards the most relevant

sources to satisfy their information needs.

The activities of the network are targeted at user groups in business, industry and trade, in particular small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as well as citizens through libraries.

The network of MIDAS-NET nodes comprises 23 nodes in 17 countries: Austria, Belgium, Denmark, Finland, France, Germany, Greece, Iceland, Ireland, Italy, Luxembourg, Norway, Netherlands, Portugal, Spain, Sweden and United Kingdom. One node acts at European level addressing the area of statistical information, which is considered essential for SMEs.

To create the maximum impact in terms of widespread geographical and sectoral coverage, the European Commission is supporting nodes comprising a number of partner organisations. In total, 106 organisations covering the above countries are involved. By offering expertise in the field of multimedia content, detailed knowledge of their national information market, and access to relevant professionals, they provide useful support for companies and organisations requiring advice and assistance. The MIDAS-NET nodes can also assist you in making contact with other EU and national networks and initiatives.

National events to mark the start of activities of MIDAS-NET nodes will take place throughout the EEA, and started in Austria on 20 February 1997.

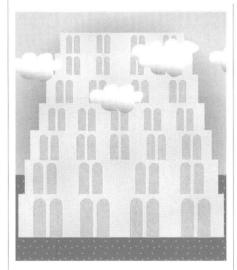
Contact your local MIDAS-NET node and learn how you can benefit from new multimedia services and products!

For further details on the network, including contact details of the individual nodes, please consult the Web site at:

http://www.echo.lu/info2000/midas/home.html



# MLIS programme publishes calls



In the framework of the MLIS (Multilingual Information Society) programme, promoting linguistic diversity in Europe, the European Commission published, at the beginning of April, the first round of Calls for Proposals, Calls for Tenders and Calls for Manifestation of Interest. The content of the calls can be seen below.

Action line 1: Creation of a Framework of Services for European Language Resources

The Commission published a Call for Tenders to set up a flexible network of national and international organisations that have demonstrated experience in the area of terminology information for the production of high-quality, easy to access information on terminology activities, making full use of new technologies (e.g. WWW).

This service should improve the ease of use, multilinguality, acceptance and wide-spread exploitation of terminology information services, thus contributing to the creation of a terminology infrastructure that ensures continuity of information activities at the European level. To achieve this goal, the service must be cost-effective and set up as a non-profit model designed to be self-financing.

The Commission published a Call for Proposals for the provision of language resources (corpora, lexical, terminology databases, etc.) over electronic networks. The objective of this Call is to make existing resources available to users via networks. The long-term objective is to mutually adapt resources available in the electronic market to accepted standards so that these resources will operate in a cost-effective way for operators and users alike.

Action line 2.1: Encouraging the Use of Language Technologies, Resources and Standards

Call for Proposals aimed at promoting multilingual services in business

The opening of the local and national markets to international competition not only presents many challenges but also opportunities to the business world. In an age of global business, companies need to orient their strategies as early as possible to culturally pluralistic markets. This requires concrete measures to deal with linguistic and cultural barriers.

Action line 2.1 of the MLIS programme aims to support cross-language capabilities of companies, especially SMEs, in dealing with their commercial partners in Europe and beyond. This objective will be pursued by demonstrating best practice in overcoming language barriers in trade and business.

The projects selected under this call for proposals should identify successful approaches to multilingual communication, and design, implement and demonstrate language services for specific geographic areas or business sectors. They should address business requirements in the context of a global language strategy, encompassing language consultancy and training, translation and interpretation, multilingual information and documentation, and supporting information networks.

The activities promoted under this call will increase awareness of the solutions and benefits of multilingual services and the opportunities offered in important industrial, business and administrative areas. They will produce a set of general guidelines on best practice in cross-language communication in business. These guidelines will be disseminated to professional or sectoral associations, and possibly serve as models for future language in business actions in the Community. The principal result of the action will be a verifiable impact on cross-language business practices throughout Europe.

Action line 3: Advanced language tools in the community and Member States' Public Sector

#### Call for Manifestation of Interest

Administrations in the Member States who are interested in having their name entered on a list of potential candidates for co-operative projects in the domain of multilingualism are invited to submit an application. Administrations with similar interests may group together to participate in multilateral co-operation agreements. International organisations and administrations in the wider European Economic Area (EEA) are welcome to express their interest.

Candidates describe their needs in multilingual communications in terms of languages, types of documents, respective volumes and partners. The current solutions for the existing needs are outlined in technical and economic terms.

