

FORMAL METHODS EUROPE

Minutes of 12th Meeting held at the European Commission, Brussels on 12 May 1995

Present :
Goran Anger
Miquel Bertran
Andrew Butterfield
Maddalena Cinnella
George Cleland
Ian Cottam
Eric Delalonde
Tim Denvir
John Fitzgerald
Marie-Claude Gaudel
Peter Larsen
Peter Lucas
Alejandro Moya
Jan Storbak Pedersen
Wolfgang Reisig
Jim Woodcock

Apologies: John Nicholls, Nico Plat, Jose Oliveira, Josep Garrell, Maurice Naftalin

1. Minutes of 11th meeting

These were accepted.

2. Matters arising

Action 9/4: Tim Denvir has approached the CEPIS secretariat who will discuss the question of FME being an associate member. Details of CEPIS associate membership were promised but have still not yet been received. A reminder has been sent. This action continues. TD

Action 10/1: Arrange for change of signatories for the FME bank account. Continues KP

Action 10/2: Done: Alejandro Moya has informed the committee that any deficit cannot be reimbursed without prior arrangement. It is therefore suggested that the organisers of FME'96 apply for reimbursement in case of any subsequent deficit. Action 12/1 JW

Action 10/3: Supply a float to the organisers of FME'96. continued: KP

Action 10/4: Done: Tim Denvir has communicated the proposed new distribution arrangement for the newsletter to FACS who have agreed.

Action 10/5: Provide a periodic report on FME to the Commission. Continues PLucas, TD, KP

Action 10/6: Done: Express appreciation to Martyn Thomas. Letters are attached to these minutes.

3. Dissemination Activities

John Nicholls had e-mailed Peter Lucas news of INESC group on software use and reuse.

Jose Oliveira had reported to Peter Lucas of a workshop given to three companies in the Olivetti group in Italy.

Nico Plat sent a report that a few new submissions had been sent to the applications database, but that progress is slow. The database should be available in a few months.

John Fitzgerald reported that the Software Reliability and Metrics Club want liaison with FME for a workshop to be held in the summer of 1996. This was encouraged. John was asked to explore this further. Action 12/2: JF

Goran Anger reported on the Swedish special interest group in Safety Critical Software associated to ENCRESS. The next meeting is on 8 June hosted by the Swedish IT society. The event will be entirely devoted to Formal Methods.

John Fitzgerald offered details of ENCRESS to anyone who required them.

Eric Delalonde suggested attaching FME meetings to meetings such as the Safety Critical SW meeting in Sweden. This was discussed and it was agreed to keep the idea in mind when scheduling subsequent meetings.

Peter Larsen agreed to ask Jonathan Bowen for a suitable extract from his WWW list of FM meetings.

Action 12/3 PLarsen

Wolfgang Reisig reported on a meeting of the National Steering Committee on Petri Nets. There will be some industrial participation in an advanced course on Petri Nets. It was agreed that this could be classified as an FME industrial seminar.

Tim Denvir will contact those who have reported FM events for details so that they can be recorded in the FME industrial seminar database.

Action 12/4 TD

4. Proposals to IVth Framework 2cd Call

Peter Larsen described the outlines of a potential proposal for supporting the industrial seminars and the maintenance of the various databases and other related activities.

George Cleland gave an account of the DTI pilot study of formal methods applications. He also reported on activities of EWICS: guidance on FMs includes a techniques directory and EWICS includes suppliers and users.

Alejandro Moya Suggested that User Networks could be a medium for proposals as well as Dissemination. Industrial relevance will be an important criterion. He suggested that several proposals should be submitted. For example Industrial Awareness, Publicity, User groups, Studies of various kinds could comprise separate proposals. The FME role in the proposal should be emphasised up-front. A supporting letter from FME could be attached.

Marie-Claude Gaudel suggested a proposal on terminology and basic concepts. Experience in the IFIP reliability WG showed that agreement on terminology was very fruitful. She suggested doing the same thing with FMs.

Other suggestions for activities were a "favourite 11" set of case studies oriented to a particular application or purpose, and an "active series" of seminars in which each series would involve the same audience progressively exploring some domain of interest.

The discussion then centred on three different kinds of proposals:

- active dissemination such as the industrial seminars
- information resources such as the databases
- user networks, taxonomies

Three project proposals emerged from this discussion, with the following prime and associate contractors:

1. Industrial Seminars. Prime contractor and coordinator: Peter Larsen, Associate contractors: Peter Lucas, Tim Denvir, Maddalena Cinnella, Andrew Butterfield, Goran Anger
2. Information Resources. Prime Contractor and coordinator: Tim Denvir, Associate contractors: Peter Larsen, John Fitzgerald, Nico Plat, Andrew Butterfield.
3. Deployment and Development of technical management guides. Prime Contractor and coordinator: Eric Delalonde, Associate contractors: Andrew Butterfield, Peter Larsen, Ian Cottam, George Cleland, Maddalena Cinnella.

(It should be understood that the individuals' institutions will be parties in the various contracts. Also, the titles of the projects given here are merely place-holders for ones chosen by the prime contractors.)

The major action resulting from this meeting is the preparation of these proposals: Action 12/5: GA, AB, GC, IC, MC, TD, JF, PLarsen, PLucas, NP

5. **FME '96**

The Call for Papers has been mailed and sent out electronically. The FME committee are encouraged to send the CFP further. Marie-Claude Gaudel asked for, e.g., names of local organisers of events etc. so that she can arrange further distribution.

In response to a question from Tim Denvir, Alejandro Moya agreed to find out if, in principle, programme committee members could be reimbursed for their travel and hotel costs for attending the whole symposium.

6. **FME'97**

There had been no response to date to Peter Lucas's invitation for bids to host FME'97. He therefore proposed Graz as a possibility, either at the university or in a very well equipped institute funded by industry which was further outside the town. It was agreed that Peter could explore these possibilities further, obtain first budgets etc. Action 12/6 PLucas

7. **Next meeting**

It was agreed to hold the next meeting at CRI in Copenhagen on 24 August. Jan Storbank Pedersen agreed to arrange this. Action 12/7 JSP

It was agreed to try to arrange two further meetings ahead of time. Peter Lucas agreed to do this, bearing in mind the desire to attach some meetings to other events. Action 12/8 PLucas

8. **Other business**

The appointment of a Finnish representative on the FME committee was discussed. All those who have proposals are asked to communicate them to Peter Lucas. Action 12/9 all

Tim Denvir
secretary FME

17/5/95

Summary of Actions

Brought forward

9/4	seek associate membership of CEPIS for FME	TD
10/1	Arrange for change of signatories	KP
10/3	Provide float to organisers of FME'96	KP
10/5	Provide periodic report to CEU	TD, KP & P. Lucas

New Actions

12/1	Apply for reimbursement in case of any subsequent deficit.	JW
12/2	Explore further liaison with SW Reliability and Metrics Club re summer workshop.	JF
12/3	Ask Jonathan Bowen for a suitable extract from his WWW list of FM meetings.	PLarsen
12/4	Contact those who have reported details of FM events for details so that they can be recorded in the FME industrial seminar database.	TD
12/5	Prepare proposals	GA, AB, GC, IC, MC, TD, JF, PLarsen, PLucas, NP
12/6	Further details re FME'97 in Graz	PLucas

12/7	Explore hosting next committee meeting at CRI in Copenhagen. (Already done at time of writing minutes).	JSP
12/8	Arrange time and place of next 2 meetings.	PLucas
12/9	Send proposals and contacts re Finnish representative to Peter Lucas.	All