Reliability Society

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Editor:

Bruce Bream

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President's Report

he Reliability Society gained 464 new members in 1993. These new members represented 51 countries and nearly half (207/464 - 45%) came from outside the United States (Regions 1-6). Table 1 shows the new members in 1994.

So far this year (February 4, 1994) we have gained 82 new members and two additional countries.

The Reliability Society has 19 Technical Operations Committees:

- Advanced Reliability Techniques and Research and Develop-
- CAD, Concurrent Engineering and Expert Systems
- Computers, Information Systems and Telecommunications
- Emerging (New) Technologies
- Energy Systems Reliability and Energy Technology Assessments
- Health Care and Medical Reliability
- Human Performance Reliability
- International Reliability
- Inter-Society Technical Liaison and Quality Council
- Maintainability
- Mechanical Reliability
- Nuclear Reliability
- Quality Assurance Technology
- Software Reliability
- Speakers' Bureau
- Standards and Definitions
- Systems Screening
- Total Quality Management and Process Reliability
- Transportation

I encourage each of you to contact:

Richard L. Doyle Doyle and Associates 5677 Soledad Road La Jolla, CA 92037 USA

Tel: (619) 459-5604

Dick is our Vice President of Technical Operations and will be pleased to help you become more active in Reliability Society activities by joining one of our Technical Operations Committees. I believe you will gain more from your membership by participating in Society affairs.

(continued on page 3)

Notice

ADCOM Nominations

The IEEE Reliability Society is seeking nominations for members to fill positions on the Advisory Committee. This body meets four times per year at locations throughout the US. One meeting is held in conjunction with the annual Reliability and Maintainability Symposium (RAMS). This is held in January. The second meeting is held with the International Reliability Physics Symposium (IRPS) in March or April. The other two meetings are held in the Summer and the Fall at various locations. Often these are on the East coast of the USA. The Adcom is the body from which Society officers are nominated. The ADCOM body sets policy for the society, helps support reliability symposia, reviews standards and specifications, disseminates technical information and otherwise administers society functions.

We would like you to consider putting your name into nomination or someone elses you feel would be good. To do this you need to submit a petition to the society. That would be to:

Dr. Samuel Keene 3081 15th Street Boulder, Colorado 80304 Questions: (303)673-5963

Your petition should show the nominee, 12 members who support that nomination, the address of each member, their IEEE number and grade, their signature and date. The 12 members should be above the student grade. Nominations should be received by June 15, 1994.

The nominations should have a resume or biography attached for publication with the election ballot. WE LOOK FORWARD TO GETTING YOUR NOMINATION.

Reliability Society Newsletter Inputs

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All RS newsletter inputs should be sent to:	The schedule	for submittals i
Mr. Bruce Bream	Newsletter	Due Date
NASA Lewis Research Center, M.S. 501-4	January	November 19
21000 Brookpark Road	April	February 26
Cleveland, OH 44135	July	May 28
Tel: (216) 433-6532 Fax: (216) 433-5270 Email: scbream@lims02.lerc.nasa.gov	October	August 27

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Third Page (vertical)	\$240	225	210
Quarter Page	\$205	190	180
Eighth Page	\$120	110	100

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President's Report

(continued from page one)

Country

Argentina

Australia

Austria

Table 1. 1993 List – Newest Members of Reliability Society

Members Region

5

2

9

10

8

	W. Thor	mas Weir
TOTAL	464	
Yugoslavia	1	8
U.S.A.	257	1-6
Turkey	1	8
Transvaal	1	8
Thailand	1	10
Taiwan	13	10
Switzerland	5	8
Sweden	2	8
Spain	7	8
Slovenia	1	8
Singapore	12	10
Saudi Arabia	4	8
Romania	1	8
Puerto Rico	1	9
Poland	1	8
Philippines	1	10
Oman	1	8
Norway	1	8
New Zealand	1	10
Netherlands	5	8
Mexico	6	9
Malaysia	1	10
Macedonia	1	8
Korea	11	
Japan		10
Italy	10	10
Israel	10	8
Indonesia	5 4	8
India	5	10
Ireland	11	10
Iceland	1	8
Hungary	1	8
Hong Kong	2	8
	1	10
Greece	2	8
Germany	7	8
France	9	8
Finland	1	8
Egypt England	4	8
	2	8
Denmark	3	8
Costa Rica	1	9
Columbia	2	9
China	1	10
Chile	1	9
Canada	28	7
Brazil	1	9
Belgium	2	8
Bahrain	1	8

W. Thomas Weir President, IEEE Reliability Society

Chapter Activities

Cleveland

The annual mid-year social was held at NASA LeRC, Guerin House. Old friends and new members got together for an evening of relaxation and a cold buffet. No speaker was used. Pool, ping pong and dancing were enjoyed by many.

Our January meeting was on NASA activities. Larry Ross, Center Director, took some time out of his busy schedule to bring us up to date on current events within the agency. The Red/Blue Team reports were discussed. Total quality efforts are being implemented. Many improvements were explained. Progress is being made on our Journey to Excellence. A timely, well received topic.

Our 5th meeting was on HDTV: Where we are; where we are going. This meeting was from The Learning Center Live Satellite Videoconference Seminars. Fourteen experts: Carey Carnona, et al talked about: HDTV and ATV Briefings, HDTV Standards and Regulations, Managing the ATV Standards, HDTV Appli-

cations, Electronic Cinema, From Past Production to the Future, Current Status of Projection Equipment, High Definition Production Equipment and Quality Considerations, HDTV and Film Interface. This meeting was very informative. Some could only get the notes.

RAMs '94 just about broke even. An earthquake and bad weather took their tolls. Hope we can do better next year. Our chapter will help RAMs '95 on the Publicity Committee.

Our community outreach project has made some progress. Six volunteers were obtained to staff the Program Committee. Dr. Pieter Cath will be Chairperson of this committee. A Call-for-ideas has been issued. This team can put together a nice one day workshop to build our "commaradery" in Cleveland.

All-in-all here in Cleveland we are having fun serving as volunteers.