Co-operative multilingual projects enable participants to share experience and initial resources with the Commission in adapting and exploiting tools for computer assisted translation, machine and terminology management offered by industrial and other suppliers. Similar interests will be grouped together into larger projects. Open Calls for Tender for the implementation of the costshared projects will be issued. Projects will have different phases from definition to final acceptance, with mandatory

provisions for continuing maintenance. During the project, time and volume limited access to the Commission multilingual tools (machine translation, terminology databanks etc.) may be provided under terms of an agreement.

Action line 4.1: Accompanying measures

# Call for Tenders on Assessment of the economic and social impact of multilingualism in the European Community

Europe is the most multilingual of the major trading areas, and has taken a lead in developing tools and techniques for handling cross-language communication. Yet the rich texture of this multilingualism and its economic impact are still only documented informally, and at anecdotal level. A better and more concrete understanding of multilingualism is needed for the language industry and political decision-making bodies.

The aim of this action is to provide a broad solution audit of the economic and social impact of multilingualism in Europe. The study will focus on two main areas: (a) the translation market and (b) the market for multilingual tools and services in the Community.

The assessment of the translation market will embrace all aspects of multilingual transfer, including: text translation, interpretation, software localisation and multimedia versioning, identifying types of users and suppliers and documenting the volume and value of the services provided, as well as the number of people employed in the translating and interpreting industry.

The study will survey and monitor the development of successful language products and services with the focus on the capacity of citizens to access information in the language of their choice, language coverage and the economic and employment impact of providing multilingual products and services.

The research will be updated after a period of two years with a view to

identifying trends and developments in this important growth market.

Detailed information on the MLIS programme can be found on the I\*M Europe WWW server, at the following URL:

http://www.echo.lu/mlis/mlishome.html

Alternatively, please contact the MLIS Office at the following address:

European Commission, DG XIII/E, MLIS Office - EUFO 1194 L-2920 Luxembourg.

Tel.: +352-4301-34117 Fax: +352-4301-34655

E-mail: MLIS@lux.dg13.cec.be

You may also consult issue 4/96 of ECHO facts for users, page 10.

### Multimedia presentation of the Daimler Benz Junior Cup available on I\*M Europe!

The European Commission sponsored an Internet/Multimedia presentation of the seventh International Youth Soccer Tournament held in Sindelfingen, Germany, on 3-4 January. During the event, live updates with photographs were accessible on the I\*M Europe server. In addition, ten terminals were available at the tournament in Sindelfingen, and proved extremely popular with soccer fans interested in finding out more information. Details were provided in French and English about the event, about Sindelfingen, the schedule, the teams, and the sponsors. Apart from making this tournament visible to a wide audience, the project gave DG XIII/E an opportunity to demonstrate how the WWW can be used for transmitting real-time multimedia information.

http://www.juniorcup.com/english/index.html

# I\*M Europe: A major reference site http://www.echo.lu/



I\*M Europe acts as a medium for supporting the actions of DG XIII in stimulating the European electronic information services market and multimedia content industry. It includes, in addition to the INFO2000 programme, relevant DG XIII activities like Information and Communications Technologies (ICT) Round Tables, the Generic Services Teleforum (GST) and the Telematics Applications Programme. The server is an essential ingredient of INFO2000, which aims to stimulate and foster the development of a European multimedia content industry. Not only does I\*M Europe play an important role in disseminating relevant information; it also provides a source of interactive feedback from the target audiences of the initiatives in the information services market area.

I\*M Europe has become a major reference site and is highly responsive to the users' needs and expectations. The total document accesses are an indication of the growing popularity of the server: from 1.5 million accesses in 1995 it reached over 3.2 million accesses in 1996.

A fitting response to such an increase in activity has been to upgrade the Internet lines for both the I\*M Europe and the CORDIS WWW servers. A significant increase to both the aforementioned servers and the FTP servers has been effected.

The server is becoming increasingly interactive, with the constant addition of CGI (Common Gateway Interface) forms and tools. Now, users are able to submit their profiles of interest (in response to the Call for expressions of interest for the compilation of a list of potential evaluators for the INFO2000 and MLIS programmes) on-line via I\*M Europe.

