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From your Editors

Dear Readers!

This Newsletter is a product of our editorial collaboration. We hope that it will appeal to you. We are trying to make our Newsletter better, faster and cheaper. First of all, we have attempted to cut costs by converting to desktop editing and single-color printing. Furthermore, we have tried to make this publication more up-to-date by drastically reducing the interval between the editorial deadline and the time the Newsletter lands on your desk. Overseas mailing delays do still present a considerable problem, but we are working on it!

You will also find a new face on the editorial board: Gerhard Chroust, the new secretary/treasurer of the IFSR, will take primary responsibility for the Newsletter, together with our experienced editor Stephen Sokoloff. Together we hope to provide a Newsletter which deserves the prefix 'news' and which serves your interests. In each Newsletter we will provide information on past and future conferences and on relevant books on the market. We will report on the IFSR and plan to present some of its members. One section will be devoted to some new trend in our field. Since a Newsletter should not be a one-way street we invite you to provide the necessary input to make it a living connection between the members. If you have suggestions etc. please contact us.

Hoping for a good cooperation,

Gerhard Chroust, Stephen Sokoloff

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Gerhard Chroust



Stephen Sokoloff

The Future of CAST "T" for "Technology"

EUROCAST 1993 is a memory now, and CAST-gurus are already busily forging bold new plans for their next workshops and for the future of their discipline. They will increasingly emphasize the technological applications of *computer aided systems theory* (CAST) not only in their traditional engineering domain but also in such "soft" fields as peace research, city planning and even driver training.

That will necessitate the development of new models. If, however, these are merely verbal or mathematical, "nobody will take the time to try them out", maintains Franz Pichler, professor of systems sciences at the University of Linz. The probability of their acceptance will be considerably enhanced if they are made available in the form of software which is ready for immediate implementation.

EUROCAST 93 took place 21-26, February 1993 in Las Palmas (Gran Canaria, Spain). About 80 participants from 13 countries (65 of them lecturers) attended the workshop. The following sessions were held: systems theory and applications, symposium on CAST and CAD,