Sincerely,

Vincent Lalli Chairperson, Cleveland Chapter

Dallas

The Dallas IEEE Reliability Society has had an outstanding 93/94 season. The average attendance at each meeting has been approximately twenty five (25) people and the speakers have been outstanding. A variety of topics related to device reliability, system reliability and defense and commercial electronics business have been presented and topics on power system reliability, software reliability and digital micromirror device reliability are upcoming. A brief listing of the topics and speakers that have contributed to our success is given below:

Month/Year	Topic	Speaker
Sep 93	Effects of Electrical Overstress and	Dr. Charvaka Duvvury (TI)
	ESD in ICs	
Oct 93	Reliability and Customer Satisfaction	Jack Bedwell
	in American Products	(Ford ELD)
Nov 93	Fighter Design from a Soviet	W.R. "Monty" Montgomery
	Perspective	(Lockheed Ft. Worth)
Dec 93	"Inside the Beltway", A Current View	Tom Fagan
	From Our Nation's Capital	(ITT Defense & Electronics)
Jan 94	IC Package Inspection With C Mode	Dr. Tom Moore
	Acoustic Spectroscopy	(TI Central Research Labs)
Feb 94	Scanning Electron Microscope	Dr. Edward Cole Jr.
		(Sandia National Labs)
Mar 94	Electric Power System Reliability	Mark Carpenter
		(TU Electric)
Apr 94	Software Reliability Methodology in a	Mark Neal
	Medical Device Environment	(Abbott Labs)
May 94	Digital Micromirror Device Reliability	Mike Douglass (TI)
		Bill Grim
	CI :	D 11 TEEE D 11 1 111 0 '

Chairman, Dallas IEEE Reliability Society

Los Angeles

Our currently elected officers for 1994 are:

Chair Dave Franklin
Vice-Chair Winnfort Myles
Secretary Myron Lipow
Treasurer Winnfort Myles
PACE Tyrone Jackson
Student
Activities Tyrone Jackson

Membership Irv Doshay
Program Loretta Arellano

Many chapter officers participated in RAMs where we were invited to be on the Host committee. This is the second time our chapter has been able to participate on the Host committee while RAMs has been in the Los Angeles area.

Two of our chapter officers, Dave Franklin and Winnfort Myles, were honored during 1994 Engineers Week at a luncheon where they were inducted into the College of Fellows of the Institute of Advancement for Engineering.

Meetings conducted this period include:

- August 93 Andrew Shapiro of Hughes Electronics, gave us a presentation titled: Integrated Passive Components and Multi-Chip Modules (MCM). MCMs are claiming to be the packaging of the future.
- November 93 Dr. John Carneghi of Hughes Aircraft, gave us a presentation on Avionics Design for Quality Assurance Systems. It was well attended especially by Hughes Aircraft employees.

We have scheduled a presentation on a Comparison of DoD vs. Commercial Software for March 94. We are also planning presentations on Electric Vehicles, Defense Conversion, Software Safety, and Quickring Controller.

Our Bulletin Board is very active with over 400 subscribed members. Membership is free. We offer meeting information, Jobline, E-Mail, Video Tape Exchange information, Shareware and Demos. The phone is (818)768-7644, 300-2400 baud. Our Videotape Exchange program currently has over 150 videotapes available. The latest listing can be viewed and downloaded through the bulletin board.

Loretta Arellano Los Angeles Chapter

Switzerland

During 1993, the Swiss Reliability Chapter organized, in cooperation with the Reliability Laboratory of the Swiss Federal Inst. of Technology (ETH), 6 meetings, one Industry-University Meeting, one international conference (EOBT 93), one national conference (Design Rules for Reliability) and two courses (Impurities in Silicon Wafers: Causes, Effects on Functionality, and Analysis; Reliability and Maintainability of Equipment and Systems).

Highlight of our activities has been the 4th European Conf. on Electron Beam Testing of Electronic Devices (EOBT 93). Beside the newest developments of the electron and optical beam techniques, which are nowadays quite standard in the industrial environment, it explored the capabilities of the most recent applications of the internal probing methods using Scanning Tunneling and Atomic Force Microscopes. EOBT 93 has been very successful with 114 participants from 14 countries, 33 full papers in 9 sessions, 17 poster papers, and 6 exhibitors.

The following activities are planned for 1994:

Conferences:

Oct. 20 - National Conf. on Reliability Aspects of the Surface Mount Technology (SMT) ETH room ETF E1

Courses:

March 2-3 - Failure Mechanisms and Failure Analysis of VLSI-ICs (M. Ciappa), ETH room ETZ E6

April 6-8 - Reliability and Maintainability of Equipment and Systems (Professor A. Birolini, in French), GESO, Geneva

Sep. 14-16 - Surface Analysis Methods for Microstructural Applications (P. Jacob), ETH room ETA F5

Oct. 18-19 - Quality and Reliability in Microelectronics and Microsystems (M.Ciappa ad P. Jacob), ETH room ETZ E7

Meetings:

Feb. 3 - Fault Tolerant Continuous Linear Processing Using a Recursive Kalman Corrector (Professor G.R. Redinbo, UC Davis)

March 14 - Statistical Methods in Reliability Theory (Professor I. Kovalenko, Ukrainian Academy of Sciences, Kiev), ETH room ETZ E6

May 9 - Distributed Fault Tolerance: Distinguishing Between Data and Control (Professor G.R. Redinbo, UC Davis)

May 16 - Reliability of Distributed Systems (Professor I.C. Bacivarof, Polytechnica Bucharest)

May 30 - Charge Loss in EPROMs with ONO Interpoly Dielectric (M. Herrmann, ETH Zurich)

June 20 - Software Quality and Reliability (Professor F. Popentiu, Polytechnica Bucharest)

July 24 - Point Processes in Reliability Theory (Dr. B. Gerlach, Humboldt Univ., Berlin)

The meetings take place at 5:15 pm at the ETH Zurich, room ETF C1. For further information please call Ms. Karin Ambuehl at +41 1 632-2743, fax: +41 1 251-2172, e-mail: birolini@nimbus. ethz.ch.

Alessandro Birolini Chairman

Chapter Awards at RAMS

The reliability society presented its annual award to Mr. Ted W. Keller for his contributions to the reliable software for the U.S. Space Shuttle program. He is a Senior Technical Staff Member of the IBM Houston facility. He is also the Assurance manager for the Space Shuttle program. This program may be the only program in the world to qualify at a maturity status of 5 on the Software Engineering Institute maturity scale. It is judged to have six sigma quality. This has certainly been a world class software ef-

fort and it is with great delight that the reliability society presented this timely recognition.

The reliability society also recognized the fountain head of some of its best efforts. This is the three universities that have taken leadership positions in the field of reliability. These were:

 Dean Ernest T. Smerdon and the school of engineering and mines, University of Arizona for promoting to research and pedagogy in reliability engineering. Dean George E. Deiter and the college of Engineering, University of Maryland for contributions furthering the field of reliability engineering and reliability education.

 Dean J. Przemienicki and the school of engineering, Air Force Institute of Technology, in acknowledgment of academic leadership in pedagogy and research in Reliability engineering.

All award winners receive plaques. The annual award winner also receives an honorarium of \$500. The winners are determined by the awards committee which is always headed up by the past president. This year and next that will be Dr. Samuel Keene. Other members this year include: Dale Butler, Bob Jaquess, Bernie Bang, Al Plait, and Tom Fagan. Any nominations to be considered can be made to Sam Keene.