What's new on I\*M Europe

The following new items have been added to the OII (Open Information Interchange) file set:

Data and Information Security Standards

http://www.echo.lu/oii/en/secure.html

Multimedia and Hypermedia Standards Activity, January/February 1997

http://www.echo.lu/oii/en/jan97.html

\* MPEG Advanced Audio Coding (AAC), VEMMI, MHEG-SIR, DAB, ISO 3166, ISO/IEC 10021 (MHS), EDIMG, Interpersonal Messaging, SET and DAVIC.

Ten international standards bodies have been added to the OII Standards and Specifications Fora List.

http://www.echo.lu/oii/en/fora.html

In addition six sections of the OII Standards and Specifications List have been updated.

http://www.echo.lu/oii/en/oiistand.html #oiistand

You may now choose to be notified by e-mail on OII updates on the I\*M Europe server.

Background information on preparations for a Green Paper on the Role of Libraries in the Information Society

http://www.echo.lu/libraries/en/green.

I\*M News

http://www.echo.lu/im\_news/select.

An access route to new information published on the server, I\*M News retains the "What's new on I\*M Europe" option and offers additional features such as newsletter home page links to relevant new documents or news items covering the same subject areas as I\*M Europe, occasionally including pointers to relevant information society documents on other servers. Clicking on the language option takes the user to a short form news item or abstract on this subject, in the language selected (i.e. English, French or German).

WWW Interfaces to ECHO's TED and I\*M Forum databases

These WWW interfaces enable users to query the databases using the HTML forms from their Web clients (Netscape, Mosaic, Internet Explorer...). Accessing information via the hypertext interfaces is relatively easy to learn and use.

http://www.echo.lu/echo/en/menuecho.html

#### Don't forget!

For up-to-date information on INFO2000 consult: http://www.echo.lu/info2000/infohome.html

For up-to-date information on the MIDAS-NET nodes consult: http://www.echo.lu/info2000/midas/home.html

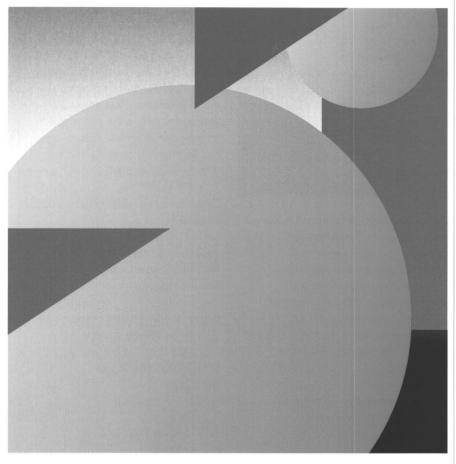
Any comments on I\*M Europe are welcome and should be addressed to:

webmaster@echo.lu

\* Glossary of acronyms for OII section

DAB (Digital Audio Broadcasting)
DAVIC (Digital Audio-Visual Council)
EDIMG (EDI messaging)
ISO 3166 (standard covering country
subdivision codes)
SET (Secure Electronic Transactions)
MHEG-SIR (MHEG Script Interchange
Representation)
VEMMI (Videotex Enhanced
Man/Machine Interface).

# ECHO adopts open systems environment



During the last 15 months ECHO has been preparing for its migration to an open systems environment in order to meet the challenge of new information distribution possibilities available from Internet technologies. ECHO users will benefit from this important development when the first tangible aspects are unveiled. Amongst other features, the following main advantages can be noted:

- full integration of the classical database server with advanced information distribution via Internet (i.e a powerful search interface and an extremely versatile tool with which to format the search result in the "look and feel" of a WWW browser from both the user and the server side);
- the capability to deliver data in files of any size and in any format (i.e. transfer of formatted documents rather than

text only, large picture files, ready-made presentations with or without multimedia information, etc.);

- mixture of data Multimedia (ASCII, sound, images, documents, etc.) in one record with hyper-links to other relevant records;
- advanced selectivity for the user in the world of Internet technology (WWW and browsers) as the two technologies are fully integrated (full browsing capabilities available for indexes e.g the TED CPV (Common Procurement Vocabulary) codes (see page 6);
- API (Application Programming Interfaces) with a powerful SCRIPT language provides the programmer with a highly sophisticated interface, thus allowing easier interrogation for the users:

• the possibility of being a part of European Initiatives for information distribution such as EINS, BRIDGE, CIME, etc. through following state-of-the art technology.

