New decade, new look

Computer aided design has helped create a new look for the **Information Market**.We hope readers will find the layout more attractive.

The contents of the articles will remain the same: the events and issues of the European information market, and especially the European Commission's activities to encourage more user-friendly and accessible European information services.

Information Market plays an important role in informing both information service suppliers and information users as well as telecommunications administrations of important developments. The circulation of **Information Market** (now approaching 60 000) is increasing rapidly in response to intense interest in the European information services market. For organizations, societies or clubs, multiple copies can be obtained by filling out the form on page 12. **Information Market** will continue to aid other groups interested in encouraging the uptake of advanced information systems across Europe.

An effective indexing and storing mechanism — based on new information technologies — is now available to readers, with the free access of past issues as the **IM** database on **ECHO**, the European Commission Host Organization. Try it out!

IN THIS ISSUE

IMPACT programme
11 pilot/demonstration projects under way

Eleven large-scale demonstration projects are now in progress under the Commission's IMPACT (Information Market Policy Actions) programme. These projects, which are designed to boost the development of the European information market, stem from a series of Calls for Proposals launched by the Commission (DG XIII-B) last year. Another five or six shortlisted projects are expected to join those now under way subject to agreement on the specifications with the organisations involved.

The projects started are ambitious ventures involving transnational cooperation on a number of levels. Progress can be difficult when different traditions, languages, objectives and resources have to be merged. However the Commission believes it is vital to achieve the synergies and harmonisation involved if the large market is to be developed and exploited. The IMPACT projects are expected to provide a strong stimulus to this development and those agreed so far represent a total investment of over 45 million ECUs of which the European Commun-ities will underwrite some 13 million ECUs.

In the area of Patent Information,

the **EUROPAT** project is starting off with a 5-month preliminary phase in which a trial CD-ROM of patent documents will be used in a survey of user needs and technological opt-ions. This

will be carried out in the context of the pharmaceutical industry and possibility also in the automobile industry together with the help of patent agents and lawyers. If successful, this work will lead into the full-scale project to put digitised patent images and related information on sets of CD-ROMs for expert and non-expert users of patent information. The Scan Europe organisation, Paris, will lead the project in cooperation with Télésystemes, the British Library and the Satzrechenzentrum, Berlin.

A second Patent Information project will enhance the **Markush-DARC** generic chemicals patent information system. In the area of chemical patent searching, traditional methods using text, classification systems and fragmentation codes often fail to produce results of high relevance

and are difficult to use. For single compound representations, graphical search systems can give high precision and recall but such systems are inadequate for the generic or Markush formulae often used in chemical patents. The Markush-DARC system has recently been developed to meet this need but it still requires a number of improvements to offer a high-performance and cost-effective service to users. This project will focus on aspects such as optimising the search process in atom-by-atom searches, the indexing of polymers, the treatment of undefined attachments, expert systems for indexing and the translation between generic and specific chemical terms. The project leader is Télésystèmes (F) in partnership with Derwent Publications Ltd (UK) and the Institut de la Propriété Industrielle (F).This development will take two years.

In the area of Image Banks,

three projects are in progress:

The "**500 Years After**" project, coinciding with the quincentenial celebrations of the discovery of the New World, will produce a series of optical
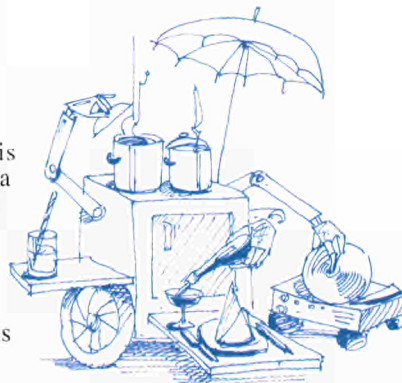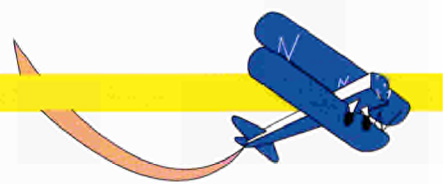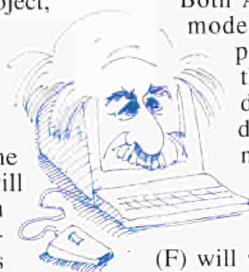
11 Impact projects (from p. 1)

discs (CD type) covering a wide range of information on Europe and Latin America Themes will include geography and the environment, population, economy and trade, science and research, society and daily life, art and culture. Some 12.000 still images will be assembled, together with 120 megabytes of text in four languages, sixty minutes of video and 240 minutes of sound. It will aim at a general education market, including schools, as well as cultural institutions such as museums. Tourist information centres will also be targetted, particularly in connection with the 1992 Seville Universal Exhibition, the Barcelona Olympic Games, and the designation of Madrid as European Cultural Capital. The development will take thirty months. It will be led by the Spanish Sociedad Estatal Quinto Centenario working with a number of Italian, Portuguese and Danish organizations as well as other Spanish partners.

The **Multimedia Mediterranean Atlas** project will cover the Mediterranean and adjacent countries from Portugal to the Persian Golf. It will produce a CD-ROM containing both general geographical information on this area and also specialised detail in the subjects of agriculture food and commerce, with emphasis on the cities of the Mediterranean. Aimed at researchers, libraries, publishers and regional planners, the system will offer a variety of spatial and historical perspectives and will facilitate the juxtaposition and comparison of different data. A main task of the project will be to structure the information systematically and create the links between image and text and around convergent themes. Emphasis will be put on images, e.g. maps and graphs, photographs, digital images, and the project will test and evaluate standards for storing and transferring multimedia information. The Centre International de Hautes Etudes Agronomiques Méditerranéennes at Montpellier will lead the work, programmed over a two-year period.

In the **TECDOC** project, some thirty automobile repair shops and dealers in four different EC countries - Germany, Belgium, France and the United Kingdom - will be equipped with CD-Roms and portable reading devices to replace traditional paper technical documentation. This equipment will provide mechanics and storemen on the spot with an easy-to-use, compact and up-to-date means of consulting repair manuals and parts catalogues. It will make extensive use to the Standard Generalised Markup Language (ISO 8879) to structure full text in standardised formats. The search and access mechanism provided will follow a problem-oriented approach. The project will be headed by Electronic Printing Service GmbH, a company of the Bertelsmann group, in partnership with the Daimler Benz, Volkswagen and Peugeot/ Citroën automobile manufacturers.