The 1993 Chapter awards were also announced at the AdCom meeting. While we have a number of very active chapters, only three can win the top honors. This year, the top Chapters and their awards were:

- First Place, Dallas, TX, \$500
- Second Place, Philadelphia, PA, \$300
- Third Place, Cleveland, OH, \$200

Our congratulations to Bill Grimes (Dallas), Fulvio Oliveto (Philadelphia), and Vince Lalli (Cleveland) for an outstanding job. We also encourage them to continue their excellent work.

Chapter awards are based on criteria that include such things as meetings, workshops, member participation in IEEE and outside activities, authorship/presentation of papers, etc. All chapters are eligible to compete; however, your activities must be documented and submitted to the evaluation committee. All submissions receive a minimum of \$100 and three lucky entrants will receive larger checks for their contributions to the Society and the Reliability profession. Consequently, the relatively small effort to fill out the paperwork and mail it in has a guaranteed reward that many of you have missed out on. A number of chapters known to be quite active slipped up this year and didn't send in their entries - we know you're out there - let's hear from you next time around and we will reward the effort.

Reliability Society AdCom Summary The AdCom meeting was held January 24, 1994 at the Anghaim.

The AdCom meeting was held January 24, 1994 at the Anaheim Marriott in Anaheim California. The next AdCom meeting is scheduled for April 11, 1994 at the Fairmont Hotel, San Jose, CA. AdCom meetings are open to any member. The July meeting will be held at IEEE Headquarters in Piscataway and the Fall meeting at the University of Maryland once again.

It was reported that turnaround time to publish Transaction articles is 15 months. This is primarily due to 9 months of review. Tom Weir agreed to appoint a committee headed by Hank Malec to evaluate existing review criteria and make a recommendation for improvement. The committee should report at the next meeting. Bob Schlentz recommended that un-refereed papers be put onto a Bulletin Board in order to utilize what information is available.

Mike Pecht reported that the industry version of MIL-STD-785 equivalent project is not a substitute for 785, but rather a new document that will address the same items. The first draft will be available prior to the next AdCom meeting and it was recommended that Mike Cushing give a presentation on its status at the next meeting.

Dr. Bob Kahrman, IEEE Education Committee, gave us a presentation on IEEE Satellite Videoconferences. It was proposed and agreed that we produce one on Software Reliability. IEEE has ran 7 courses to date.

Dick Doyle reported that a listing of Distinguished Lecturers has been published.

There are presently 3400 active members as of the end of 1993 including students.

The International RAMQ Conference was canceled.

New Reliability Society AdCom Members-At-Large were elected to a three year term ending in December 1996. The current AdCom members are shown below:

To 31 Dec 95 To 31 Dec 94 To 31 Dec 96 Loretta Arellano Dale Butler J. Adams Joseph Gruessing Gary Kushner Henry Hartt * Dev Raheja Marvin Roush Vincent Lalli Dennis Hoffman Henry Malec Richard Kowalski Richard Doyle Michael Pecht J. Thomas Thad Regulinski Alan Plait W. Weir *

Note: * indicates second term - ineligible for reelection

Loretta Arellano Secretary, Reliability Society

Free Proceedings

Your Reliability Society has a large number (over 300) of surplus copies of the 1992 IRPS and the 1993 RAMS proceedings on hand. We also have a small number (less than 30) of 1992 RAMS Proceedings.

Reliability Society members who did not get a copy of any of these and want one, may request a copy by writing the following address. Requests should identify the proceedings desired and confirm that the requester is a member of the Reliability Society. Requests will be filled only so long as supplies last. We have only the proceedings listed. Send to: Anthony Coppola, IITRI, 201 Mill Street, Rome, NY 13440-6916.

The Reliability Society will also honor requests by Academic Institutions for multiple copies of any of these proceedings for educational purposes, so long as supplies last. (e.g. We would be happy to provide a copy of a proceedings for every member of a class on reliability, if we have enough.) Individual Reliability Society member requests will have priority.

IEEE-USA Electronic Mail Services

IEEE United States Activities (IEEE-USA) is continuing to expand its distribution of information by electronic mail. Three new electronic "autoresponse" files have been established with Internet and Compmail addresses to provide information on subjects of interest to IEEE's U.S. members. Several files already exist with such subjects as pensions, employment assistance, and lobbying. The new autoresponse files provide information on IEEE-USA Congressional Fellowships, Washington Internships For Students of Engineering (WISE), and Student Professional Awareness Conferences (S-PACs).

In response to messages sent to these addresses, the corresponding IEEE-USA text file is sent automatically by e—mail. Information on IEEE-USA's Congressional Fellowship program, including qualifications, application procedures, and a listing of past Fellows is available at info.ieeeusa.congfel@ieee.org (Internet) or info.ieeeusa.congfel (Compmail). For WISE program infor-

mation and application procedures, the address is **info.ieeeusa.wise@ieee.org** (Internet) or **info.ieeeusa.wise** (Compmail). To learn about S-PACs and how they're organized, contact **info.ieee.spac@iee.org** (Internet).

To use electronic autoresponse files, just send an e-mail message to the address indicated. No subject line or text message is necessary. You message will trigger the autoresponse mechanism, which will return an e-mail file containing the requested information to your electronic address.

These autoresponse files are just a few of the many information files being developed by IEEE as a member service. For a complete listing of current files and their addresses, send your e-mail request to **info.info@ieee.org** (Internet) or **info.info** (Compmail).

For more information contact: Scott Grayson Tel: (202)785-0017

Email: s.grayson@ieee.org

Wanted! A Few Good People to Serve on the RAMS Management Committee

A few energetic volunteers are needed to fill openings on the management committee of the Reliaibility Symposium. It's a great group of people, its educational and it can be career enhancing.

The management of the symposium is accomplished by sponsor member volunteers, with the concurrence and support of their corporate, government or academic employers. The Advisory Board, which is composed primarily of senior corporate and military management individuals, provides guidance on management of the symposium.

This is an opportunity to work with other professionals in the reliability (and associated) fields and meet senior management from both military and corporate sectors that are concerned with the analytic and practical techniques necessary to improve the reliability/competitiveness of our products.

If you can secure the necessary support to attend 3 or 4 one day meetings a year, attend the symposium in January each year, are a member of IEEE Reliability Society and are interested in further details on how to join this select group on the management committee, please contact: V. R. Monshaw, 1768 Lark Lane, Cherry Hill, NJ 08003, (609)428-2342.