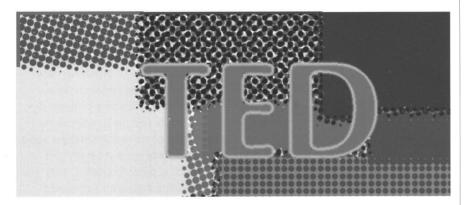
In summary: An infrastructure will exist which combines all the advantages of the current Internet technology (WWW, ftp, easy access, easy browsing, easy linking to related information, glossy presentation by including pictures, different colours and fonts) with all the advantages of a classical database server (high selectivity, output variety and access paths, precise statistics, easy and flexible billing algorithms of viewed items, quality stamp on information, etc.). At the same time the infrastructure will avoid all the disadvantages of the current Internet tools (e.g. lack of selectivity, too much information with no indication of relevance, low-performance transport) and the inflexibility of the classical database servers (e.g. lack of data presentation, proprietary Graphical User Interface, etc.).

ECHO wishes to emphasise that this migration will neither diminish the variety of services offered (on-line and offline delivery, delivery of information via e-mail and fax), its access modularity with reference to the networks served (PSDN, PSTN, ISDN, Internet and some private networks) nor will it withdraw the access methods preferred by the user (character-based, menu, proprietary graphical user interfaces, etc.).

This means that no feature will be abandoned however important the facilities added. This new service migration will reinforce the position of one of the most well-known information services of the EC, maintaining it at the forefront of technology, thus ensuring that it will meet the challenge of the forthcoming millennium.



# Access the Tenders Electronic Daily database via I\*M Europe



TED now joins the I\*M Forum and Eurodicautom databases in having its own interface on the I\*M Europe WWW site. This pilot interface will develop from its present state – already well advanced – into a tool which explores each and every aspect of this powerful database.

Using the interface could not be simpler. The user points and clicks, adds keywords if needed and then launches the search.

The TED interface currently allows searches in the following fields in freetext:

- •TI (Title)
- •AB (Abstract)
- •CT (Controlled Terms)
- •PN (CPV codes).

It also allows selection of the following fields:

- CY (Country)
- TD (Type of Document)
- NC (Nature of Contract)
- RP (Regulation of Procurement)
- DT (Deadline for Tender)
- PD (Publication Date).

Personal passwords are required for the database, and whilst the interface itself is free-of-charge, users will be required to pay for the use of TED as usual – infact, – nothing has changed except the ease with which information can be retrieved from the database.

Future improvements, to be implemented by the end of April, include:

- CPV (Common Procurement Vocabulary) code browser
- Access to the TED Demo and TED Archive versions
- Implementation of French, German, Italian and Spanish versions of the database.

The interface can be accessed from the I\*M Europe WWW site:

http://www.echo.lu/

As usual, we put our users first! To this end we very much welcome any comments you may have regarding the interface. Please forward your comments to us at our new TED help desk e-mail address:

ted@echo.lu

or contact ECHO at the address given at the end of the article.

Be alert to TED Alert!

The TED Alert agents serve companies or individuals who prefer to receive notification of tenders of interest to them by fax, telex or e-mail. The TED Alert agents monitor, according to profiles defined by them for their clients, documents which are launched on the database on a daily basis. As soon as a document matches the profile given, the client receives it by the medium specified.

Comprehensive information on the TED Alert Service can be obtained from the web page dedicated to this service.

http://www.tenders.com/

Gateways organise training courses

Don't forget that your local gateway may be organising training courses on the TED database. Keep in touch with your gateway in order not to miss training opportunities. A list of gateways can be obtained from the Europa WWW server at the following address:

http://europa.eu.int/en/comm/opoce/b3.html

You may also contact the ECHO help desk to obtain a printed version at the address featured below.

Further details on any aspect of this article may be obtained from:

ECHO Customer Service B.P. 2373 L-1023 Luxembourg

Tel.: +352-401162-200 Fax: +352-401162-234 E-mail echo@echo.lu

#### Errata

Please note that the prices quoted in issue 4/96 of ECHO Facts for Users for the TED Alert Service are incorrect.

Document delivery in full format:

Fax: 7 ECU E-mail: 5 ECU

Document delivery in summarised format:

Fax: 3 ECU E-mail: 2 ECU

> Zu unserer Veranstaltung Informationsdienste der europäischen Union während der Infobase 1997 am Mittwoch, den 14.05.1997 um 14.30 Uhr, heissen wir Sie willkommen. Wir freuen uns über Ihren Besuch!