Intelligent Interfaces

Work on the development of Intelligent Interfaces is also under way through three projects:

CARTE INFO will develop in two countries (France and the Netherlands) the concept of central multimedia information access points. These access points will offer SMEs and the professions an online catalogue of relevant information, an intelligent interface and a centralised means of payment. Both ASCII and videotex modes of access will be possible, leading through gateways to different hosts, either directly or in combination with a variety of help facilities. The project leader, Carte Expert, s.a. (F) will work with a number of different organizations, including Camerdata (E), Olivetti (I) and Brokerits (NL).

The **MITI** project will develop an advanced multilingual (English, French, German, Spanish) intelligent interface which can be installed on a personal computer. It will enable untrained users to have access to different databases on a number of hosts in a uniform way, using natural language. The interface design will offer various levels of help, including guidance on database section, automatic construction of Boolean search statements, transparent connection to hosts, and search guidance through knowledge-based rules. The interface will be able to handle queries about any subject but will provide its most intelligent help on environmental and technological queries. Tome Associates Ltd of the UK will lead the development, supported by Softex GmbH and GMD of Germany, the Université Paul Sabatier, France and Eurobrokers, Luxembourg.

The **DISNET** project will provide an intelligent interface to electronic information through the development of a number of related modules of which some are to be implemented locally, e.g. on a PC, and others on a host or network node. The system will run under DOS, OS 2 and UNIX and will provide a graphics interface. In addition to a central interface providing common functions, domain specific knowledge bases will be built by the partners. Focussing on the subject areas of agriculture and microbiology, the pilot service will offer both integrated specialised subject artificial intelligence and a wide range of information services via a single access point. The project involves twelve organizations in seven countries, the Netherlands, the UK, Ireland, Belgium, the Federal Republic, Spain and Portugal. It will be coordinated by IDE (NL) and will be carried out over a two-and-a-half-year period.

A further three projects are developing in

Tourism Information

The **ATIS** project will produce a neutral information system covering a wide spectrum of tourist information needs. Its central idea is to overcome current barriers to information exchange by the use of electronic media and it is strongly oriented towards the creation of common standards for tourism information and its exchange. Therefore, the definition of information content and format as well as message development will include active cooperation with international standardization organizations, such as ISO TC154 and EDIFACT Board MD 5. Data collection will initially focus on France for design testing and, later in the two-year project, extend to at least six further countries. The project is coordinated by Allgemeiner Deutscher Automobil Club e.V. (ADAC) in cooperation with the Automobile Association (UK) and the Koninklijke Nederlandse Toeristenbond (ANWB) (NL).

The **ULYSSES** project will combine three different nationally oriented tourism information projects, in France,

Luxembourg

Parajón Collada on 1 December 1989, expressed enthusiastic support for the European information policy action programme.

Viewed from Luxembourg, there are strong disparities in the European information market with videotex dominant in France and CD-ROM in Italy. The European market as a whole should be able to benefit from the strengths of these through a transfer of technologies, for example, through an enlarged Kiosk system.

The need for establishing partnerships between European small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) was one of the topics raised at the Luxembourg consultative meeting on IMPACT 2. The well-attended meeting, chaired by Commission Deputy Director General, Vincente

Some attention should be given to the search for financing for SMEs in the new programme. An industrial strategy for SMEs needed to be defined so that firms of moderate size could cooperate across the European economic space.

Successful sectoral databank expands

PRATEL, a Community-supported Italian videotex system has not only fulfilled the expectations of providing an information and subcontracting service to small and medium sized industries in the textile sector but will be used as a model for a country-wide service and for other sectors.

The databank is improving the cooperative like collaboration between the SMEs in the textile industry of Prato, near Florence. Eighteen months after signature, 2000 information providers are using the system and 600 users are connected, thus far exceeding specifications.

The Biella area (north-western Italy) are now connecting to the service for their textile Companies. The SEAT company of the STET group are planning to extend this dedicated videotex system for the entire Italian textile sector. EFIM-DATA will develop the PRATEL model to other products and sectors in the south of Italy and the Commission may export it to other less favoured regions (LFRs).

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11 Impact projects (from p. 2)

Ireland and Portugal, with the purpose of creating a model European service. A variety of sources will provide information which will be delivered to professionals and the public in electronic form together with a switching facilities for acces to existing information and reservation facilities.

Collaboration with the ATIS project above has been established as, again, standards will play an important role. The project will be coordinated by the Fédération Internationale de l'Automobile, Paris, in collaboration with the French, Irish

and Portuguese tourism authorities, two automobile clubs (P & F) and one university (Ulster).

The **ITDNS** (Integrated Tour Operating Digital Network Service) project will demonstrate advanced technical facilities by producing and using electronic catalogues to replace or complement existing tour operators paper catalogues. The new services will be made available to travel agents through the emerging ISDN networks and will include product descriptions, rates, photographs, hotels, services, activi-

Athens
Request for special action for less favoured region

A team of European Commission officials led by DG XIII Deputy Director General Vicente Parajón Collada met with representatives of the Greek information industry in Athens on 21 November 1989.

A number of representatives from the private sector raised the problems of lack of awareness among senior management of the importance of information in the modern world together with the lack of userfriendliness of some information systems. It was suggested that the Commission create a campaign aimed specifically at public enterprises and corporations to encourage them to use advanced information systems. Conjointly, a user support services to help lesser favoured regions should be initiated. The EC should help finance the marketing and use of electronic information services by Greek users, especially small and medium sized firms and help Greek information providers. Given the extra difficulties involved with the Greek language, automatic translation programmes should be accelerated.

On Commission programmes generally, it was felt that financing mechanisms should be simplified and greater effort should be made to integrate IMPACT-2 with other activities such as STAR, on advanced telecommunications, and the

Integrated Mediterranean Programme. Information providers were faced with a number of problems ranging from serious bureaucratic problems on foreign currency payments, high VAT, expensive telecommunications, and lack of training and contact with recent developments. There was no national Greek bibliography, national archives or national document supply centre.

Together with general lack of hardware, it was difficult for information providers to create economies of scale. It was therefore suggested that different criteria should apply for IMPACT proposals. Special activities should be organized for librarians and library users to encourage the use of new information technologies. The potential for communication was quite high and minitel kiosk type could take off - especially given the number of Greeks living abroad, but stimulation was needed.

The EC should encourage aggressive awareness campaigns concerning the Greek network Hellaspac and the free distribution of modems should be considered.