New 1994 IEEE Reliability Society Members

Mr. Ogunjebi T. Ayodele Sacramento CA

Mr. Mohammad H. Awedh Jeddah SAUDI ARABIA

Mr. Ivan Moscoso-Duran Oruro BOLIVIA

Mr. Magana C. Oscar Irapuato Guanajuato MEXICO

Mr. Yao-Wen Deng Hsin-Chu TAIWAN

Mr. Ting-Kai Hwang Taipei TAIWAN

Mr. Hung-Pin Chen Hsin-Chu TAIWAN

Mr. Francis E. Mann Spencer MA

Mr. Frank P. Jufano Holbrook NY

Mr. Harold A. Brassert Pittsburgh PA

Mr. Daniel J. Pearson Hayward CA

Mr. Alfred J. Clinton Sunnyvale CA

Mr. Richard K Stobart
Cambridge UNITED KINGDOM

Mr. Erik Hollnagel Lancashire ENGLAND Mr. Manbubul Hassan

Upton NY Mr. Alexander Manta

Mr. Alexander Manta
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Mr. Joe E. Fryberger Edmond OK

Mr. So Y. Youn San Jose CA

Mr. M. V. Taneja Milpitas CA

Mr. Roland Ekinge Comerio Varese ITALY Mr. Wai-Leung Chung Kowloon HONG KONG

Mr. Kazue Kato Kodaira Tokyo JAPAN Mr. M. F. Einecker, P.E.

Hoffman Estates IL Dr. William Y. Fowlkes

Rochester NY Mr. Geoffrey P. O'Donoghue

Andover MA Mr. Anthony M. Smith

Harvard MA
Mr. George Shirilla

Hickory NC Mr. Leonard E. Russo

Friendswood TX Mr. Ali Keshavarzi Albuquerque NM

Mr. Subhash R. Nariani San Jose CA

Mr. Richard LaRiuee Quebec CANADA

Mr. Jyh-Kuang Lin Hsin-Chu TAIWAN

Mr. Qidong Yang Xian Shaanxi PR CHINA

Mr. Apanah W. Ayi-Bisam Trondheim NORWAY

Ms. Maria R.Macapobre Laguna PHILIPPINES

Mr. Yeon-Suk Lee Kunsan KOREA

Mr. James L. Montgomery Hurst TX

Mr. Vittaya Tipsuwanporn Bangkok THAILAND

Mr. Hakan Ernam Denton TX

Mr. Kousi Haraguchi Shizuoka-Pref JAPAN

Mr. F. Takacs Toronto, Ontario CANADA

Mr. Claude Thibeault
Ouebec CANADA

Mr. Charles G. Mink Colorado Springs CO

Mr. Mark W. Michael Cedar Park TX

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1-800-678-IEEE

Electronic Bulletin Boards

Los Angeles Chapter

(818) 768-7644 300-2400 Baud (8N1) Free Membership — (400+ members)

Meeting information, Jobline, Email, Video Tape Exchange Information, Shareware an Demos

Statistics Bulletin Board System

(316) 265-3036 1200-2400 Baud (8N1)

Free Membership Statistics, Reliability

Computer Aided Logistics System (CALS)

(703) 321-8020 300-9600 baud 8N1 The CALS BBS is reached through this number to the National Technical Information Service (NTIS) BBS. Membership is free.

Defense Electronics Supply Center (DESC) Engineering Standardization Bulletin Board System

Latest information on many standard military electronic part drawings under the control of DESC DESC-RBBS: (513) 296-6046 300-2400 baud, 8N1

(513) 296-6046 300-2400 baud, 8N1 (513) 296-8875 9600 baud, 8N1, V.32/V.42

Sysop: Cindy Prich, (513) 296-6347

JPL/NASA Radiation Effects Data Bank

Test data on Single Event Effects and total-dose for electronic parts BBS: (818) 393-4156, 1200 baud, 8N1 (818) 306-6920, 1200 baud, 8N1

Sysop: Keith Martin, (818) 354-0319 After logon hit return and type RADATA in response username, no password

required.

DOD Field Failure Return Program
(FFRP) Reliability Bulletin Board

This Bulletin Board provides information concerning the DOD FFRP program as well as providing a vehicle for both commercial and government users to exchange ideas and information on component and system problems.

1200 baud or less 8 Data bits, no parity, 1 stop bit (315) 339-7120, Access (315) 339-7043, Questions

NEW RELIABILITY SOCIETY FELLOWS

We are pleased to announce the following Reliability Society members that are newly elected IEEE Fellows (as of 1 January 1994):

Dr. Yalcin Avasli

Hittite Microwave Corporation Woburn, MA

For contributions to the design and development of wide band gallium arsenide (GaAs) monolithic microwave integrated circuits (MMIC's).

Dr. Charles C. Huang

Anadigics Inc.

Warren, NJ

For engineering contribution and technical leadership in the development of high-volume GaAs MMIC's for commercial applica-

Prof. Hermann Kopetz

Inst. fur Tech. Informatik Wien, Austria

For contributions to the field of fault-tolerant real-time local-area distributed systems.

Dr. John H. Lau

Palo Alto, CA

For advancement of electronic packaging with special contributions to soldering science and fatigue studies.

IEEE 1994 Standards Catalog

The 1994 Standards Catalog has just been released. It provides you with a complete listing of all active IEEE Standards publications available from IEEE, along with the ordering information you need to place an order. To receive your FREE copy of the Catalog, call (908)562-3824. If you prefer, send a fax to (908)562-1571. IEEE standards can be ordered by phone at (800)678-IEEE (US & Canada), or (908)981-1393 (Outside US & Canada).

The Status of the Reliability **Technology** January 1994

In past surveys of trends in the Reliability (and Maintainability) technology, it has been predicted (by Kam Wong in 1982) that statistical analysis would yield prominence to the detection of defects, which would in-turn be replaced by emphasis on defect prevention. Other sources (Coppola, circa 1985) saw a change in the R&M engineer's mission from traditional R&M duties to the creation of R&M packages for computer aided design (CAD). The Total Quality Management (TQM) movement (starting with NBC's 1981 Special "If Japan Can, Why Can't We) called for preventing defects in lieu of finding them, improving processes in preference to testing to cull out poor product and for teamwork between suppliers and customers instead of the traditional adversarial relationship. All these ideas are evident in the current R&M technology.

In addition, the R&M discipline has always reflected the transcendent themes of the times. The declining DoD budget has supported development of methods to "do more with less" and encouraged teamwork with DoD suppliers. The national emphasis on (total) quality improvement led to policies on concurrent engineering, and the need for increased competitiveness in international markets led to a demand for dual-use technology. These added to pressure for change to traditional approaches, for example to reduce requirements for conformance to military standards, and to encourage conformance to ISO 9000, the international quality standard. The continuing development of computer aided design (CAD), computer aided manufacturing (CAM) and the integration of the two, threatens that R&M efforts not integrated into the automated process will be irrelevant.

Inside the discipline, the search for more effectiveness has led to new approaches, debates on the utility of traditional tools, and disparagement of "bureaucratic" approaches including ISO 9000.