# Tenders Electronic Daily (English Language)

[Stop] [Go to Top] [Comments/F	eedback] [Information, tips, help about TED]	
Enter your TED usercode here.		
Please enter one or more <b>keywords</b> .		
Search in:	Operator: Oliteral O and O or Search TED-Current	
☐ Title ☐ Abstract ☐ Name or awarding Authority ☐ NACE code (Controlled term) ☐ CPV code (Product name)		
Country	Type of Document	
ANY ACP countries Africa Albania America Argentine Asia Austria Barbados Belgium	ANY Pre-information procedures Corrigenda Additional information Invitation to tender Prequalification notices Request for proposals General information Contract awards Other	
Nature of contract	Regulation of procurement	
ANY Combined contract Not applicable Not specified Public works contract Service contract Supply contract	EC institutions EC-US Agreement on government procurement EEC EEC - with participation by GATT countries European Development Fund European Economic Area (EEA) European Economic Area (EEA) European Investment Bank, European Bank for Reconstruction and Development GATT - with participation by EEC countries	
Match records not older than All open tenders Deadline for Tender no restriction		



# Changes for users accessing the new CORDIS "Open Systems" host

Following a successful hosting period on ECHO, the CORDIS databases have migrated to the new CORDIS host. Over the years, CORDIS has become an important information provider for business and research opportunities in the EU and it is expected that the new host will provide more services and support to its existing and new users.

The new host features state-of-the-art full-text retrieval technology (Open Systems Architecture) which enables generic systems to gain access to the databases. Features such as an automatic speed detection modem up to 19200 (baud or bits per second), and 8 data bit support for Latin rich and accented character transmission are also available.

The changes which end-users might have to make within their connect and logon procedures have been kept to a minimum. Script files, telecommunications software and interfaces such as Watch-CORDIS need to be updated with these new connection procedures. Should users encounter any difficulties in changing their connection macros for Watch-CORDIS, the CORDIS help desk is at their disposal. Since the CORDIS host will be constantly evolving, we recommend that CORDIS users obtain the Watch-CORDIS interface as it has been specifically adapted to incorporate new services. Watch-CORDIS can be downloaded from the CORDIS World Wide Web http://www.cordis.lu/ or can be obtained free-of-charge from the CORDIS help desk.

The new host will continue to support the CCL (Common Command Language) emulation i.e. dedicated CCL users may continue using this tool for data retrieval. Users of the Menu System (as known on the GRIPS/ECHO host) are encouraged to switch to the user-friendly Watch-CORDIS interface

or the World Wide Web on the address http://www.cordis.lu/ as the menu system is no longer available.

### ECHO passwords are valid on the new CORDIS host

All customer details currently stored on the ECHO computer have been transferred to the new CORDIS host. Therefore, users who have previously registered with ECHO should continue using their ECHO password when accessing the new CORDIS host. In order to benefit from personalised services, new users are encouraged to register with CORDIS. This will enable the help desk to compile reports on the trends of users and thus evaluate the service based on the feedback received from registered users, plan training courses, and respond with a better understanding to customer needs. There are no fees or charges for registration and, what's more, new users may register on-line with the public password 'CORDIS' (the CORDIS databases are fully accessible using the public password). Once logged on at the '?' prompt, the new user types 'REGISTER' and an on-line registration form will be displayed. Upon completion of this form the system will provide a personal password at the end of the session. At the next logon session the new personal password may be used.

The methods of accessing the new CORDIS host are illustrated in the diagram opposite. Examples of detailed logon procedures are featured opposite. Users should contact the CORDIS help desk if they encounter any difficulties or require further assistance or information (see contact details at the end of this article).

Note: Users of Watch-CORDIS must remember to alter connection macros in order to accept the connection parameters featured opposite.

#### Example 1:

Connection procedure for DIAL-UP users (8 data bits, full duplex, no parity)

(End-user input shown in bold, comments shown in italics)

#### atdt 00 352 438642

("00" indicates the international access code and "352" is the national code for Luxembourg) (response from the CORDIS host)

#### **CONNECT 9600**

Network Access SW V1.5 for DS90M (BL95-32) Local -010- Session 1 to APOLLO established Digital UNIX version V3.2 (apollo.cordis.lu) tty 02 This is CORDIS, please enter the public code CORDIS or your personal code cordis (not case sensitive) Welcome to the CORDIS Databases Use "REGISTER" command to register

CORDIS HOST 97-02-01, 08:00, 8932 CUSTOMER-NUMBER is 99999999 USERCODE USED LAST ON 1997-01-31 AT 00:00 YOU ARE NOW ACCEPTED BY CORDIS VERSION 1.00 PLEASE ENTER: BASE-Command

?stop (enter stop to logoff)
QUERY:99999999/0001/ /NONE
DATE:01-02-97 TIME 08:01:21
Session terminated.