The topic of education courses in information management was also raised. University graduates would benefit from this as additional training.

ties and means of transport. The system will include both text and digitised colour images linked to recorded voice commentaries. International standards will be applied to ensure interoperability throughout Europe but initially

the service will be set up between 6 tour operators and 60 distributors in France, the UK and Germany. The prime contractor is GSI - Travel and Transportation (F) working with Trasy (D) and Istel (UK).
Library projects: see p.11

Fifth Users' and Providers' meeting discusses IMPACT-2

The fifth joint meeting of Information Services Providers Group and the Information Services Users Group (ISPG / ISUG) on 23 January had the opportunity to review the activities of IMPACT-1 and examine the proposed strategy for IMPACT-2.

The activities of the Information Market Observatory under IMPACT-1 had thrown into clear relief the disparities that now exist: the European market in information services is about a third the size of that of USA, and the Japanese market is growing rapidly. Within the Community itself there is also great disparity with the UK as arguably the largest online database market, but with 95% of the videotex terminals France and 60% of the European installed base of CD-ROMs being in Italy. The Commission's strategy remains the reduction of disparities and the encouragement of cooperation in order to create a genuine European marketplace for information products and services.

Eleven IMPACT-1 pilot and demonstration projects have now been launched, with an expenditure of 45 million ECU in total investment (of which DG XIII is cofunding 13 MECU).

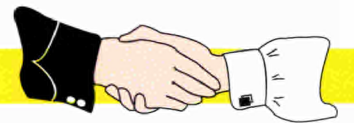The policy objectives of the IMPACT-2 programme foreseen from 1991-5 had previously been critically reviewed by CICI and the EIIA. A set of objectives and action lines to go along with this were discussed and largely approved by the meeting.

Major stress centred on the development of pilot and demonstration programmes, and the way in which the work plan could be made less interventionist. IMPACT-2 places much greater stress on strategic projects and far less emphasis on product and market development activities. Stress is also placed on the development of the Information Market Observatory and the Legal Advisory Board activities. Strong demand side elements in training and awareness work (promoting information literacy) and the development of specialist services in less favoured regions and for SMEs are also underlined. Providers were particularly keen to know more about ways in which impetus will be provided to create European partnerships and the omission of venture capital funding proposals was regretted. A meeting of European publishers in the same IMPACT-2 consultation framework emphasized the need to include encouragement multi-media products within the ambit of the new programme.

Promoting public/private synergy

In order to encourage the synergy between public and private sectors, the Commission has made available a series of guidelines to help public and private bodies to work together. The guidelines for improving the synergy between public and private sectors in the information market are the result of a series of consultation and discussions between representatives of all participants of the market.

The guidelines have been endorsed by representatives of Member States meeting within the Senior Officials Advisory Committee (SOAC) Some 5000 copies have already been distributed. The guidelines are considered essential in order to help the public sector in decision-making related to making information available for external use and supporting the development of the information market; and to establish certain ground rules for avoiding possible unfair competition. The guidelines are considered advisory only and are aimed at providing a basic set of generally agreed principles and recommendations which can be used in the development of national guidelines in individual Member States. They are not directives but it is hoped that by virtue of their production at Community level, they will support national initiatives designed to promote the growth of the European information market. The brochure is available in all Community languages on request.

The Commission has recently initiated a study on the **Legal framework and practices for the transfer of public sector information to the private sector** in the Community's Member States.

If you would like to contribute to the study please contact the contractor.

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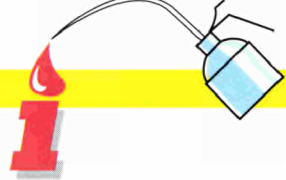
Jacques Michel - personality of the year

Jacques Michel of the European Patents Office was elected Personality of the Year at the 1989 London Online Conference.

SGML for flexible publishing

Standard Generalized Markup Language (SGML) is an international standard computer language or coding system for electronic documents. For example, titles, abstracts and subheadings are electronically tagged. In the past three years, SGML has been applied to a wide range of document processing and interchange tasks by commercial and corporate publishers, inside and outside the European Community.

Briefing notes for publishers and others who wish to know more about SGML and how to apply SGML techniques to electronic document processing are available free of charge from the Commission.

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Epoque du Parlement

La préparation de 1992 entraîne une activité accrue au niveau de la législation communautaire. Souhaitez-vous savoir quels documents sont actuellement examinés par le Parlement européen sur le sujet qui vous intéresse? Souhaitez-vous connaître les procédures en cours? Le parlement européen a-t-il déjà émis un avis sur une proposition de la Commission qui vous intéresse?

EPOQUE, la base de données documentaire du Parlement européen peut vous donner la réponse à ces questions! L'accès est gratuit pour le secteur public. Tout utilisateur du secteur privé peut également obtenir un accès gratuit, à condition d'avoir souscrit au préalable un abonnement à l'ensemble de la base de données de droit communautaire, **Celex**. Tous les documents contenus dans **Epoque** sont indexés au moyen du thésaurus **Eurovoc** disponible dans les neuf langues communautaires.

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ECHO et le Videotex

Les bases de données d'ECHO, le serveur de la Commission des Communautés Européennes, sont désormais ou seront prochainement accessibles via la plupart des systemes vidéotex de la Communauté.
Aussi la Commission a-t-elle préparé un rapport de synthèse des principaux services existants avec leur prix, le nombre des utilisateurs et des services disponibles. Ce rapport est mis gratuitement a votre disposition dans sa version française.

Pour commander un exemplaire
veuillez écrire à   ECHO.
B P 2373
L-1023 Luxembourg
Fax: +352 488040

Faites-moi parvenir un exemplaire du rapport
Un support videotex européen pour le serveur ECHO ☐

Nom.....................
Société ....
Adresse ....

Les choses qui nous ont fait peur jusqu'à aujourd'hui...

La disquette LCC est arrivée.

La disquette gratuite LCC-Train ... vous permettra de mieux travailler en ligne.

Vous avez envie d'interroger ECHO, mais vous n'avez jamais demandé votre mot de passe? Peut-être n'êtes-vous pas connecté a votre réseau national ; ou vous n'avez pas encore acheté un modem pour votre ordinateur personnel?

Maintenant, nous vous offrons la possibilité d'essayer ECHO sans aucune de ces contraintes. ECHO vous offre une disquette GRATUITE qui vous permettra de vous familiariser avec la recherche en ligne, soit à domicile, soit au bureau. La disquette vous donne une simulation exacte de ce que c'est une connexion, de formuler une question, et démontrer comment le LCC peut-être utilisé pour trouver les informations vitales dans des bases de données comme DIANEGUIDE, BROKERSGUIDE et TED (Appels d'offre).