The epitome of current trends is the replacement of the Qualified Products List (QPL) by the Qualified Manufactures List (QML) for DoD procurements of integrated circuits for new systems. OML permits the use of best commercial practice, makes it possible to use one process for commercial and military products, permits a single DoD/Industry validation, and calls for constant improvement of the production processes. The OPL system, which required the certification of individual products to government imposed criteria, is now used only for support of systems acquired before QML implementation. Current plans are to expand the QML program to include GaAs, Hybrids, multi-chip modules and chip-on-board devices. MIL-I-38535, "General specification for Integrated Circuits (Microcircuits) Manufacturing," the QML guiding document, will become a national dual-use standard in an effort supported by the Air-Force Industry Reliability without Hermeticity (RwoH) program and the Tri-service/NASA Reliability Technology to Achieve Insertion of Advance Packaging (RELTECH) program, and using inputs from MIL-H-38534 "General Specification for Hybrid Microcircuits," the Microelectronics Computer Technology Corporation (MCC) RwoH test plan, the Hughes Chip-On-Board General specification, the MCC/SEMATECH Known Good die program, the Rome Laboratory Known Good Device program, and ISO-9000. An Industry Coordinating Working Group will review and evaluate the proposed specification.

The OML program has many elements in common with the Total Quality Management (TQM) movement. It is interesting to note that the principles of TQM are being widely adopted, even as the title "TOM" seems to be going out of favor. Articles have appeared questioning the effectiveness of TQM in specified applications, and have been answered by other articles citing success stories and suggesting that the TOM name has been tarnished by half-hearted applications, and by too many consultants jumping on the TOM bandwagon in name only. Nevertheless, TOM initiatives continue under new titles such as CI (constant improvement) or TOL (Total Quality Leadership) and others including no title at all. TOM students may notice hospitals, car dealers, department stores and others trying to obtain the "voice of the customer," empowering employees and improving processes, without fanfare or labels. While the Malcolm Baldrige national quality award has taken some flak in the press, a number of regional awards have been established based on the Baldrige criteria, such as New York State's Excelsior award. TQM books, of various utility,

are flooding the market. The emphasis on constant improvement has reinforced the philosophy that there is no limit to the reliability achievable so long as effort continues. This, and other factors, has led to a deemphasis on reliability predictions and reliability qualification tests in favor of design analysis and reliability growth testing. However, predictions still have a place (for example, in logistics planning) and reliability qualification testing may be useful in small lot buys of new designs. Buyers will still consider qualification testing essential where the traditional adversarial relationship between supplier and customer has not be replaced by a more cooperative relationship.

The current needs of the reliability and maintainability discipline include the development of a "quality culture" in which all parties involved work together to produce a quality product. This is one of the tenets of TQM and one of the points in the teachings of W. Edward Deming, the recently deceased quality leader. Creating this culture is hampered by autocratic tradition and existing bureaucracy. For example, the Federal acquisition regulations (FAR's) governing U.S. Government purchases discourage teamwork between suppliers and customers. The FAR's rely on demonstrated compliance to government standards as the means of assuring quality. Ironically, it is increasingly believed in government agencies that private industry has a better handle on quality than the government and the adoption of commercial practices is fre-

April 1994

quently proposed. Even more ironic is that commercial reliability programs are often based on military standards, without the formal proofs of compliance.

A current requirement for suppliers of

designated products for Europe is com-

pliance to ISO 9000, the international

quality standard. ISO 9000 has been

hailed by some as the means for estab-

lishing a universal quality culture and condemned by others as counterproductive. ISO 9000 usage requires a "third party" to certify that a supplier's quality system is compliant to stated general standards. The intent of this certification is to remove the need for the customer to audit the supplier. A problem for American Suppliers is that there is no guarantee that the customer will accept certification by an American third party. The American National Standards Institute and the American Society for Quality Control have established a Registrar Accreditation Board (RAB) to examine and certify the competence of third party auditors. It is intended that RAB accreditation will be accepted by European customers, but this arrangement is not yet established. As a result, while ISO 9000 is intended to encourage free trade, there are some fears that it may become a trade barrier. It should also be noted that ISO 9000 provides for certification of a quality system, not of the quality of products produced under that system. Hence, to insure competitiveness it may be necessary to qualify to ISO 9000, but it is not sufficient. Philip Crosby, the author of "Quality is Free" commented that a company certified to ISO 9000 tends to stop trying to improve. Such a company may become worse off for its efforts. It should also be noted that Japan did not need ISO 9000 to become the world's quality leader. Their success came because the Japanese suppliers used quality as a selling point, and therefore did not need to be forced to comply with a quality standard imposed by the customer (a quality culture existed). However, it must also be noted that Japanese companies are adopting ISO 9000 as a competitive necessity, and in some cases have used ISO 9000 certification in lieu of customer audits.

A dominant technology trend is the advance of computer aided design (CAD). Some designs would not be possible without CAD, and the time required for manual design procedures is increasingly a liability in today's hotly competitive environment. The ease of modifying a proposed design on CAD and the power of the computer for analysis are assets for designing in reliability. On the negative side is the need for reliability analysis packages able to interact with the CAD programs. The current situation, in both hardware and software reliability, is that "islands of automation" exist which do not interact with each other.

Needed, therefore, is the integration of reliability engineering tools with each other and with CAD packages. The IEEE Reliability Society has been addressing the issue in an annual workshop on computer aided engineering which in January 1994 became an adjunct to the Annual Reliability and Maintainability Symposium. The Army Armament Research Development and Engineering Center and the Air Force Armstrong Laboratory have a joint program called RAMCAD (Reliability and Maintainability Computer Aided Design) to develop a prototype integrated capability and to apply artificial intelligence as a design aid. Rome Laboratory is also establishing a framework for integrating reliability, maintainability, testability and manufacturing into a designer's computer, and developing specialized packages such as one to analyze the susceptibility of a circuit under design to electromigration.

Related needs are the design of userfriendly reliability packages, and the development of a hardware description language for analog and hybrid circuits. VHDL (the VHSIC Hardware Description Language) has done much to enhance the exchange of automated information between designers of digital circuits; an extension of VHDL to other types of circuits is still to come, but is under development at Rome Laboratory.

Another need to make reliability analysis an effective part of CAD is an understanding of the failure mechanisms in new technology such as GaAs, multichip packages and 3-D packaging. Powerful tools such as finite element analysis can determine temperature and stress values within a design, but the connection between stress and failure must be established and quantified.

The cost of software and the dependency of modern systems on it make software reliability a critical issue. Software maintainability, meaning the ability to make changes without introducing errors, is also important. Yet too many programs are still produced more as artistic creations than as engineered products. Invocation of MIL-Std-2167A, the software development standard, has not alleviated the problem; one software specialist called the standard "at best neutral" to software reliability.

However, a trend to designing-in software reliability does exist. The error-reducing methods of M.E. Fagan are in wide use. More developers are automatically collecting and routinely using software metrics. Computer Aided Software Engineering (CASE) tools are being developed to aid in improving software quality. Here again, islands of automation exist which do not work together. A joint service program called I-CASE (Integrated Computer Aided Software Engineering) is being pursued to bridge the gaps.