#### Example 2:

Connection for PSDN/PSS/PAD (e.g. X.25 or X.28) users (8 data bits, full duplex, no parity)
(End-user input shown in bold,

comments shown in italics)

Before commencing the logon procedure, connect to your national network.

#### c 0270 442136

("00" indicates the international access code and "352" is the national code for Luxembourg)

ACP:fac: p(128,128),d
w(2,2),d(9600,9600) com
(apollo.cordis.lu) ttyp1
(response from the CORDIS host)
This is CORDIS, please enter the public code CORDIS or your personal code



cordis (not case sensitive) Welcome to the CORDIS Databases Use "REGISTER" command to register

CORDIS HOST 97-02-01, 08:00, 8932 CUSTOMER-NUMBER is 99999999 USERCODE USED LAST ON 1997-01-31 AT 00:00 YOU ARE NOW ACCEPTED BY **CORDIS VERSION 1.00** PLEASE ENTER: BASE-Command

? stop (enter stop to logoff) QUERY:99999999/0001/ /NONE DATE:01-02-97 TIME 08:01:21 Session terminated.

#### Example 3:

Connection procedure for TELNET users (End-user input in bold, comments shown in italics)

Before commencing the logon procedure, connect to your Internet provider.

#### Connect apollo.cordis.lu

Digital UNIX (apollo.cordis.lu) (ttyp2) Last login: Tue Feb 4 09:48:26 from xxxx.cordis.lu

DECnet/OSI for Digital UNIX V3.2A-0 (Rev. 23.19); Fri Sep 15 13:21:53 EDT

Digital UNIX V3.2C (Rev. 148); Thu Nov 21 16:14:10 MET 1996

Digital UNIX V3.2C Worksystem Software (Rev. 148)

X.25 V2.0 for Digital UNIX XXAACC200

This is CORDIS, please enter the public code CORDIS or your personal code

Welcome to the CORDIS Databases Use "REGISTER" command to register

CORDIS FULCRUM HOST 97-02-04, 09:50 8932 CUSTOMER-NUMBER IS 99999999

USERCODE USED LAST ON 1997-02-04 AT 00:00

YOU ARE NOW ACCEPTED BY **CORDIS VERSION 1.00** PLEASE ENTER: BASE-Command

? stop (enter stop to logoff) QUERY:99999999/0001/ /NONE DATE:01-02-97 TIME 08:01:21 Session terminated.

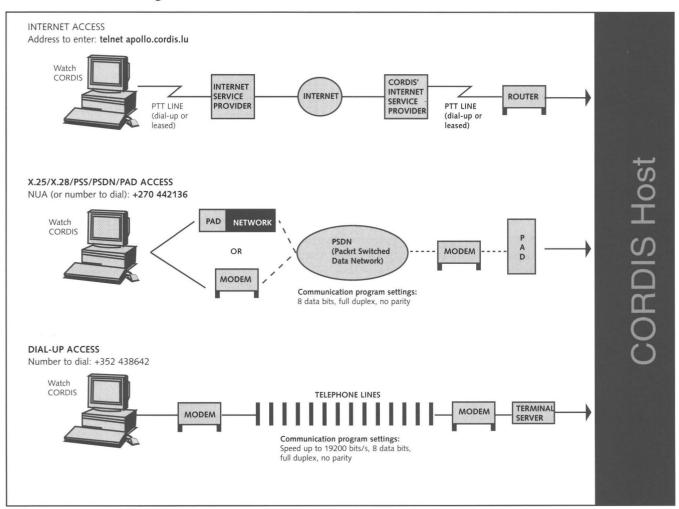
If you require any assistance, or if you have questions or comments concerning the new CORDIS host, please do not hesitate to contact the CORDIS help desk:

CORDIS help desk B.P. 2373 L-1023 Luxembourg

Tel.: +352-40116-2240 Fax: +352-40116-2248

E-mail: helpdesk@cordis.lu CORDIS WWW: http://www.cordis.lu/

#### Methods of accessing the new CORDIS host



### INFO2000 Programme Multimedia content development projects get under way



#### General background

Following a call for proposals published on 21.6.1996, 80 projects out of 477 proposals were chosen for their potential to stimulate the production of high quality multimedia information content in the Information Society. These projects will receive support from 1.1.1997 to 30.6.1997 to complete their preparatory work and develop a prototype or working model.

