

Syscomms '98 Preview

Bob Squirrell, Director, VITA Europe

With VITA Europe's Event of the Year only a few months away, now's the time to plan to attend. By kind permission of the CERN management, SysComms '98 will take place at CERN-- the world famous high-energy physics laboratory-- on March 25-26 1998. SysComms '98 is a technical conference and exhibition focused on real-time and embedded systems. The SysComms Technical Conference, organised by ESONE in association with VITA Europe, ESOFATA (the Embedded Software Association) and GroupIPC, offers a unique combination of research papers, tutorials and product presentations. No other European event in 1998 will match the breadth of information that will be presented. The event is open to all those from industry and research interested in embedded and real-time systems. The focus of the conference will be on technology and will include updates on the latest hardware and software techniques applied to real-time and embedded systems in data acquisition and process control.

SysComms '98 enjoys the sponsorship of leading specialist publications; the VITA Journal, Real Time Magazine, Embedded Systems Engineering, Systeme and Mezzanines. The conference will be supported by a product exhibition

relating the theories of technology to its practice.

The Press will be especially welcome at Syscomms '98 and arrangements have been made for a special pre-conference briefing on Tuesday afternoon, March 24, followed by a guided tour of CERN's facilities. A Companion Program (March 25, 26 & 27) of tours and daytrips is available for attendees and/or their spouses.

VITA and ESOFATA (the Embedded Software Association) will be making the most of the opportunity presented by SysComms. Key executives from VITA and ESOFATA and corporate sponsors Force and Motorola will be attending to provide highly informative presentations

on the latest developments in technology, standards and the market for boards, systems and software.

Events to watch for on the day preceding and the day following the official 2-day conference include:

- The first ever meeting of the VITA Standards Organization to be held in Europe
- Meetings of; the ESONE Executive Group and Technical Coordination Committee, the VITA Europe Advisory Board, GroupIPC, ESOFATA Members and VITA Members
- An application workshop on VMEbus for Physics Applications presented by Robert Downing of the VSO and Jan Buytaert of CERN

• A Gala Dinner to be held on Wednesday evening at a top night spot close to CERN. A special feature of the Gala Dinner will be the presentation of the VITA Europe Awards.

Updated details of the conference program and exhibition including information on registration, accommodation, travel, visiting, exhibiting and the Gala Dinner and Companion Program can be found on the World Wide Web at <<http://www.cern.ch/ESONE/Syscomms98/>> Places are limited so don't delay - book today. We look forward to seeing you there!



View of an experimental area on the LEP Accelerator at CERN. Courtesy of CERN

Program Highlights (Preliminary)- Syscomms '98

Tuesday, March 24, 1998

- Press Day
 - Press Briefing
 - Press Tour of CERN
- ESONE Executive Group and Technical Coordination Committee Meetings

Wednesday, March 25, 1998

- Tutorial Program
 - "Modular Bus Systems : A market perspective"
 - "VMEbus Standardisation - VME64x and VME64xP (VIPA)"
 - "PCI Backplane Busses"
 - "High-Speed-Logic Design: Challenges and Solutions"
 - "Real-time operating software overview"
 - "Basic Networking Technologies and Trends"
 - "Embedded Systems, Java, and the C Language"
 - "Application Deployment"

- Conference Exhibition
- Delegates' Guided Tour of CERN
- Conference Gala Dinner

Thursday, March 26, 1998

- Presentations of Technical Papers
(Visit <http://www.cern.ch/ESONE/Syscomms98/> for a complete list of titles and presenters.)
- Conference Exhibition

Friday, March 27, 1998

- VITA Standards Organization Meeting
- VITA Europe Members Meeting
- VITA Europe Advisory Board Meeting
- ESOFATA Members Meeting
- VMEbus in Physics Application Workshop