Minutes of the WG10.5 meeting
held in New Orleans
Tuesday, June 22nd, 1999

Recorded by Einar Aas and Klaus Müller-Glaser

We direct warm thanks to Einar Aas and Klaus Müller-Glaser who kindly accepted to keep track in writing of all the discussions. These minutes are due to them.

The meeting started at 18.00 in Room 398 of the Ernest N. Morial Convention Centre in New Orleans on Tuesday, 22nd of June, and was adjourned at 20 :20.
The meeting was chaired by Jean Mermet.

Attendance:
The meeting was attended by: Einar J. Aas, Kurt Antreich, Edmund Clarke, John Darringer, Nikil Dutt, Manfred Glesner, Steve Johnson, Jean Mermet, Klaus Mueller-Glaser, Wolfgang Nebel, Hillel Ofek, Serafin Olcoz, Pierre Paulin, Ricardo Reis, Peter Schwarz, Donatella Sciuto, Luis M. Silveira, Alexander Stempkovsky, P.A.Subrahmanyam, Eugenio Villar, Ronald Waxman, Wayne Wolf, Akihiko Yamada.
Joe Damore was present as an observer.

Apologies:
David Agnew, François Anceau, Pete Bakowski, Mario Barbacci, Dominique Borrione, Raul Camposano, Edward Cerny, Luc Claesen, Werner Damm, Carlos Delgado-Kloos, Hans Diener, Martin Edwards, Hans Eveking, Norbert Fristacky, Masahiro Fujita, Dan Gale, Ganesh Gopalakrishnan, Werner Grass, Reiner Hartenstein, Graham Hellestrand, Masaharu Imai, Peter Ivey, Osamu Karatsu, Odysseas Koufopavlou, Thomas Kropf, David Luckham, Giovanni De Micheli, George Milne, Gerry Musgrave, Richard Newton, Adam Pawlak, Robert Piloty, Adam Postula, Franz Rammig, Michel Robert, Wolfgang Rosenstiel, Jorgen Staunstrup, Flavio Wagner,

Item 1 - Approval of agenda

The agenda was approved.

Jean Mermet welcomes the attendees and thank them for their contribution and reminds them that this meeting at DAC was planned in order give an update of the working groups' news to those members who could not attend the WG workshop in Munich.

Item 2 - Approval of minutes of the Munich meeting

Minutes of the previous meeting in Munich were accepted. Jean Mermet thanked again Adam Pawlak for writing the minutes.

Item 3 - Self introduction of Eugenio Villar and Serafin Olcoz

Jean Mermet informed the group that Francisco Corella has resigned due to new position, in which he will not be able to follow up on WG 10.5 matters. He recalls participants of the procedure decided for extending the W.G. with new members. Eugenio Villar and Serafin Olcoz were previously voted as eligible, and were invited to introduce themselves in person during this W.G. meeting.

Dr. Villar introduced his own and his research group's work on "Embedded system design" at the Microelectronics Engineering Group of University of Cantabria. The work evolves from VHDL behavioral synthesis, and now focuses on system level specification with Ada. SLDL standards, interface and behavioral synthesis are also relevant research topics (See attached slides). Subsequently, Dr. Olcoz briefly presented his work in HW/SW co-design including SLDL, and performance verification.

After presenting themselves, Eugenio Villar and Serafin Olcoz left the room. The group unanimously voted for membership acceptance of both, and Eugenio Villar and Serafin Olcoz were invited to join again for the rest of our meeting.

Jean Mermet had invited a new prospect, Joseph Damore, whose candidacy had been supplied by a copy of Damore's home page. After J. Damore had left the room, several members of WG 10.5 expressed a need for more information about the candidate. It was decided to call on Damore, and ask him to kindly supply WG 10.5 with a more detailed CV before the next meeting. He was invited as observer to the rest of the meeting.

Item 4 - Report about the "SIG-CODES" workshop by A. Jerraya

Jerraya was absent from the meeting and could not therefore give comments and preliminary report to the group about the event. Concerning the pending issues of IFIP sponsorship, Jean Mermet noted that the mentioning of IFIP sponsorship, which was said in Munich to be missing from the pamphlet of the workshop should have been written in the final program. (Since the meeting several people have confirmed that this was indeed the case and Jean Mermet has found an e-mail announcement dated January 3rd -2 months before Munich- which was mentioning the IFIP 10.5 sponsorship).

We were reminded of last meeting's decision: "WG10.5 is in favor of continuing to be the main sponsor of the CODES workshop". This implies that the general chair provides a report to the group about the event. Due to the date of the next meeting (December 1999) this report will be the same as the one that Ahmed Jerraya will send to the sponsors of the event (including IFIP secretariat) when the final figures of the event will be definitive.

Concerning the share of sponsorship of CODES by different organizations, Wayne Wolf, who was involved from the beginning, has communicated later the following precisions: " In the interest of completeness, I think I should give you an update on the memo from Klaus Buchenreider that you mentioned at the DAC meeting. The current co-design workshop was formed by the merger of two workshops. I was the program chair for the first CODES workshop at Estes Park, Colorado. Unfortunately, that wasn't sponsored by IFIP --- I talked with Luc Claesen about it but not in time to get the approval though the system. Klaus was the organizer of the CASHE workshops, which were I believe sponsored by IFIP. So Klaus is not entirely accurate when he says that IFIP has a claim on the CODES name".

Item 5 - Report on the preparation of APChDL 99 by M. Imai (Chair)

Matt Imai could not be present at this meeting. He has informed Jean Mermet that around 20 papers have been submitted. We have serious doubts about whether this could justify a conference. The possibility of sponsoring invited speakers to augment the event was aired, but resources inside IFIP for doing so do not exist. No clear recommendation to the Chair was reached during the discussion.