The projects aim at building on the wealth of available European multimedia content and at overcoming technological, cultural, market and other barriers to the growth of the content industry. They address four areas as a focus for developments: the economic exploitation of Europe's cultural heritage; information for business; geographic information; and scientific, technical and medical information.

The greatest number of proposals were received in the area of cultural heritage, and 35 projects chosen are in this field. Some projects focus on particular periods of recent or distant history, gather ing assets from many sources to present the data in multiple and imaginative ways. Others propose directories of sources and guides to events, music, architecture and ancient documents.

Some productions will incorporate innovative technology such as virtual reality or three-dimensional animation to reconstruct cultural or scientific features. A typical example will link video and computerized reconstructions of ancient buildings on the basis of data collected at an archeological site in order to enhance scientific understanding and present the results in a form accessible to a wider audience.

In the domain of information for business, 19 pilot projects will tackle the supply of specialised information to industry on subjects as diverse as machinery, industrial safety, timber, textiles, furniture, trademarks and broadcasting material. One project will offer an approach to copyright control in the sectors concerned with digital trading of commercial art. Three services aim at the furniture industry and three, including scientific data projects, at the construction sector. The subject of geographic information is represented by 13 projects that cover the mapping of environmental change, the analysis of industrial areas, travel applications, 3-D visualisations and archeology. There is much work to be done in this field (the Commission is preparing a Communication to Council called GI2000 that sets out priorities) and some projects examine the interoperability of applications, integration with statistical data, guides to geographic information sources and specifications for a European topographical map, areas considered to be of particular interest.

Scientific, technical and medical information is handled by 13 projects covering ophthalmic data, chemical structures, surface treatments, water, ecology, and a range of medical and health care products. The challenge of projects in this area particularly will be to integrate new development and exploitation matrices to match the future needs of originators and users of the content.

After the six-month preliminary work phase, the results will be examined by the Commission, which intends to offer further funding of up to 500 000 ECU for full implementation of about 20 of the projects considered most likely to benefit the development of the European multimedia content industry.

The evaluators' conclusions: Messages for potential multimedia developers

The evaluators came from a very wide range of industry, academic and commercial backgrounds and examined the projects as a representative sample of the current state of the European multimedia industry. Some of their findings are summarised here so as to help not only future proposers but all potential multimedia developers to focus on issues that seem, on the basis of this sample, to be most important for establishing a competitive multimedia content industry. The great variety of European content was amply demonstrated by the projects proposed. However, considerable advances need to be made in exploiting this content if a new industry is to be created for the benefit of Europe's workers, citizens and industry. Among the weaknesses mentioned by evaluators were:

- the low level of creativity and innovative handling of subjects, which may be attributed to a scarcity of advanced skills;
- that intellectual property rights (IPR) issues are not adequately handled;

- the lack of convincing business plans, which were sometimes missing completely;
- the approaches to marketing and distribution tend to be poorly developed;
- many projects remain too limited in geographical scope;
- incomplete partnerships resulting in a lack of expertise and experience;
- cooperation between public and private sectors needs to be further developed:
- poor attention to multilingual aspects.

In general, new communication and publishing paradigms are needed to exploit the full potential of multimedia. There is an important need to develop a wider understanding of the practical prospects deriving from the ever changing technical capabilities. A certain number of problem issues require attention by potential multimedia information developers. These include realistic payment mechanisms; the potential effect of IPR on market viability; the rights generated by users adding information in an interactive environment; and personal privacy issues in general.

In conclusion, the new technologies require quite different development and exploitation paradigms, different from those appropriate to conventional "print on paper" products. The next generation of multimedia information services will require the integration of new technical, publishing and commercialisation skills.

### Your contact for further information

### http://www.echo.lu/info2000/en/mm-projects/index.html

For further details of the INFO2000 programme in general, and on these projects in particular, please contact the INFO2000 Central Office, at the following address:

INFO2000 Central Office European Commission, DG XIII/E L-2920 Luxembourg Tel.: +352-401162-222

Fax: +352-401162-234 E-mail: info2000@echo.lu

### Une grande première à Expolangues 97 : L'interface Web d'Eurodicautom

Un petit rappel sur Eurodicautom, banque de données terminologique contenant la traduction dans les langues de l'UE de termes scientifiques et techniques (+450 000) et d'abréviations.