Also, a Software Quality Framework has been developed by Rome Laboratory. It was adapted by Japanese software producers who reported that it enabled them to increase software reliability and simultaneously lower costs. The framework is being applied to a variety of programs by a consortium of Rome Laboratory, Grumman, SoHar, TRW, CTA, Frontier Engineering and Hughes. Members of the consortium will exchange data to evaluate and refine the techniques included in the framework.

Concerning maintainability, Air Force analysis of operations in Desert Storm found there was too long a "logistics tail" in the combat zone and resurfaced the need for two level maintenance (flight line and depot) with no intermediate shop. Current efforts to meet this need include the Integrated Maintenance Information System (IMIS) program by Armstrong Laboratory to (among other things) demonstrate a portable maintenance aid which can obtain needed diagnostic information by radio links. IMIS technology is being developed with the aid of the Air Force F-16 and F-22 Program offices, the Navy David Taylor Research Center and the Navy Ocean Surveillance Center. The portable maintenance aid was tested on Navy F/A-18 flight control system failures and proved superior to the standard paper manuals. Also pertinent is a Rome Laboratory program to develop design tools to create an integrated chip to system diagnostics capability built into the product.

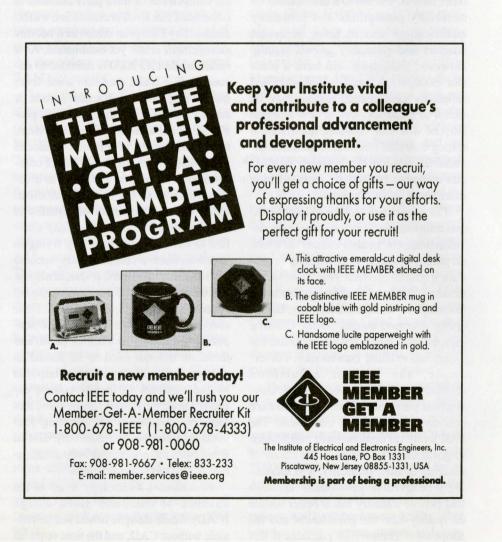
A popular development of Rome Laboratory has been the Time Stress Measurement Device (TSMD). Originally designed as a self-contained unit to measure temperature, temperature cycling shock, vibration, and the presence of moisture in an equipment bay, a second generation TSMD was designed as a hybrid microcircuit which could be integrated into a printed circuit board. TSMDs are currently flying in 40 B-1 aircraft. A third generation TSMD is now in development which will add the capability to measure the electromagnetic environment. One potential user is the FAA.

Though widely used for parts testing, accelerated testing has not yet been prac-

tical on the equipment level. A Rome laboratory study suggests that the empirical methods used in the Statistical Design of Experiments could be employed to determine acceleration factors for equipment

Finally, papers on Fuzzy Logic are starting to appear in the reliability literature. The 1994 Annual Reliability and Maintainability Symposium includes a session on its applications to reliability and maintainability. The importance of this trend is not yet apparent. However, most of the authors seem to be affiliated with academic institutions, and it is possible that the esoteric papers on redundancy modeling so common in the literature will in the future be replaced with esoteric papers on fuzzy logic analysis

Anthony Coppola Chairman, Advanced Technology Committee IEEE Reliability Society



Reliability Program Standard Survey

The IEEE Reliability Society is developing a Standard Reliability Program for product development. Results of this survey will be used in the development of the new standard. Please take a moment to fill out the survey and mail to:

DIR, USAMSAA

ATTN: AMXSY-RP (T. Stadterman)

Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD 21005-5071

- 1. Which of the following categories describes your organization? (Circle all appropriate)
- a) Computers industry
- b) Communications industry
- c) Aircraft industry
- d) Automotive industry
- e) Consumer electronics
- f) Defense industry
- g) Other (please specify)
- 2. What position do you manage or perform?
- a) Reliability Engineer
- b) Research and development
- c) Design Engineer
- d) Production, manufacturing, process engineering
- e) Quality control/assurance, production testing
- f) Other (please specify) _
- 3. My organization operates as a: (Circle all appropriate)
- a) Product designer
- b) Product manufacturer
- d) Customer/contract office for product design
- e) Customer/contract office for product manufacture
- 4. What is the size of your organization?
- a) small (1-100)
- b) medium (100-1000)
- c) large (>1000)

For questions 5-7, please note the letter(s) of the appropriate standards. If another standard applies, please specify.

- a) MIL-STD-785
- b) ARMP-1
- c) IEC-300
- d) Internal standard
- e) No reliability program standard
- 5. Which of the above standards do you use?
- 6. Which of the above standards are you contractually obligated to use?
- 7. Which of the answers in question 6 would you use if not contractually required?

For questions 8-10, please note the appropriate letter(s) of the following tasks.

- a) Reliability program plan
- b) Control of subcontractors and suppliers
- c) Program reviews
- d) FRACAS
- e) Failure review board
- f) Reliability modeling
- g) Reliability allocation
- h) Reliability prediction
- i) FMECA
- j) Environmental stress screening
- k) Reliability development/growth test
- 1) Acceptance tests
- 8. Which of the above tasks do you perform?
- 9. Which of the above tasks do you believe are important?
- 10. Which of the above tasks do you believe should be included in the IEEE Reliability Program Standard?
- 11. Which of the following would you like to see in a reliability program standard? (circle all appropriate)
- a) More processed based approach/less task oriented
- b) More science based/engineering approach
- c) A process in which root causes of failures are eliminated before product is built and tested
- d) More statistical tests and predictions
- e) More tasks
- 12. Please provide any other comments on MIL-STD-785, or any other reliability program standard you use, to help us develop the IEEE Reliability Program Standard.

OPTIONAL INFORMATION

Organization	Mid Markachara 1 1 1	Park Friday
Address		
		THE WAR

Phone Number______Email Address

Conference Calendar

DATE & PLACE

CONFERENCE

CONFERENCES 1994

2-4 May Loews Anatole Hotel Dallas, TX 6th Annual Society for Automotive Engineers (SAE) International Reliability, Maintainability & Supportability (RMS) Workshop & Exposition

Overall Theme — "RMS in a Changing Global Environment" ... We are moving from a defense-dominated environment to multinational military and commercial industries and customers. The defense customer base is shrinking, the new commercial markets are demanding and growing, and development funding is disappearing. In this environment we must be customer focused and responsive, able to work efficiently with multi-national task teams, and capable of producing world-class products the first time. Reliability and supportability of commercial products must become such that they can be applied to military requirements. This workshop addresses the methodologies, techniques and tools that are available to RMS practitioners.