Cette disquette, facile à utiliser et interrogeable par menus, est disponible pour le systeme MS-DOS. Elle vous apporte en plus des informations sur la communication par ordinateur et sur l'utilisation du LCC pour interroger d'autres serveurs.

Demandez votre copie aujourd'hui.
Il vous suffit de remplir le bordereau ci-dessous et de l'envoyer à :
ECHO, B.P. 2373,
L-1023 Luxembourg
Tel: +352 488041
Fax: +352 488040
Telex:2181

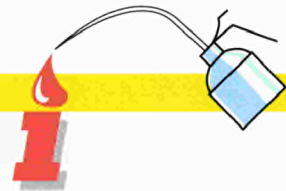5"1/4 inch diskette ☐
3"1/4 inch diskette ☐

Version linguistique
☐ anglais   ☐ français   ☐ allemand
☐ italien   ☐ espagnol   ☐ portuguais
☐ néerlandais ☐ danois   ☐ grec

(les versions néerlandaise et danoise seront disponibles au printemps 1990.)

Nom.....................
Société ....
Adresse ....

Euro Info Centres - a new infrastructure

A Community information infrastructure with a human face .. and not too far from you is rapidly being established. The Commission is helping establish some 200 **Euro Information Centres** by mid year. They are based on well established organizations such as chambers of commerce, local development organizations, professional federations and business consultants. Some EICs will specialize in commerce, innovation or finance, others will have a broader expertise and outreach.

Euro Info Centre personnel have been trained to use Community database information on **ECHO** and **Eurobases**. They are also familiar with other sources of Community information available from Community institutions and from commercial organizations.

To find out more about your local **Euro Information Centre,** contact the national EC Press and Information Office or the Commission service.

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Rete Itapac

Facciamo presente a tutti che operano en Italia e che desiderano collegarsi alle rete di transmissione de dati Itapac, che:

-per fare une richiesta di collegamento, bisogna rivolgersi ad ogni Direzioni Regionale della SIP, presso gliuffici M/SU-G. L'indirizzo è reperibile sull'elenco telefonico.

- per ottenere informazioni generali sul funzionamento della rete Itapac, si può rivolugersi all'Ing Boreggi.

Contacto: Direzione Generale della SIP
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# EIRENE — making contact between info brokers

Information brokers aim to track down hard-to-find information for paying clients. Contacts between information specialists across Europe will now be facilitated with the creation of **EIRENE**, the European Information Researchers Network.

Nearly forty information brokers from eight European countries attended the founding meeting at the London Online Meeting in London in December. This provided an opportunity for brokers to establish personal contacts with other colleagues and exchange promotional literature. A number of suggestions for future activities and promoting contacts between info brokers were made.

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Medimag: training medical students
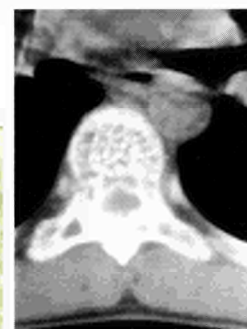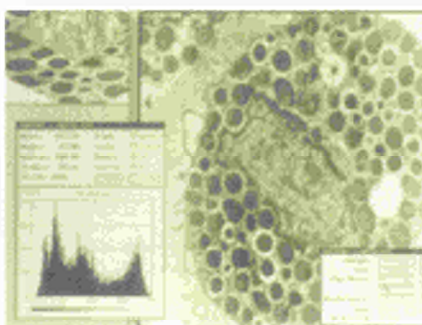
Medical images from scanners, X-rays may be more efficiently used thanks to a Community - supported project, **Medimag**. Télésystèmes put together a new image bank computer-assisted training package consisting of a videodisc of 30 000 medical images on numerical and conventional radiology, ecography, magnetic resonance images and scanner images, together with a database and a micro computer. The student will then have at his or her disposal, for example, an X-ray image plus related medical information about the patient and if necessary, other pertinent images.

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Japanese technical information

Japanese industry benefits from direct access to numerous sources of European information but European industry often finds difficulty in obtaining information from Japanese sources. The Japanese language and script are just the first of many barriers.

The European Commission (DG XIII-B), aware of the necessity of making a broad range of Japanese information available to European users, launched a project called **Japinfo**. A contractor in Japan collects scientific and technical documents and prepares abstracts in Japanese. These are machine-translated into English. A specialist unit in Europe is responsible for the dissemination of abstracts to European customers.

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Materials Demonstrator

The Materials Database Demonstrator Programme of the CEC was concluded at a major workshop held at the Petten Research Centre of the CEC, in the Netherlands, from 6th to 8th December 1989.

The Programme had commenced in 1984 with a workshop, also at Petten, to determine the strategy to be followed. A set of eleven European computerised materials databases were used to explore the practical problems involved in the building, operation and application of such systems. During the Programme, the producers of the systems developed a Code of Practice for their operation, and central systems were created for a common reference vocabulary, user guidance and a directory of information sources. There was a major effort to raise awarenes and determine user opinions with seminars and workshops in every Member State of the EC.

Running parallel with this Programme, there has been a world-wide expansion of activities in this field. The purposes of the Workshop were therefore to review the lessons learned in the Demonstration Programme, to consider these in the light of what has happened elsewhere and to work out the desirable scope for follow-up action. Recognizing the technical and commercial immaturity of the sector, the participants reached a consensus on the need for continuing joint action of the CEC, national governments and industries of the Member Countries in the areas of:

- Promotion of computerized materials information and its application
- Standardization of information products
- Integration of information products
- Sources of data
- User support agencies
- International collaboration.

In these general areas, specific recommandations were developed which incorporate a recognition of user heeds in each situation. A bureau for materials database builders is proposed which would provide advice and a sharing of experience. Work to develop links between data systems and other Computer Aided Engineering is supported and it is recommended that guidelines should be developed for man-machine interfaces. For small-to-medium enterprises it is recommended that a network of advice and support centres should be established. Standardization issues concern the database schema, data exchange, an extended and stronger Code of Practice and quality assurance for both systems and data. An understanding of the similarities and differences between the materials standards of different Member States is seen to be vital for the development of the single market after 1992, and the development of an equivalence system is recommended. International collaboration will be beneficial for the development of terminology and for the control of data resulting from tests and measurements.

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Trend monitoring

Telosophy derives from Greek Tele meaning at a distance and Sophy meaning wisdom. The key to the future will depend on those who can assimilate complex and rapidly developing trends in order to keep ahead.

