



On the Web: <http://www.etaengineering.com/ieeephx.html>

The Advisor

November 2001 Volume 8 Number 11

Newsletter of the
IEEE Phoenix Area
Consultants Network

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Bruce Johnson has been out of town (in Iowa, to be precise) for the last few days, so unfortunately we don't have a President's message this month.

For those who missed the last meeting, Ed Lacey, of Helmco Consulting, gave an interesting and useful talk on preparing a written project proposal. He backed it up with stories of not only his successful bids, but of the mistakes he's made in the past. He noted that many clients want to get the consultant's knowledge for free; the trick is to reveal enough to sell them on the proposal without giving away all the details.

In the interest of getting this newsletter out before the end of the week, this newsletter will be a short one. Flu season and imminent deadlines have taken their toll.

-Editor

EDITOR'S NOTES

Although technology news has been largely eclipsed by current events, we have still had one major development: the official release of Microsoft's new XP operating system. It remains to be seen whether this will actually be significant or just a gimmick to maintain Microsoft's cash flow. Supposedly both XP's (the Pro and Home versions, the new successors to Windows 2000 and ME respectively) are more stable, now being based primarily on the NT code base. The range of supported hardware and software is also supposed to be an improvement over Windows 2000. Still, I wonder how many people will actually rush out to buy the upgrade.

Probably most people will get it only when they buy a new system that comes with it automatically.

As always, the consumer version is significantly cheaper than the business version. What's changed is that since the code base is now the same, "Home" appears to be, in some respects, a crippled version of "Pro." The most controversial "feature" of the "Home" version has been some gaping security holes in its TCP/IP interface, which some security experts say could be a boon to the disseminators of worms and viruses. I've always been opposed to that "hobble the product" concept, unless it's a free trial version. Add tools and goodies for the deluxe version, but don't mess with the basic OS functionality.

But what really bothers me is the "activation" requirement. I can understand that some companies might feel the need to adopt this kind of scheme to battle piracy-- but not Microsoft. It has a guaranteed income from practically every PC sold. It's also difficult to transfer the OEM version of the operating system; these days, they customize it for the machine. So what's the big deal if someone reuses an upgrade? Before you accuse me of condoning piracy, consider this scenario: you want to recycle an old PC that just won't accommodate the latest resource hog from Redmond, for example, as game machine for the kids or an email station for some family member who has no computer. That older version of Windows will run reasonably well-- but wait, Microsoft doesn't sell that any more! (The obvious solution is to use Linux instead, but despite its advantages, it can still be a bit challenging for the technically uninitiated.)

So for the time being, I've decided to call it quits on MS's obligatory upgrade path. Next time, I'll build my own machine, or maybe even wipe the disk and request a refund from the OEM (My Linux cohorts have said that this can be done.) I've always said that the government should leave

Continued on Page 2

IEEE PHOENIX AREA CONSULTANTS NETWORK MEETING NOTICE

WHEN:

Thursday, November 8th, 2001
Social and check in at 6:30 PM, Dinner at 7:00 PM
Choice: Meeting participants may order from the regular menu. Meal options include soups, salads, burgers and fries, veggie plates, and American classics such as chicken-fried steak, baby-back ribs and pot pie.
Business meeting starts about 8 PM

WHERE:

The Black-Eyed Pea Restaurant in the Scottsdale Pavilions. Located just off the Pima Freeway (Highway 101), at 8909 E. Indian Bend in Scottsdale.
Phone: (480) 348-0337

COST:

Meal cost is between \$7 and \$12 per person. If you come at 7:30 or so and do not eat, there is no charge. **NOTE:** Since January 2000, each visitor has been allowed three "free" meetings (that is, the same cost as members), after which there will be a \$10.00 surcharge.

PROGRAM:

THE NEW PACN WEBSITE:

Paul Everett will chair a roundtable discussion on the new PACN website.

RESERVATIONS APPRECIATED:

Advanced reservations are always appreciated, so please email your reservations to Bruce Johnson at bruce.johnson@ieee.org at your earliest convenience.

Editorial - from Page 1

Microsoft alone, unless they've done something that's genuinely fraudulent. But defending them on principle doesn't mean I should feel obligated to use their products.

Political disclaimer: My preoccupation with security does not construe support for the government's so-called "anti-terrorism" regulations. True security depends on the individual need for self-defense of property and privacy, which is exactly what these government "security" policies aim to forbid in all areas of our lives. Freedom is not the enemy of security, it's an essential partner. To quote Benjamin Franklin, "They that can give up essential liberty to obtain a little temporary safety deserve neither liberty nor safety."

