



PREFACE

Well, who'd have thought it? EuSpRIG all grown up and holding its second conference? And a truly international one at that ?

Since the infant EuSpRIG first took its first faltering steps at an informal meeting of two academics and a tax inspector an awful lot has happened. First, of course, was formalising three guys in a bar into a proper learned society. The support and commitment of all at the initial meeting last year was wonderful, and has been carried forward to the present.

The first conference The worry and doubt Will anyone come ? Will anyone submit a paper? Well, that was an enormous success of course, and we had to stretch the definition of "European" a little to encompass Hawaii and Singapore. Since then we've had one or two spreadsheet suppliers sit up and take notice, and the proceedings are getting quoted in the press to a surprising extent.

And now to 2001 What a line up! We have papers from the UK to New Zealand, from academics, auditors and business consultants and even one from an undergraduate and his supervisor, all addressing the theme "Controlling the Subversive Spreadsheet". At our general meeting, after the conference we will be considering our name The past two years show that "European" is just not appropriate

All this success is of course based on hard work, and I must pay tribute to (in alphabetical order) David Chadwick, Pat Cleary and Leon Strous who have worked so hard to ensure the success of this year's conference. Thanks also to our sponsors, PricewaterhouseCoopers, the Vrije Universiteit in Amsterdam and the Information Systems Audit and Control Association Northern UK chapter, whose financial and material support has been crucial in setting up the conference. Not to forget the supporters who informed their members about this event. Thanks too of course to all the contributors the visible side of the proceedings and to the small army of reviewers, who have helped assure the quality of the volume you hold. This is my last conference as Chair of EuSpRIG. My thanks to all the committee members, supporters and all others who have helped it grow. My very best wishes to all for the future.

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