Trend, the new database on ECHO, the online version of Trend Monitor journal not only covers key developments in computing, communications, media and hybrid entities but gives a careful analysis of the top issues and extrapolates trends, critical issues, projections and policy choke points.

By applying a research process called content analysis (originally used by the CIA and the British intelligence service, MI5) Trend highlights the main perspectives of the present state of the industry and reveals a foreknowledge of the future.

Some key developments:
- IBM and a small British firm are producing systems that can turn personal computers into high definition television sets at a fraction of established price. Trend Monitor's projection: the initial mass market will come from computer users, rather than the television industries.
- On ISDN: as multi-media telecommunications networks become established, only the thin blue line of government regulation can prevent a process that would eliminate the publishing industry altogether.
- On mobile digital networks: people not telephone receivers will be given numbers. Databases of people and their characteristics, linked to these numbers, will make privacy and security issues of major concern.

Trend Monitor is available as a free database for a limited time on ECHO. Logon on at ECHO (NUA: 0270448112 and use the public password TREND. Regular ECHO customers after logging on should type BASE TREND

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Fax: +44 536 410 756

Observing Europe

According to a survey by Dun and Bradstreet in France, nine out of ten business decisions are taken without the support of external information. A British survey of senior managers found that information is not usually collected in a systematic way but relies on personal files, 'old boy networks' and if all else fails more formal sources of information.

The Europeans consistently undervalue the use of information, says a recent overview of the online scene, Online information in Europe by Baudouin Durieux. This is a serious problem in many countries such as Belgium where 98% of companies are small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs) and 42% of the labour force works there. The majority of people never learn how and where to find information, even the existence of information centres. Actually paying for information creates a mental barrier and too few managers have explored how better intelligence can help them cut costs and improve efficiency. Only with professions such as lawyers, where costs can be passed, on do you find such responses as high as 73% saying the cost of information is not important.

Durieux underscores the domination by the Americans of the online market and the underappreciation of this problem for the European information market. His book, covering also CD-ROM and other information sources, is a salutary reminder at a time when according to the OECD, 'information occupations' amount to 41% of jobs in the UK, 34% in FR Germany, 32% in France ... and 46% in the USA.

Contact: Eusidic
9 High Street
GB- Calne, Wilts SN11 0BS

Tel: +44 249 814 584

CD-ROM directory 1990

An expanding range of products in compact disc format is evinced in the **CD-ROM Directory 1990**, the fourth edition edited by Joanne Mitchell and Julie Harrison and published by TFPL. Info freaks will find details of cost and where to order some 817 products. This is more than twice last year's figure. America produces 62% of the titles, Europe 30 %, the remaining 8% come mainly from Japan and Australia.

Titles are varied and include **About Cows**: a collection of bovine history, trivia, nostalgia and anecdotes, **Aerospatiale Airbus A320**, the electronic manual of the plane, **ALDE Carousel**: some 11 000 compressed shareware programmes, **COMETT** four multi-media programs produced under the EC education and training in technology programme, **Constitution Papers** containing the <u>Declaration of Independence</u>, <u>Magna Carta</u>, Paine's <u>Common</u>

<u>Sense</u> and the <u>Federalist Papers</u>; the Japanese, English and German **Dictionary of Science and Technology**, the listing of half a million Japanese officials in the **Directory of Public Servants** and European Patent Office's **ESPACE** and **FIRST**.

Europe in the round gives hypercard access to free movement of people in Europe, education, background info and "survival information". **SoundScope** is a music appreciation disc. The earth's climate over the past few hundred years is offered in **World Weather Disc**.

The directory also gives comprehensive sections on organization information, CD-ROM drives, books and conferences.

Contact: TFPL
22 Peters Lane
London EC1

Tel: +44 1 251 5522

CD-ROM published in 1989 Analysis by type

General interest and literature	96	11.8
Science and technology	94	11.5
Law and fiscality	80	9.8
Company information	71	8.7
Medicine and health	67	8.2
Image and audio	53	6.5
Encyclopaedias and dictionaries	47	5.8
Directories	42	5.1
Public access catalogues	39	4.8
Software	39	4.8
Economic and social statistics	39	4.8
Books in print	25	3.1
Chemical and pharmaceutical products	22	2.7
Atlases, street plans, maps	22	2.7
Economics and finance	21	2.6
Geological statistics	20	2.5
Automobile components	12	1.5
Technical catalogues	12	1.5
Manuals	9	1.1
National library catalogues	6	0.7

Source TFPL

Liefern und Leisten

Für die zweite Ausgabe der CD-ROM **Liefern und Leisten** hat der DAV-Verlag die Daten vollständig überarbeitet und rund 70 000 Adressen-Aktualisierungen vorgenommen. Ueber 260 000 handelsregisterlich eingetragene Unternehmen aus Industrie, Gross- und Aussenhandel und dem Dienstleistungssektor stellen ihr Leistungsangebot vor. Dem Nutzer stehen daher neueste, zuverlässige Informationen für Marketing, Vertrieb, Verkauf und Marktanalysen zur Verfügung.

Kontakt: DAV-Verlag
Postfach 110452
Holzhofallee 38
D-6100 Darmstadt

Tel: +49 6151 391-0
Fax: +49 6151 391200
Telex: 419548 dav d

Expert CD-ROM

Key information on qualifications, research experience and expertise of 25000 academic researchers in science, medicine and engineering in Britain and some North American universities are now available on CD-ROM. BEST, previously available as an online database on the Longman Cartermill host, will be updated on disc every six months.

Total records is expected to reach 100 000 within three years. The launch of a directory of European experts, **BEST Europe** is scheduled for next year.

Contact: Longman Cartermill
Technology Centre
GB-St Andrews, Fife KY16 9EA

Tel: +44 334 77 660

Needles in legal haystacks

Finding exact references in a mass of legal documents is a necessary task for European lawyers and businessmen. European Community law exists in database form as **Celex**. Data is contained in a highly structured way in separate databases or Sectors with both long sections of full text and analytical summaries and legislative cross references.
A CD-ROM version allows easier access, in a more relaxed way. A second release of the CD-ROM version, **JUSTIS**, was launched in November 1989. The CD-ROM version has a user-friendly menu-driven software which permits the integration of legal data extracts with other computer based software such as word processing. There is also an expert mode with a full set of search commands.