Another related concern was expressed by Ron Waxman, namely the future of CHDL. He wants a joint FDL/CHDL event. This raised a lengthy discussion.

One of the ideas that was discussed was Franz Rammig's suggestion to launch a series of books; "Best of CHDL", where an editorial board could select the 20-25% best papers to be edited, from FDL (Europe), HDL CON (USA) and APChDL (Asia). Jean Mermet proposed to put this problem on the agenda of the next WG 10.5 meeting, which was accepted.

Item 6 - Report about the preparation of APChDL 00 by J. Mermet (Program Chair)

Jean Mermet presented briefly the plans for APChDL 00. The idea was to organize this conference in Beijing as part of the IFIP world congress in Beijing. TC 10 will be sponsoring several events during the congress. This, and the attractive site, will probably ensure good attendance. Proper publicity is needed. The project already approved in Munich is supported by the attendees.

Item 7 - Report about the preparation of CHARME, and SIG-CHARME

The chair Thomas Kropf was not present, but wrote a report on the progress that Jean Mermet read. 50 submissions have been received, and 20 will be selected. Another dozen will be proposed as posters. The quality will be good.

Dominique Borrione and Thomas Kropf had written a proposal for a SIG-CHARME to be formed. This document has already been circulated by E-mail to WG 10.5 members. The discussion revealed that there is a strong CHARME base in Europe, and that the theme is well identified for a SIG, and that this community is well represented in WG 10.5.

However, the US response is small so far. Steve Johnson stated that he will put together a new iteration of the proposal to attract more US opinions. It was also mentioned that SIG-CHARME may lead to a successful interplay between CHARME and the industrially dominated FMCAD, and that an industry/academia co-chaired leadership of the SIG will be fruitful. Edmund Clarke expressed being in favor of the proposal. It was decided in Munich that all SIGs should be co-chaired by one academic and one industry person. Thomas Kropf has volunteered to be one of the co-chairs, providing that his company, BOSCH, gives him the authorization. A progress report on the SIG is expected to be presented at CHARME. No motions were proposed for this item. Since the meeting significant work has been done and discussions took place at CHARME 99 (see annexes).

Item 8- Report on VLSI99 by L. M. Silveira (Chair)

Luis Miguel Silveira from INESC, presented the preparations of VLSI99. The conference will take place at hotel Méridien, Park Atlantic at Lisbon. 70 papers have been submitted so far, but more may arrive, since the deadline has been extended one week. At least 4 reviewers are allocated to each paper. 35-40 papers will probably be accepted. 4 embedded tutorials will be included. 4 half day tutorials may be offered., and 2-6 invited speakers are planned for. 100-150 attendees are expected.

Jean Mermet proposed a WG 10.5 meeting, with technical content on Friday evening and whole Saturday, in conjunction with this conference. This motion was accepted by the members.

The problem to be solved is a possible overlap with the tutorials. Luis M. Silveira will look into this, and report by E-mail. In the meantime Luis M. Silveira has sent a proposal for the organization of the meeting (see annexes).

WG 10.5 expressed its sincere thanks to Luis M. Silveira for being able to organize VLSI99 in such short notice.

Item 9 - Feedback to the DATE steering committee that the IFIP group wishes

Lower fees and cheaper accommodation (Jean Mermet)
The DATE'99 event was successful, but considered to be expensive, especially for universities. It is known that DATE has accumulated a surplus. On behalf of WG 10.5, Jean Mermet wrote a letter (copy encl.) to the steering committee, where these concerns were presented. It was proposed to offer reduced fees for academics, and to negotiate reduced hotel rates.

Item 10: SIG "Embedded Systems".

Franz Rammig provided a first proposal. He is asked to prepare a position paper for next meeting entitled "Application-Driven Embedded Systems".
Franz also expressed his wish that DIPES2000 should be held. Last DIPES had 40 participants, proceedings are published as a book by Kluwer. WG 10.5 encourages continuing.

Item 11,12: discussed earlier.

Item 13: SIG "Microsystems".

As explained by Klaus Mueller-Glaser there seems to be no justification for keeping WG 10.7 "Microsystems" besides WG10.5, nor for starting a SIG "Microsystems" within 10.5. No further suggestions were made. Therefore the participants agreed on members of WG10.7 "Microsystems" become members of 10.5 again.

Item 14: FDL'99 report by Jean Mermet.

Some late papers will be accepted until July 2nd. Currently there are 72 submissions. There will be 5 to 6 invited presentations. First keynote speaker will be vice-president of ST, a second keynote speaker is still to be invited. Concerning publicity PR: 4000 copies of preliminary program were distributed at DAC in US and 25000 copies in Europe were send out. A review is requested about value of that publicity. Also there are associate meetings expected during FDL'99, as agenda is already full, potential organizers of those meetings should show up quickly.

Item 15: VLSI'99 is saved in Lisbon, thanks to all the people who made it still happen. It is not known, whether previous chair persons of VLSI were contacted - however this question is not urgent. Volunteers for organization in 2001 are needed. Questions raised were: is Australia the rigth location? (no clarification), is VLSI still the right name? (suggestion: cancel it or change name, contents of conference still make sense).

Item 16: Teleconferencing

Sponsors are needed to organize telecon meetings of the group (e.g. IBM, Hewlett Packard, ST, Synopsys, Cadence - eventually also universities). Video conferencing would be nice to have, but audio may be sufficient. There were no further discussions, as too few people were still in the meeting (12 people left).

Meeting closes at 20.20 Hours.