Workshops — The workshops are unique in that the emphasis is on interaction among facilitators and the participants. The facilitators will solicit comments from the participants and provide the atmosphere for dialogue. The annual workshop is sponsored by the SAE G-11 Committee and the SAE Engineering Meetings Division as a major initiative for improving product effectiveness and quality. The goal is a more competitive product. Technical interchange sessions are focused on:

- Reliability
- Maintainability
- Supportability
- RMS Integration
- Systems Engineering

Tools & Resources Exposition — This expanded feature of the workshop will highlight the latest RMS software tools and resources that are available to the RMS engineers. RMS specialty software and CAD vendors will be on hand to demonstrate their latest software tools and to show how these tools could simplify RMS tasks.

Registration — The fee for the RMS Workshop is \$675; SAE Members \$595. The fee includes admission to the Keynote Address, Technical Interchange Sessions with handout materials, reception and exposition, luncheons on May 2 and May 4, and morning and afternoon refreshment breaks. For additional information, please contact Elizabeth Demoratz, SAE Engineering Meetings Division, (412) 776-4841, X391. Registration is limited.

23-26 May SUNY Institute of Technology of Utica Rome, NY 1994 IEEE DUAL-USE TECHNOLOGIES & APPLICATION CONFERENCE

Theme: Emerging Technologies - Transitioning Challenge to Commercial Applications

The Dual-Use Conference was established by the Mohawk Valley Section of the IEEE in 1991 to provide an active forum for DOD

and Universities to showcase their leading edge technologies, and for commercial industry to brief successful applications of technology which have improved productivity and/or competitiveness. Last years conference highlighted the Advance Research Project Agency (ARPA) Technology Reinvestment Program. Dr. Lee Buchanan of ARPA has been invited back to give a progress report on the program. This year Mr. Norman R. Augustine, Chairman and CEO of Martin Marietta, will receive an honorary Doctor of Science degree from the State University of New York during the conference. As in the past, there will be a plenary panel of well respected government, business, and academia professionals who will share their experiences and visions.

The technical program will include the presentation of about 340 papers in eleven parallel sessions emphasizing the challenge of transitioning emerging technologies to commercial applications in Photonics (holography, display techniques, optical signal processing); Imagery (image analysis and enhancement, computer vision, photo interpretation); Visual Systems (modeling and simulation, scientific visualization, virtual environments, 3D displays); Information Systems (human-machine interfaces, multimedia database and display) and Quality and Reliability Assurance techniques. The Technical Committee has expanded the number of papers in medical technologies and a new track on technology for education promises to be exciting and full of opportunities.

For information, contact Charles G. Messenger, Chairman, c/o College Relations Office, SUNY Institute of Technology, P. O. Box 3050, Utica, NY 13501-3050, phone (315) 792-7113, Fax (315) 792-7222, email smls1@SUNYIT.edu.

6-8 June Wichita, KS USA Second Applied Statistics in Industry Conference

The conference will have paper presentations and workshops on the application of statistics toward solving industry related problems. Topics include:

- Robust design for producibility
- Personnel selection, hiring, and motivation
- Productivity measurement
- Equipment capability assessment
- Response surface methodology
- Time series analysis
- Optimal product-mix determination
- Facility location and layout
- Readiness assessment for JIT
- Process improvement
- Industrial experimentation
- Risk assessment
- Market forecasting
- ISO-9000, Quality
- Reliability

Keynote speakers will be Dr. George Box and Dr. J. Stuart Hunter. For more information contact, Brad Brown, (316)777-4425.

14-17 June **19th Inter-RAMQ Conference** Philadelphia Hilton and Towers

NOTE: This year's conference has been **cancelled** due to the poor response from the "Call for Papers". The next conference will probably be held sometime in 1995.

1-6 October Phoenix, AZ USA

Philadelphia, PA USA

1994 International Joint Power Generation Conference

The Reliability and Availability Committee (R&A) of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME) Power Division is requesting technical paper abstracts on the following suggested (but not inclusive) topics:

- Availability of Various Facilities
- Repowering older power plant units and their resulting availability
- Operating availability of independent power producers and cogeneration facilities
- Impact of the Clean Air Act on availability
- Availability Evaluation
 - Economic benefits of improved availability
 - Data for availability modeling analysis
- Determining availability of emerging technologies
- Predicting, tracking or optimizing availability on a unit component level
- Equipment reliability and availability specifications
- Reliability, Maintainability
- Plant betterment programs and their impact on reliability
- Reliability and availability aspects of on-line equipment performance monitoring
- Practical application of statistical methods for reliability-related decision making
- Practical applications of reliability centered maintenance concepts
- Spare parts optimization

For information: Margaret A. Johnson, P.E., Paper Review Coordinator, ASME Reliability and Availability Committee, Houston Lighting & Power Company, 12301 Kurland Drive, Houston, TX 77034, Tel: (713)945-7783.

3-5 October Washington, DC USA Third IASTED International Conference Reliability, Quality Control and Risk Assessment

Sponsors:

- The International Association of Science and Technology for Development IASTED
- The Reliability Division of The American Society for Quality Control -ASQC
- With the cooperation of the IEEE Reliability Society

Scope:

bcopc.		
- Reliability	- Probability	- Physics of Fail
- Quality Control	Assessment	- Expert System
	- Decision Making	- Tutorials
- Maintainability	- Modeling	- Simulation
 Reliability based 	- Testing	- Quality Cost
design	- Software	- Concurrent
- Fault Detection	- Trend Anaylsis	Design
- Network	- Safety	- Risk
Reliability	Management	Management

- Security - Artificial - Algorithms
- Aging of Intelligence - Human Factors
Systems and Components - Fault-tolerance - Statistics
- Applications - Availability - Surveys

For more information contact:

V. Selman, General Chairman, The American University, Department of Management, 4400 Massachusetts Avenue, Washington, DC 20016 USA, Tel: (202)885-1903, Fax: (202)885-1992.

Hoang Pham, Program Chairman, Rutgers University, Dept. of Industrial Engineering, P.O. Box 909, Piscataway, NJ 08855 USA, Tel: (908)932-5471, Fax: (908)932-5467, Email: hopham@princess.rutgers.edu

4-6 October EDCC-1
Berlin, Germany First Eur

, Germany First European Dependable Computing Conference

Organized By:

- Joint Technical Interest Group "Fault-Tolerant Computing Systems" of the GI, ITG and GMA, Germany
- AFCET Working Group "Dependable Computing", France
- AICA Working Group "Dependability in Computer Systems", Italy

Under the auspices of the Council of European Professional Informatics Societies (CEPIS)

In Cooperation With:

- GI Technical Interest Group "Dependable IT Systems"
- GI Technical Interest Group "Test and Reliability of Circuits and Systems"
- IFIP Working Group 10.4 "Dependable Computing and Fault-Tolerance"
- IEEE TC on Fault-Tolerant Computing
- EC-ESPRIT CaberNet Network of Excellence on Distributed Computing System Architecture
- EWICS Technical Committee on Safety, Reliability and Security (TC7)

Organizations and individuals are becoming increasingly dependent on sophisticated computing systems. In differing circumstances, this dependency might for example center on the continuity of the service delivered by the computing system, the overall performance level achieved, the real-time response rate provided, the extent to which catastrophic failures are avoided, or confidentiality violations prevented. These various concerns can be subsumed into the single conceptual framework of dependability, for which reliability, availability, safety and security, for example, can be considered as particular attributes.