Le prototype de l'interface Web d'Eurodicautom a connu ses premiers utilisateurs-test mercredi 29 janvier 1997 aux premières heures de l'exposition Expolangues 97, à Paris-la Villette, au stand de l'Union européenne sur lequel on pouvait être informé tant sur les programmes Socrates, Leonardo, Comenius (représentants français et DG22) que sur le nouveau programme MLIS.

D'ailleurs à ce propos, la Commission avait organisé, en association avec le Ministère de la Culture, le Ministère de l'Education nationale, de l'Enseignement supérieur et de la Recherche, le Ministère de l'Industrie, des Télécommunications et de la Poste et Expolangues 1997, une conférence sur le thème "préparer l'Europe à la Société de l'Information multilingue".

Merci aux utilisateurs pour leurs chaleureux encouragements au travers de leurs messages : le produit que nous attendions à la fois rapide, efficace et convivial!

#### Des questions?

quand le produit sera-t-il disponible? A la fin du mois d'avril 97;

Faudra-t-il toujours un mot de passe ? Non;

Pourra-t-on toujours interroger via le réseau X25 Transpac ? Oui;

Quel itinéraire à suivre ? Voici les trois étapes pour obtenir la traduction d'un terme en anglais vers le français :

- entrer dans Internet sur le Web I\*M Europe à l'adresse suivante : http://www.echo.lu/
- 2. cliquer dans la page d'en-tête sous la rubrique ECHO
- 3. une fois sur cette page, cliquer sur la passerelle à Eurodicautom

Vous voici dans la base Eurodicautom; vous tapez maintenant par exemple le mot informatics (langue source est l'anglais dans ce cas) pour obtenir la traduction vers le français (langue cible ou "target language") puis vous cliquerez sur français (dans la colonne "source language") et sur anglais (dans la colonne "target language") et enfin sur "start query". Vous avez la possibilité de choisir une ou plusieurs langues cible.

Pour de plus amples renseignements veuillez contacter ECHO.



## INFO2000 documents on CD-ROM



The INFO2000 CD-ROM, launched during the On-line Information '96 in London last December, will soon be available for dissemination. The CD-ROM, which is multilingual currently includes the following documentation.

#### INFO2000

#### General Awareness

- INFO2000 brochure English, French and German language versions
- INFO2000 leaflet English, French and German language versions
- MIDAS-NET brochure currently English language version only.

#### Official Documents

• INFO2000 Work Programme - Currently English language version only

#### Contact Points

- MIDAS-NET nodes
- Who's who in INFO2000?

#### Projects

 Multimedia Content Definition Phase projects - Fact Sheets 1997.

#### ECHO / I\*M Europe documentation

- I\*M Europe leaflet currently English language version only
- ECHO Databases and Services -currently English language version only

- ECHO Pocket Guide English, French and German language versions
- ECHO facts for users currently all issues published in 1996 (1/96 -4/96).

#### **IMPACT Projects**

- Multimedia Project Fact Sheets
- BIS (Business Information System)
   Fact Sheets
- GIS (Geographic Information Systems)
   Fact Sheets

#### Support Actions for INFO2000

#### LAB

- Communication to the EP, the European Council, to the Economic and Social Committee and to the Committee of the Regions on illegal and harmful content on the Internet. This document is currently available in English, French, German, Italian, Danish, Dutch, Swedish
- Green paper on the protection of minors and human dignity in audiovisual and information services - currently available in English, French and German.

#### **Electronic Publishing**

- Summary of the study "Strategic Developments for the European Publishing Industry towards the year 2000"
- ADMEDIA Study.

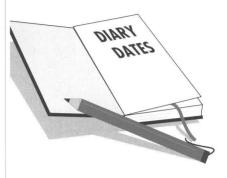
#### OII (Open Information Interchange)

• Standards and Specifications.

To benefit from the obvious advantages of receiving a comprehensive range of documentation on CD-ROM order your copy, which is distributed free-of-charge, from:

INFO2000 Central Office, European Commission, DG XIII/E, L-2920 Luxembourg.

Tel.: +352-401162-222, Fax: +352-401162-234 E-mail: info2000@echo.lu.



ECHO will be represented at the following events:

Frankfurt Infobase 97

14-16/05/97

Paris IDT'97

03-05/06/97

Milan SMAU

02-06/10/97

Frankfurt Bookfair

15-20/10/97

London On-line 97

09-11/12/97

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