Contact: JUSTIS /CD Base
Assets House
Elverton Street
GB-London SW1P 2QG

Tel: +44 1 828 2355
Fax: +44 1 821 5684

Meckler's CD-ROM guide

A Japanese university requires that all its 1500 first year students buy CD-ROMs for use in their courses. But the greatest sales in Japan has gone to the Toyota automobile navigation system CD-ROM.
While many privately produced CD-ROMs go unlisted at publishers' request, the Meckler **CD-ROMs in print 1990** guide lists 600 commercially available discs and provides a subject-related index. Publishers, software providers and distributors are also listed.

Contact: Meckler Ltd
Grosvenor Gardens House
Grosvenor Gardens
London SW1W 0BS

Update on Termdok

The multilingual technical termbank, **Termdok,** has been updated and the new version is ten times larger than the original. Organized by the Swedish Centre for Technical Terminology (TNC) and published by Walters, **Termdok** contains seven different databases from five countries: **Normaterm AFNOR** (English/ French), **Termiu** (French/English), **TNC** glossaries (Swedish/ multilingual), **RTT termbase** (Norwegian/ multilingual) and **TEPA** (Finnish/ multilingual). The software is memory resident and either English, French or Swedish can be chosen as working language. Several databases may be accessed simultaneously using windows.

Contact: Walters Lexikon
Box 119
S-16126 Bromma

Tel: +46 8261470
Fax: +46 87048530

Neue Juris 2 und 3

Die neue **Juris** data disc 2 enthält die wichigste Rechtsprechung des Bundesgerichthofs seit Gründung dieses Gerichts mit rund 34000 Entscheidungen. Auf der data disc 3 sind die bedeutsamsten Entscheidungen der Sozialgerichtsbarkeit seit 1949 gespeichert, das heisst nicht nur Entscheidungen des Bundessozialgerichts, sondern auch wichtige Entscheidungen sozialgerichtlicher Instanzgerichte. Es handelt sich um rund 38000 Entscheidungen. **Juris** bietet mit diesen discs die wohl vollständigsten elektronischen Sammlungen des Bundesfinanzhofs, des Bundesgerichtshofs und der Sozialgerichtsbarkeit an. Die "data discs" werden einmal jährlich aktualisiert.

Kontakt: Juris GmbH
Gutenbergerstr 23
D-6600 Saarbrücken

Tel: +49 681 5866-1

Agriculture on disc

SilverPlatter is publishing three agriculture databases on CD-ROMs: the CAB International's **CAB abstracts**, the United Nations Food and Agriculture Organization's **Agris** and the US National Agricultural Library's **Agricola**. Software has been developed for both IBM compatible and Apple Macintosh computers. Biosis's **Biological Abstracts** has also been published on CD-ROM.

Contact: SilverPlatter
10 Barley Mow Passage
GB- London W4 4PH

Tel: +44 1 995 8242
Fax: +44 1 995 5159

Pergamons multimedia discs

The **Guinness disc of records** is the first multimedia CD-ROM from Pergamon presenting "the greatest achievements of Mankind in every area, from science and technology, to sport, business, the arts and entertainment, as well as providing a rich source of authenticated facts about the natural world and space." The Apple Mackintosh disc contains more than 20 animations illustrating how records are broken, and more than 300 high quality colour photos, as well as music and sound effects. An IBM compatible version should be available this year.

Starry 6 is a new astronomical data and imaging package for astronomers of all levels. The disc contains more than a quarter of a million objects from a dozen star catalogues. The software allows user control of the way symbol size, shape and colour is used to represent astrophysical qualities. A comprehensive 3 D facility creates a sense of depth and overlays allow multiple representations and comparisons of catalogues.

Contact: Pergamon Compact Solution
118 Southwark Street
GB- London SE1 0SW

Tel: +44 1 928 1404
Fax: +44 1 583 3887

Helecon business disc

The Helsinki School of Economics and Business has launched their first CD-ROM aimed at European business and management information. It contains five databases: **Scanp**, a Scandinavian management and economic database, **Scimp**, a west European management database, **Bliss**, a German management and administration database, **Fonds quetelet**, a Belgian management and business database, and **Bisse** a guide of information sources in 17 European countries.

Contact: Helecon
Runeberginkatu 22-24
SF-00100 Helsinki

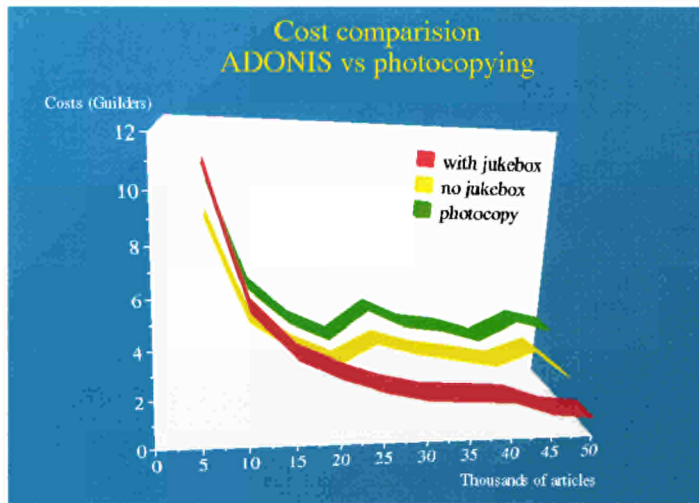Tel: +358 0 4313 1
Fax: +358 0 4313 539

The globe on disc

Chadwyck-Healey's **MundoCart** can create a digital map of the whole world. A choice of 24 different projections (including Mercator, Lambert, UTM, stereographic and polyconic) and 26 ellipsoids is available to the user for map displays and plotting purposes. Scales range from 1:250000 to 1: 150 million. The **Mundo Cart** is contained on one CD-ROM and regional subsets are also available. Users can add their own data to maps or extract cartographic data from the map for use with other databases and with geographical information systems.

Contact: Chadwyck-Healey
Cambridge Place
GB- Cambridge CB2 1NR

Tel: +44 223 311479
Fax: +44 223 66440

Adonis goes fully operational

Cost comparision
ADONIS vs photocopying

Costs (Guilders)

- with jukebox
- no jukebox
- photocopy

Thousands of articles

The **Adonis** document delivery service on CD-ROM, after a successful two year Community-supported trial, is to become a fully operational service by 1991. 50 000 prints have been efficiently delivered from 13 centres with **Adonis** workstations where CD-ROMs held articles from 217 biomedical journals from ten of the largest scientific publishers. The articles together with the digitized images from the journals were printed out on high quality laser printer. A significant saving on photocopying the original journals was achieved by doing away with manual techniques of searching as well as shelving and binding costs. The statistics of requested articles show a surprisingly consistent demand across all the journals.

