



PREFACE

Welcome

We are delighted to welcome you to the biggest and most successful Eusprig conference yet! Thank you for coming, your interest is the reason for our conference.

Your presence is important to us and to the wider community of risk management professionals. You can bring back what you will learn, raise the awareness of spreadsheet risk, improve practices, and assist your organisation with compliance.

Our development

In six years, the European Spreadsheet Risks Interest Group (EuSpRIG) has grown in strength from a European to a worldwide network of academics and practitioners. Our contributors this year are from Austria, Canada, Ireland, Israel, Netherlands, the UK, and USA. In previous years we have had papers from Australia, Japan, New Zealand, and Slovenia.

Our mission is to increase the awareness of spreadsheet risk and promote methods of assessing risk, detecting errors, and improving the productivity and quality of spreadsheet development.

The most significant step forward in the past year has been the culmination of our joint work with the European Computer Driving Licence Foundation (ECDLF) in the drawing up of a syllabus which will form the foundation of a new end user certification in *Spreadsheet Check+Control*. This will be welcomed by all stakeholders who are concerned about exposure to risk from uncontrolled spreadsheet development.

Standards

Our review process involves three referees who provide feedback comments to authors. We apply strict standards of references and evidence to the academic papers, and appropriate standards of relevance and usefulness to the submissions from practitioners. This year, we received more papers than we could cope with within our now established format of a day and a half. We were sorry to have to disappoint the authors of some good work, but the competition was strong.

Thanks

We are very thankful to the speakers, whose expertise, experience, and contribution is deeply appreciated and will enrich those who hear it. We were very fortunate this year in securing our keynote speakers, Professor Ray Panko of the University of Hawaii, Dean Buckner of the Financial Services Authority, and Derek Wimmer of Wimmer Systems.



We are grateful to the sponsors who have supported us financially and professionally: our prime sponsor is SmartTech Consultancy Services Ltd (UK), along with Frontline Systems UK, Information Systems Audit and Control Association (Northern Chapter), KPMG, PriceWaterhouseCoopers, the University of Greenwich, and the University of Wales in Cardiff. These organisations have contributed a great amount of expertise in the organising of this conference, the publicity, the proceedings, and much more work done in the background. We deeply appreciate their unstinted contribution.

Special thanks are due to the committee who have given voluntarily of their time, expertise, and organisational resources, to bring this conference to its present success:

- Pat Cleary, who took on the roles both of secretary and Programme Committee chair and general factotum;
- Graham MacDonald, our treasurer who set up our euro processing facilities this year and keeps a keen eye on correct books;
- David Ward of KPMG for preparing the proceedings;
- Barry Pettifor of PwC who along with David Ward provided very valuable sponsorship of our teleconferences;
- Grenville Croll of Frontline Systems UK who manages our membership database and publicity, and performed the very important task of processing credit card payments for the conference;
- Ray Butler for the continuing underwriting by ISACA, and his own sage advice as a past chair;
- David Chadwick, our 2003 Chair, a founder member, and our member in Greenwich University;
- and all members of the Eusprig committee who gave of their time and thought in our monthly teleconference calls: Markus Clermont, David Colver, Roland Mittenneir, Jocelyn Paine, Leon Strous, and Simon Thorne.

Enjoy the conference, contribute to the discussions, benefit from the networking, and keep in touch!

Patrick O'Beime, Chairman 2005, Eusprig
Greenwich, July 2005