

BRITISH COMPUTER SOCIETY FORTRAN SPECIALIST GROUP

MINUTES of a MEETING on Tuesday,  
8th September, 1970, at B.C.S.  
Headquarters, 29 Portland Place,  
London, W.1. at 10.45 a.m.

PRESENT: Mr J.S. Gatehouse (Chairman) GEC-EE Ltd  
Mr T.D. Palmer National Coal Board  
Mr C. McCallien U,K.A.E.A., Risley  
Mr K. Bicknell Rothamsted Experimental Station  
Mr P.D. Bond Philips Industries, Croydon  
Mr J.P. Holland Tunnel Cement Ltd.  
Mr J.R. Keane I.C.L., Bracknell  
Mr K.F. James " "  
Mr M. Arif St. Thomas's Hospital Med. School  
Mr J. R. Main N.C.R.  
Mr I. E. Davidson " "  
Mr D.K. White " "  
Mr L.I. Brown Kienzle Data Systems  
Mr A.J. Hinchley Radics Ltd  
Mr J.G. Davies Ferranti Ltd., Edinburgh  
Mr J.C. Cullen B.P.  
Mr R.E. Small CAP Ltd.  
Mr B.H. Shearing Alcock, Shearing & Partners  
Dr A.C. Day University College, London  
Mr H. W. Bradly (Assistant Secretary) GEC Power Engineering Ltd.  
Mrs M. M. Barritt (Secretary) Edinburgh Regional Computing  
Centre (present for part of  
meeting)

APOLOGIES:

FOR ABSENCE Dr I.C. Pyle A.E.R.E., Harwell  
Mr I.A.G. Snowball " "  
Mr M.J. Garside University of Kent at Canterbury  
Mr D.T.Muxworthy Edinburgh Regional Computing  
Centre

APPROVAL OF MINUTES The minutes of the meeting held on 7th April, 1970, were approved.

MATTERS ARISING Standards The Chairman announced that it was likely that the B.S.I. would take the I.S.O. standard when approved as the British Standard. The I.S.O. draft has been approved for voting. Mr Flower, the Standards Co-ordinator of I.B.M., wishes to receive all documents.

REPORT of WORKING PARTIES (a) Small Machines  
Mr Garside was unable to be present himself but copies of his report were available and were distributed. Discussion followed. The Chairman asked that the thanks of the Group to Mr Garside be recorded and that he would write to him to pass on the comments of those present.

Mr L.I. Brown of Kienzle Data Systems and Mr A.J. Hinchley of Radics offered to help Mr Garside in defining a "primitive FORTRAN" for small machines as suggested at the Edinburgh meeting.

(b) Conversational FORTRAN  
Mr Bradly gave a verbal report giving details of those systems about which/

which he had collected data and promised a written report by the end of the year.

Mr Bradly also mentioned the difficulties he had experienced due to the actions of an unofficial group also collecting data and using the name of the B.C.S. FORTRAN Specialist Group.

The Chairman agreed to contact the group concerned.

(c) Extensions to FORTRAN beyond X3.9

Mr Shearing also gave a verbal report. He said he had had a good response from users to form his working party and they had divided the extensions from contributors into a number of categories. The first category, the present "de facto" extensions, would be reported on by the end of the year and would also be sent to the A.N.S.I. Committee.

WORKSHOP IN EDINBURGH It had been suggested that a two-day workshop be held in Edinburgh in May, 1971, to be run jointly by the Edinburgh Branch of the B.C.S. and the Regional Computing Centre. It was hoped that any recommendations made at the workshop could be sent to the B.S.I. by September.

This suggestion was approved and the Chairman agreed to inform the Conference Department, but the dates would be left to the Branch.

NEXT MEETING The next meeting was fixed for Tuesday, 12th January, 1971, at 10.45 a.m. at B.C.S. Headquarters.

ANY OTHER BUSINESS Algorithms Mr Shearing raised the question of Algorithms appearing in the B.C.S. Bulletin which were not in A.N.S.I. FORTRAN.

The meeting agreed that the Chairman should write to the Editor offering the services of the Group to referee FORTRAN Algorithms.

Mr Shearing announced that a new edition of the FORTRAN Dialects Report was now available at a cost of 25/- to members and £2 2s. to outside bodies.

Comments were also made about the N.C.C. Report on FORTRAN standards and the Chairman was asked to write to the Director to ask about possible liaison on matters of mutual interest.