Vaughn L. Treude, Editor

URL's Of Possible Interest

The following URL's may be of interest to IEEE PACN members:

❖ www.ieeeusa.org/business/

This is the home of the IEEE's Consultant's Networks, plus resources for entrepreneurs, researchers, and others seeking information on grant and business opportunities

❖ www.ieeeusa.org/employment/global

Here is the place to access the IEEE-USA's Web Employment. These services, a benchmark in the industry, are being made available and promoted to IEEE members worldwide. A new global employment services Web page describes how job seekers and employers outside the United States can avail themselves of the organization's Job Listing Service, Resume Referral service and consultants database. The site also contains an invitation for non-U.S. regions and sections to contact IEEE-USA for assistance in promoting these services to their members.

❖ www.ieeeusa.org

The above is a good general website for all of us in the PACN. All IEEE PACN members, who are IEEE members, are strongly encouraged to obtain an IEEE email address, i.e. SMTL. You may

do this quickly by starting at this URL.

❖ <http://ewh.ieee.org/r6/phoenix>

This is the URL for the IEEE Phoenix Chapter.

MEETING NOTICES

NOVEMBER 8th MEETING

Paul Everett will chair a roundtable discussion on the new PACN website.

DECEMBER 13th MEETING

December is traditionally our annual business meeting, in which we elect officers whose terms are expiring, and consider any bylaw changes that may have been proposed.

Internet Resources: The IEEE Phoenix Area Consultants Network maintains a web site with resumes of all members who wish to post one. It is a member benefit that is paid for in your membership fees. In addition there is a national directory of consultants and a national web site maintained by IEEE. PACN member web sites are listed below:

ADVISOR MEMBER LIST

November 2001

Name	Phone	FAX	email	Area of Expertise
Baxter, Dr. Gene K., P.E.	480-832-7744	480-832-7744	baxter@forensicgroup.com	Forensic mech. engineer, prod. liability, personal injury
Everett, Paul M.	480-706-4753	480-706-4753	peverett@everettinfrared.com	Electro-optics / Infrared technology
Garrett, Lane S., PE, CEM	480-966-1380	480-966-1516	lanegarret@aol.com	New product development, alternative energy
Gerke, Daryl, P.E.	480-755-0080	480-838-9605	dgerke@emiguru.com	Electromagnetic interference and compatibility
Goldstein, Mark A.	602-470-0389	602-470-0389	markg@researchedge.com	Information brokering, market research
Johnson, Dr. C. Bruce	480-759-2826	480-759-2826	bruce.johnson@ieee.org	New product development, night vision, optical sensors
Johnson, Russell R.	480-991-3787		rjohnkozar@aol.com	Program / project and quality management
Jones, Clark	480-345-3638	480-345-8793	jones@tempe.tt.slb.com	
Kawam, Elias A.	480-706-8561	480-706-8587	eklatek@mindspring.com	Space power
Koch, Edward, Jr.	602-953-2111	602-953-2111	ekochjr@worldnet.att.net	SW Project / program mgmt, embedded systems
Lacey, Herman E.	480-816-3592	480-816-3593	helmcocons@aol.com	Manufacturing, warehousing, industrial engineering
Leverance, Neil C.	480-981-8883	480-981-5117	nLever@ieee.org	Control sys., meas. & test, automation, PLC's
Maltenfort, Andrew J.	480-704-6250	480-759-3801	maltenfort@arowave.com	Photonics, fiber optics, sensors, integrated optics
Morgan, William D.	480-921-4094	480-921-4094	bmorgan@amug.org	Software design and development- Macintosh
Polischuk, Andre	602-482-0890	602-482-3979	apolischuk@aol.com	
Rose, Robert C.	480-595-1187		bob.rose@ieee.org	
Sprague, Ronald L., PE	480-962-8183	480-962-8183	r.sprague@ieee.org	Power Engineer
Sullivan, Robert M.	480-948-3242	480-948-3242	sully@goodnet.com	Product development: high perform. tech. computer pkg
Tannehill, Richard L., PE	623-435-9584	623-435-9584	rickw7rt@firstinter.net	Telecommunications
Treude, Vaughn L.	623-412-0916	623-412-0916	v.treude@ieee.org	Software design & development, SECS/GEM, industrial

MEMBER WEB SITES

PACN Site: www.etaengineering.com/ieeephx.html

Paul M. Everett	www.everettinfrared.com	Lane S. Garret	www.etaengineering.com
Daryl Gerke	www.emiguru.com	Mark A. Goldstein	www.researchedge.com
C. Bruce Johnson	www.JohnsonScientificGroupInc.com	Andrew J. Maltenfort	www.arowave.com
William D. Morgan	www.amug.org/~bmorgan	Robert C. Rose	www.gshelp4u.com
Richard L. Tannehill	members.firstinter.net/rickw7rt	Vaughn L. Treude	www.nakota-software.com