

FORMAL METHODS EUROPE

Minutes of 5th meeting held in Brussels on 18 February 1993

Present

Tim Denvir

Peter Froome

Peter Gorm Larsen

Alejandro Moya

Jan Storbank Pedersen

Nico Plat

Martyn Thomas

Apologies

Eugene Durr

Rainer Gimnich

Cliff Jones

Kees Middelburg

John Nicholls

Jim Woodcock

1. MINUTES OF 4TH MEETING HELD ON 8 JANUARY 1993

Accepted

2. MATTERS ARISING

Actions:

- | | | |
|------|--|----------|
| 1/5 | Draft differences between VDM and Z. | CBJ & JN |
| | In progress; will probably be ready by FME93. Carried forward. | |
| 1/10 | Write to trade journals about FME. | MCT |
| | Carried forward. | |
| 2/7 | Draft Statute and Regulations. | KP |
| | Carried forward. | |
| 3/2 | Offer FME seminar to aviation event. | ED |
| | Carried forward: next event is in February 1994. | |
| 3/3 | Offer seminar to AIM project. | JN |
| | Carried forward. | |

Summary of Actions Brought Forward

1/5	Draft differences between VDM and Z.	CBJ & JN
1/10	Write to trade journals about FME.	MCT
2/7	Draft Statute and Regulations.	KP
3/2	Offer FME seminar to aviation event.	ED
3/3	Offer seminar to AIM project.	JN
3/4	Offer seminar to BMIS	TD
3/5	Offer seminar to safety critical club area.	JF-G
4/2	Obtain information from Dan Craigen.	CBJ
4/3	Contact JF-G to obtain progress on SC club seminar.	CBJ
4/11	Send draft agenda for AGM and business meeting at FME93 to Peter Larsen.	MCT
5/1	Propose FME93 and ISO meetings as means of contact to YY at FME93.	MCT
5/2	Ask Chris George if he would contribute a RAISE column.	PGL
5/3	Seek Programme Chair.	MCT
5/4	Include catalogue and FM macro maintenance in ESSI proposal.	ED
5/5	Find national seminar coordinators.	TD
5/6	Write to organisations in CEPIS re network of national FM or Software Engineering organisations and FME.	MCT
5/7	Discuss contact with those from outside Europe at FME93.	MCT
5/8	Ask J de Man if he will contribute a LOTOS/SDL/telecoms column.	TD
5/9	Explore FME becoming an EEG.	KP
5/10	Offer an industrial seminar to Ada-aerospace.	JSP

Summary by person

ED	3/2,5/4
TD	3/4,5/5,5/8
JF-G	3/5
CBJ	1/5,4/2,4/3
PGL	5/2
JN	1/5,3/3
KP	2/7,5/9
JSP	5/10
MCT	1/10,4/11,5/1,5/3,5/6,5/7

3. NEWSLETTER

Tim Denvir communicated the decision of FACS to agree to the merging of the two newsletters with the expectation that contributions from FME members will be forthcoming, in particular an FME column and that FME will help with contributions generally. There should be no division of the newsletter into a FACS and a FME part: it should be a coherent whole. FACS would like to continue its present arrangements and conventions regarding enclosures, advertising and sponsorship. It is understood that FME would copy distribute the newsletter to FME members and carry the cost of so doing. This was agreed by FME. Material should be communicated to Brian Monahan (brianm@cs.man.ac.uk) and/or Jawed Siddiqi (jawed@...) in, in order of preference: LaTeX source, plain text or camera-ready copy on paper.

Peter Larsen agreed to ask Chris George if he would contribute a RAISE column.

Action 5/2 PGL

Tim Denvir agreed to ask Joseph de Man if he would contribute a column on LOTOS/SDL/telecoms.

Action 5/8 TD

The final date for material for the next issue will be about 5 May.

4. LOCATION FOR FME94

Two offers of locations have been received: from Oxford University (Jim Woodcock) and a consortium of three organisations from Spain: Inisel Espacio, IN-novacio and the Engineering School of Ramon Llull university in Barcelona, where the conference location is proposed. The Spanish proposers are known to and recommended by Jan Storbank Pedersen and Peter Gorm Larsen. It was agreed that the Spanish consortium would be accepted provided that a Technical Programme Chair could be found who was well associated with FME and its previous conferences. Five names were suggested for the Programme Chair. Martyn Thomas agreed to ask these if they are willing.

Action 5/3 MCT

5. STATUS OF ESSI CALL

A Draft of the briefing package for proposers was obtained by Alejandro Moya and is attached.

6. FME 1993-94 WORK-PLAN

Nico Plat distributed a paper from Eugene Durr which consolidated suggestions received. This is attached. Cliff Jones had telephoned some suggestions to Martyn Thomas. Out of the ensuing discussion the following suggestions were put forward:

An FM "Starts Guide" containing information about available methods and tools.

A Tools Catalogue update. An updated bibliography supported by hypertext facilities.

The newsletter.

Documented differences between VDM and Z: in progress.

Develop the catalogue-bibliography-tool guide from existing sources. It was proposed eventually to have this published commercially. This should be presented as an ESSI dissemination medium for application experiments.

Maintenance of LaTeX macros for VDM (and, when appropriate, Z). Eugene Durr is requested to incorporate these last two items in the ESSI proposal.

Action 5/4 ED

Standards (for, e.g., VDM, Z, RSL, LOTOS, Estelle, ...). It was agreed that the individual VDM etc. communities should bid for funds and FME would provide moral support.

Industrial seminars. A panel of speakers should be established and industrial FME members need to be found to arrange national seminars. For a seminar to occur every six months it was necessary for one to take place in each country only every two years. Speakers were believed to be likely to be available from Praxis, ICL, CRI, Adelard, and other organisations, but no actions were assigned to find a definitive list at this meeting. Tim Denvir agreed to find national seminar coordinators.

Action 5/5 TD

Jan Storbank Pedersen offered to approach Ada-aerospace regarding an industrial seminar.

Action 5/10 JSP

Study, develop and document the organisational and management techniques needed for the introduction and application of formal methods; see attached proposal from John Nicholls. Those who are interested in helping John Nicholls to work on this proposal should contact him. FME can be the resource by which the results of the project are disseminated to the community.

Establish a network of national FM or Software Engineering organisations and FME. Martyn Thomas agreed to write to organisations in CEPIS.

Action 5/6 MCT

It was agreed that contacts should be maintained with organisations outside Europe at least once a year, especially when there is no FME conference. Martyn Thomas agreed to discuss this with those from outside Europe at FME93.

Action 5/7 MCT

Peter Larsen suggested the idea of tools developers providing facilities to demonstrate other tools supporting the same method on a mutual basis. A feasibility proposal could be put to ESSI.

7. AOB

It was suggested that FME could become a European Economic Group. Kees Pronk is asked to investigate the possibility and advantages of this.

Tim Denvir 24.02.93

Action 5/9 KP