

SCIENCE AND ENGINEERING RESEARCH COUNCIL  
RUTHERFORD APPLETON LABORATORY

COMPUTING DIVISION

DISTRIBUTED INTERACTIVE COMPUTING NOTE 858

issued by  
W P Sharpe

IKBS

Meeting with Oakley & d'Agapeyeff  
14 July 1983

19 July 1983

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(see over)

## 1. PURPOSE

AA had submitted to BWO a draft CIT proposal for the Alvey IKBS marketing and awareness programme. BWO wanted to discuss it before the next Alvey Board Meeting. The draft summary is attached, more details are on file.

## 2. SUMMARY

All the awareness activities are targetted at the two sectors of industry: suppliers of services based on IKBS, users of IKBS systems and services ie. sectors C&D in the terminology of the Architecture Study report.

AA raised the issue of the need for a standard terminology in the IKBS field and suggested that when the awareness programme had established such a terminology it should be promulgated as widely as possible through such bodies as NCC and OU.

The Alvey Management Tutorial was agreed to be the correct context for the Show Me projects subject to those projects requiring no repackaging beyond professional presentation of an existing, working system.

The Alvey Tutorial Papers would seek to emulate the very successful Scientific American issue on microelectronics; they would be targetted therefore at the computer literate community that wants a technical lead into IKBS.

The Alvey Conference on "The Relevance of Applied AI to the future of Software Engineering" was seen by AA as involving practical users (invited specialists) who would provide an application focus rather than a theoretical one. BWO accepted this idea.

The Alvey IKBS Introductory Course for Software Engineers would seek to present some classic working expert systems in terms readily acceptable to software engineers. Suggested systems are MYCIN, R1 and perhaps ICLX (ICL's fault diagnosis system - if it really is in use now). BWO was not sure that Alvey money was necessary for this. The courses would initially be one week.

WPS commented that there appeared to be an overall emphasis on expert systems to the exclusion of any other IKBS. AA claimed that there was nothing else that could be sold as working today.

WPS asked what place the tutorial write up of demonstrator projects proposed in the Arch Study report would have in this awareness programme. AA had not seen the detailed projects proposed for write up. WPS agreed to send them to AA as soon as possible and suggested CIT should consider whether they could undertake the write up.

The need for an executive summary of the Arch Study was expressed by BWO with the implication that WPS should have something in hand. Such a summary would be for wide distribution to the potential user community of IKBS.

### 3. ACTIONS

The AA proposals will be discussed at the Alvey board on 18th July and appropriate contracts let as soon as possible after that.

WPS to

- send AA the Industry Group Report from AS
- set in hand executive summary of AS final report
- get mailing list for final report from Clive Glover.