For the operational service some 425 heavily used journals

of prime interest to the pharmaceutical industry will involved.

A unique and unambiguous compact article identifier has been designed and proved reliable by the University of Bradford. It will be used by **Excerpta Medica** and other subject indexing services to link online or other searches with the articles on the discs. A jukebox with a 270 disc capacity has been developed and an interface for networking was produced at University College, London.

A video has been produced and has been produced to show the main features of the trial to interested parties.

Contact: Adonis
PO Box 2400
NL- 1000 CK Amsterdam

Tel: +31 20 586 2418

Livres français

Electre biblio est une banque de données existant actuellement en version CD-ROM, papier, microfiche et en ligne par le service 3617 **ELECTRE**. La banque des données des livres disponibles en langue française, gérée par la Société de Banque de Données (SBD) du Cercle de la Librairie, recense 300 000 titres disponibles publiés par 6300 éditeurs. Sa mise à jour se fait en permanence par ajout des nouveautés, des nouvelles éditions, des réimpressions, et par des paramètres commerciaux (prix,

disponibilité, réseau de distribution d'un titre).Il y a deux modes de recherche (menus consultables en français et anglais: simple guidé ou documentaire grâce à des opérateurs booléens. Une connexion est possible avec un système de passation de commandes.

Contacter: Electre Biblio
35 rue Grégoire-de-Tours
F-75006 Paris

Tél: +33 1 43 29 1000
Fax: +33 1 43 29 6895
Télex: 270 838

Bibliographie française

The **Bibliographie nationale française depuis 1975**, the French national bibliography since 1975, is now available as a French/English CD-ROM (Italian and German versions are

to follow). Containing more than 390 000 records, the quarterly updated CD-ROM contains all titles received by the Bibliothèque Nationale.

British Library disc

The British Library contained eight and a half million books in 1975. Two-thirds of these books were in English, 14% French, 6% German, 4% Slavonic and east European, 4% Spanish and Portuguese and 3% were in Cyrillic, Greek, Hebrew or other non Latin alphabets. In order to put the enormous catalogue accurately on CD-ROM, records have been manually keyed— twice. Librarians will gain 13 metres of shelf space by swapping the 360 folio

volumes of the catalogue for 3 CD-ROMs.
The **British Library general catalogue of printed books to 1975** now permits easy and improved searches of the stock by subject, title or date. Downloaded records can be modified with a word processor.

Contact: Chadwyck-Healey
Cambridge Place
GB-Cambridge CB2 1NR

Tel: +44 223 311479
Fax: +44 223 66440

Whitakers

Bookbank CD-ROM provides easy access to half a million books from 13000 publishers. Major savings in staff time are possible in identifying titles, upgrading bibliographic research and making extra sales through efficient systems in both retail and mail order. It is also possible to integrate teleordering, automatic cataloguing, word processing and bar codes. Discs can be updated monthly, bi-monthly or yearly.

Contact: J Whitaker & Sons
12 Dyott St
GB- London WC1A 1DF

Tel: +44 1 836 8911
Fax: +44 1 836 2909

Books on discs

The newly merged Bowker-Saur Ltd are publishers of seven directories on CD-ROMs running under their Plus system: **Books in print Plus, Books in print with reviews Plus, Ulrich's Plus, Books out of print Plus, VLB aktuell** (German books in print), **Alice** (Italian books in print available with diskette updates) and **Scitech reference Plus.**

Contact: Bowker-Saur Ltd
Borough Green
Sevenoaks
GB- Kent TN15 8PH

Tel: +44 732 884567
Fax: +44 732 884530
Telex: 95678

CD-ROM Libraries project

Work is under way on a pilot/demonstration project in which seven national libraries are collaborating to use CD-ROM as a vehicle to improve the interchange of bibliographic records. The consortium comprises the Royal Library, Denmark, Bibliotheque Nationale, France, Deutsche Bibliothek, FRG, National Library of Florence, Italy, the Royal Library, the Netherlands, National Library, Portugal, the British Library, UK. CD-ROM applications can help promote better and easier access by more users to national bibliographies and make economies in library catologuing through better and more effective sharing of cataloguing source records.

Nine subprojects, each involving different partnerships between consortium libraries, are coordinated by the British Library.

Definition of requirements for a retrieval interface for bibliographic data on CD-ROM. These basic rules should be independent of retrieval software.

Tools for MARC conversion. The project investigate two approaches to providing conversion from the MARC format of the host CD-ROM to that required by the user.

Definition of a basic European character set. The project will examine the problems of the extended character sets required in a European context, looking at both technical aspects and at standards.

Multi-lingual interface. Storing, loading and accessing multi-lingual user interfaces in a DOS environment and harmonizing terminology and translations will both be dealt with.

Online links with CD-ROM. The objective is to create transparent links between disc and online hosts services.

Linking CD-ROM to local library systems. This subproject involves commercial library system suppliers and examines downloading and transfer of data to their systems.

Menu interface for multiple CD-ROM. This is concerned with the interface with DOS and compatibility between national bibliographic products in order to aid the ease of movement between databases.

Production of pilot CD-ROM. Here, consortium libraries which have not yet a CD-ROM will produce a pilot disc; a further phase will examine specialist discs and test in-house production methods.

Distribution mechanisms/ marketing agreements. This will look at regulatory issues concerning the international distribution of bibliographic data on disc.

Contact: Mr Robert Smith
British Library
2 Sheraton St
London WC 1

Open systems for libraries

Advanced communications are one way that libraries can maximize their resources for their customers, the readers. Two reports recently issued by the European Commission can greatly help libraries in setting up communications systems that benefit from Open Systems Interconnection (OSI). **OSI model for library applications** (EUR 12437) is a tutorial giving a technical presentation of the OSI protocols (which encourage communications between equipment and software from different manufacturers), an analysis of the application of OSI to libraries and a presentation of standards relevant to electronic documents and data formats.

The latter include application standards being elaborated by the International Standards Organization (ISO): ILL, inter library lending, and SR, search and retrieve.

Proceedings of the workshop dedicated to the use of OSI for libraries (EUR 124636) is a bilingual French/English summary of the papers and discussions arising from a meeting organized by the Commission in Luxembourg, 11-13 January 1989. It outlines the standards situation, and gives examples of a pragmatic approach in Germany and Italy. Conditions of migration to OSI, in particular with respect to communication costs are also covered. Annexes contain papers from a number of countries including Norway and Canada where much work has been done in the field.

