IFIP and its Congresses

The International Federation for Information Processing (IFIP) is a multinational federation of professional and technical organisations or of national or regional groupings of such organisations representing almost 70 countries. Its mission is to be the leading, truly international apolitical organisation which encourages and assists the development, exploitation and application of information technology for the benefit of all people. Technical Work within IFIP is done in over 80 Technical Committees, Working Groups, Specialist Groups, Task Forces, etc. A major activity of IFIP is its Congress, held every two years in different places – 1962 was the last time the IFIP Congress was held in Germany.

IFIP Congresses attract thousands of participants: managers and administrators, people engaged in research and development, in application and use, in education and training coming from all over the world.

GI and its Silver Jubilee

The Gesellschaft für Informatik e.V. (GI), the German association of informatics, was founded 1969 in Bonn in order to promote informatics in research, education, and application. GI has about 20.000 members and covers the whole range of informatics. It is a nonprofit organisation. Its official organ is the bimonthly professional journal Informatik-Spektrum.

Technical work within GI is done by more than 100 Expert Committees, Special Interest Groups and Working Groups.

The GI supports the Deutsche Informatik Akademie GmbH (DIA) which offers a high level program of continued education for professionals in informatics, as well as the International Conference and Research Center for Computer Science (IFBFI) in Dagstuhl Castle.

As a scientific society with intensive international contacts GI is happy to celebrate its Silver Jubilee by the world informatics event, the IFIP Congress '94.

Hamburg and its Congress Centrum

Hamburg has many faces: the German centre of trade and industry, a large international port, university city, shopping paradise and leisure capital.

Hamburg's international significance is underlined by the large number of diplomatic representations. No other city in the world, apart from New York, has more consulates.

The CCH – Congress Centrum Hamburg, one of the most modern and largest convention venues in Europe, offers flexibility and state-of-the-art conference technology. With its city-centre site in a park landscape and leading hotels close by, it is just a short stroll away from the shopping arcades and the Alster, Hamburg's famous city-centre lake.

Invitation

The 13th IFIP World Computer Congress will provide a remarkable opportunity for members of the Computer and Communications Communities to be a part of influencing the future of these fields which have reshaped our world in so many ways. There will be opportunities to probe the technology, to explore the impacts of that technology, to meet personally with leaders and experts across a wide range of disciplines, and to participate in a landmark series of debates to generate **action agendas** for the Computer and Communications Communities. You are invited to participate in the Congress and to contribute to it.

Congress Theme

The theme of the Congress is **Computer and Communications Evolution – The Driving Forces**. Within this theme, the Congress will address such important questions as: **are we developing the 'right' technology and applications**, **what will be the impact of these developments**, and **what should we do differently?** Research into the foundations of computer science continues to open up new possibilities for design and application of hardware and software, and some the most promising **foundations** topics will also be explored in this Congress.

Congress Goal

The Congress will focus on developments that will begin to have impact by the end of the 20th century, during the five years following the Congress. Strong emphasis will be placed on evaluating the whole field of computing and communication. The objective, when the congress is completed, is to have a good assessment of:

- What should computer and communication systems be able to do in terms of performance, applications and social impacts (What is the goal)?
- What will they be able to do by the end of the 20th century?
- What should be changed in research and development to close the gap between what systems will be able to do and what they should do?
- Is the cost of the changes worth the probable results?

Congress Message

Following the Congress, this assessment will be conveyed to the computer and communications community as a **message to the community**. Participants in the Congress will work together to reshape the future of computing and communications in the early part of the 21st century by participating directly in the development of the message. This will not be a meeting where people simply come to listen to papers and then go home. This will be a true 'Congress' where the participants will actually develop a message.

Three Phases

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