This, the first European Dependable Computing Conference, aims to provide a venue for researchers and practitioners to present and discuss their latest research results and developments. Papers will be presented on theory, techniques and tools for the design, validation, operation and evaluation of dependable computing systems such as:

- Fault-Tolerant Systems and Components
- Safety Critical Systems
- Validation and Verification
- Secure Systems

lure

- Test and Evaluation
- Dependable Software

EDCC-1 is the successor of two European conference series on fault tolerance and dependability as well as on aspects of testing and diagnosis. The first series, known as the "International Confer-

ence on Fault-Tolerant Computing Systems" was organized (from 1982 up to 1991) by the German Technical Interest Group "Fault-Tolerant Computing Systems". The other series, known as the "International Conference on Fault-Tolerant Systems and Diagnostics", was annually organized (from 1975 up to 1990) by Universities and academic research institutions in the former Czechoslovakia, Poland, Bulgaria and the former GDR. EDCC will be organized every two or three years in different European

For more information contact: Dr. David Powell, LAAS-CNRS, 7 Avenue du Colonel Roche, 31077 Toulouse, France. Tel: +(33) 61 33 62 87, Fax: +(33) 61 33 64 11, E-mail: David.Powell@ laas.fr

16-19 January Washington Hilton Hotel and Towers Washington, D.C.

Annual Reliability and Maintainability Symposium

Theme: Reliability and Maintainability — The Next Generation

The changing role of the Reliability and Maintainability Engineer presents opportunities to examine our skills and capabilities, and explore new applications for our talents. As we become more visionary, we realize that we have skills which can be applied bevond the perceived limitation of our title "Reliability and Maintainability Engineer". We now move forward to "Reliability and Maintainability - The Next Generation."

Our challenge is to recognize and define how new and existing product assurance tools can be developed, applied and implemented to enhance and advance the assurance disciplines. The symposium is an excellent forum in which to share your experience and knowledge with your colleagues.



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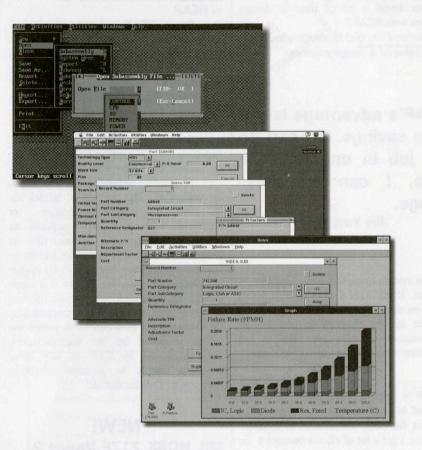
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surpassed flexibility, and its power. Now we've added even more to $\,A$ t ISD, we take pride in our continuing commitment to quality products and first class service. Your complete satisfaction is guaranfun! Just a few of the improvements include the enhanced CAD in- teed! Want to learn more? Give Relex a test drive - call today for a

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Official Newsletter of The Technology Leader - SEA, Inc.

Volume 2, Number 2

REAP_™ - The Results Speak: Reliability You Can Depend On

We surveyed our users last month, asking why they originally chose and continue to use our **REAP/REAPmate** products. We found two common themes in every response:

- 1. Big cost and time savings
- 2. Excellent customer support Here's a sample of what they told us:

"SEA has given us absolutely super customer service. REAP customer service helps us out right away, they respond when we have a question on the software. Peter even called back once while he was on a trip, just to make sure we had the information we needed. They've got a good product. Data is super easy to use."

David Batbouta Reliability & Maintainability Manager, Kollsman

"REAP support is definitely helpful. Software engineers help me directly. SEA continues to add features, they're pretty responsive to our suggestions. I've been using REAP for 7 or 8 years. I ask my new engineers to use REAP."

Jim Yoo, Reliability & Maintainability Manager, TRW

We think REAP is probably the best reliability program on the market.

David Krauss, Westinghouse

"Support's great. Any questions or problems, somebody is always there to answer."

Dom Grieco, VP Product Support Stratus Computer

"SEA product support is very good, they are very responsive. Most of our suggestions and comments have been incorporated in the updates, which have been pretty timely."

David Krauss, Westinghouse

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Bill Lanier, Principal Evaluation Engineer Loral Infrared & Imaging Systems

REAP's advantage is the time savings. If I can do my job in one half the time, I can do other things.

Jim Yoo, TRW

"At the system level, there is a big savings in time. Every hour I save is time I can spend on something else that's important. I can set up the program to perform 20 environments in one run and I get significant time savings - up to 500 hours."

Jim Yoo, TRW

"REAP is quick and consistent. With that kind of high productivity software, it is difficult for other consultants to compete with me. I get a lot of clients because I do it better, faster, cheaper."

Gene Bridgers, Results MA

REAP As A Sales Tool

"Our management thinks REAP is great. We're doing more of the reliability calculations for our customers before they buy. We've made sales that way, showing customers that they can buy commercial grade parts or upgrade the parts to get better reliability. Customers can see what they're getting."

"Normally engineers use commercial parts, then I substitute with upgraded parts to show them how much longer they'll last. Sometimes you can go from 30,000 hours to 45,000 hours without spending much more for the parts. Our customers love it."

David Batbouta, Kollsman

SEA, REAP and REAPmate are trademarks of SEA Inc.

Using Manufacturers Data in REAP

Our latest REAP release allows the seamless use of manufacturers data to augment the predictive analysis capabilities of MIL HDBK 217. REAP users now enter unit hours, number of failure and confidence limits to determine a failure rate, enter the temperature at which the data was obtained, and an appropriate activation energy for that type of device. Any time the part number is recalled in the prediction, the failure rate is calculated for each temperature required, then added into the prediction. The component model can be mechanical, electromechanical electrical, because it only requires an activation energy and failure rate at temperature. Activation energies can be an important marketing tool, since the higher the value, the lower the failure rate when translating from high temperature life test to more normal operating temperatures. REAP users can now choose to accept the values proposed by the manufacturers, those proposed by '217, or any other reputable source to perform reliability predictions. Call for details.

NEW! MIL HDBK 217F Notice 2 Release Coming Soon

We project to have a release of REAP ready sometime in the second quarter of this year. This release will reflect the changes proposed in the draft of F Notice 2 now being circulated. As always, anyone purchasing Notice 2 in the draft version will receive the final release version free of charge. For more information, call Peter Bachant now at 617-762-9252.

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