Contact: Office for Official Publications of the EC
2, rue Mercier
L-2985 Luxembourg

Libraries OSI project agreed

An IMPACT pilot/demonstration project aimed at creating an Open Systems Interconnection (OSI) between library networks has been accepted by the European Commission (DG XIII-B). The project will connect libraries in France, UK and the Netherlands. The partners in the project are the Ministere de l'Education Nationale, Sous-Direction des Bibliothèques, the London and South Eastern Library Region (LASER) and the Pica Centrum voor Bibliotheek Automatisering.

The project has three major objectives:
- to achieve interconnection between three computerized library systems in the United Kingdom, the Netherlands and France in order to support and develop international interlending and messaging services
- to improve the efficiency of international interlending services
- to demonstrate the capabilities of OSI communication protocols in a message-oriented environment for interlending services in the interconnection of computerized networks with different technical characteristics.

Three phases: specifications, implementation and use and evaluation, are planned for a three year period. The three library networks will be connected via international data networks. The international interlending message service will be based on the OSI interlibrary loan (ILL) and X.400 message handling protocols and interfaced with exisiting national ILL services. Identification services to enable the user to search computerized union catalogues with different searching mechanisms and which provide information on ILL services and sources of materials with the three countries are also planned later in the project.

An operational hardware/software Front-End Processor (FEP) will be created to take care of communication and messaging between different computer systems using OSI communication protocols.

Contact: Ms A Iljon
CEC, DG XIII-B
L-2920 Luxembourg
Tel: +352 4301 2923
Telex: 2181

CALENDAR

Euroinfo —Italy

A new annual forum and shop window for the European information industry has been announced to be held at the Sheraton, Rome, 5-7 June 1990. **Euroinfo** is brought by Learned Information (who organize the London Online) and SEAT divisione STET. The **Euroinfo** Forum will discuss present market issues and future opportunities both in CD-ROM and the online industry.

Contact: Patrizia Senerchia
Seat divisione Stet spa
Settore Telematica
Via Aurelio Saffi 18,
I- 10138 Torino
Tel: +39 11 33301
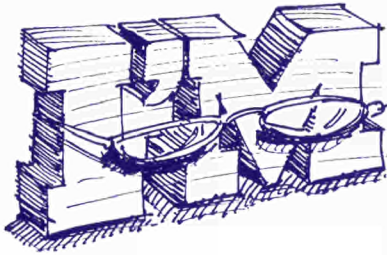Fax: +39 11 447 2953

E. Europe opportunities

The European Information Industry Association will hold a special conference on the **Opportunities for the information industry in eastern Europe** during the Infobase exhibition in Frankfurt, 15-17 May.

Contact: EIIA
B P 262
L-2012 Luxembourg
Tel: +352 434183
Fax: +352 433159
Telex: 6105097

EDI in Italy

ELEDIS '90 is the first international conference on electronic data interchange, and informtion managment and will include papers on Office Document Architecture (ODA) and document Image Processing (DIP).

Contact: XCOMS International
Via dell' Oasa Maggiore 23
I-20060 Cassina de' Pecchi (MI)
Tel: +39 95 22 102

Who reads Information Market?

Thanks to all the readers who sent or faxed their completed questionnaire about your likes and dislikes in **Information Market**. Thanks also for saying a little about who you are.

Who wrote in?

More than eight hundred readers replied. Most came from the countries of the European Community but readers replied from 34 countries from as far away as Japan, Niger New Zealand Guatemala and Egypt.

Of the four languages we offered for your replies English was the most frequently used, followed by French, German and Spanish. One reader replied in Luxemburgish! We actually got more replies from France than any other country (merci beaucoup!), followed by Germany, Belgium and the United Kingdom.
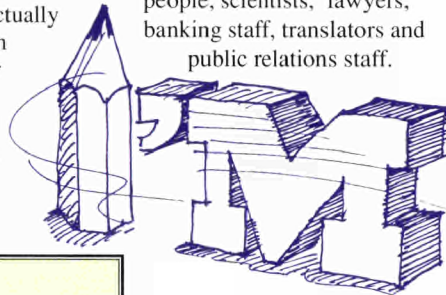
Public or private?

More readers came from private sector (332) than from the public (199). Librarians were more prominent (151) than online and CD-ROM professionals(118). And a good number of journalists (55) manifested themselves in the sample. Others who noted their profession were students and professors, marketing people, scientists, lawyers, banking staff, translators and public relations staff.

Equipment

The vast majority of those who replied (713 out of 750) had access to computers or terminals. Half said they used them for online database interrogation and one in seven for CD-ROM databases. Only about 6 % of the readers did not have a computer terminal.

Over half of those who replied (402) were already on the mailing list or wished to change the mailing address; a large minority (359) were new readers to the newsletter.

Language of communication

English was by far the preferred language for articles (482) followed by French (321), German (269) Italian (69) and Spanish (45). Dutch, Portuguese, Greeks replied in single figures.

Should article be longer and more in depth? A resounding majority of 136 said keep them the same length; only 47 wanted longer articles and 12 wanted shorter ones. As for articles you would like to see more of, these suggestions ranged far and wide from EDI, message handling, BTX and videotex, data protection, TV systems and satellite, research costs, computer aided translation and language learning, standards, jobs in Europe, audiotex, email, software, private networks and conference reports.

And "more issues of IM". Thank you all.

Multiple copies on request

For companies, institutions or agencies who would like to keep their staff informed about developments in the European Information services market, muliple copies of **Information Market** are available free of charge. Just fill out the form below and let us know the name of the person responsible for internal distribution.
If, on the other hand you are receiving more copies than you want, please let us know so that the mailing list can be updated.

Your preferences

We asked you to list your priorities in the types of articles you perused. This is how it appears in total taking into account the weighting you gave.

1. Information about the 1992 information market: 3489
2. User problems and how to solve them: 3395
3. Commission policy about the information services market: 3375
4. How new networks (broad band, ISDN) and programme results (ESPRIT, DELTA, DRIVE) will affect information services: 3243
5 Announcements from commercial information providers: 3077
6. How to start online and news about ECHO: 2982
7. Dates of conferences and exhibitions: 2866

There were a number of national variations: the Germans wanted to solve their user problems more than anything else and the British and Italians wanted to know more about Commission policy as their first priority. The Greeks wanted to know more about ECHO and starting online.

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