

Europhysics Journals and the Communications Revolution

As the result of an agreement between the European Physical Society and the American Institute of Physics, all Europhysics Journals are now included in the *Current Physics Advance Abstracts* (CPAA) publication. At a meeting of Editors of Europhysics Journals in January 1973 at the EPS Main Secretariat in Geneva, A.W.K. Metzner explained the significance of CPAA to the Current Physics Information (CPI) programme of the AIP. He referred to the February 1973 *Physics Today* which describes the CPI programme as the basis of a Communications Revolution and to the November 1971 *Physics Today*. The CPI programme comprises a computerized file of secondary information covering all articles in a select set of journals (if a journal is an Europhysics Journal, it is automatically selected). It was launched in 1971 with support from the National Science Foundation — support which terminates in 1973.

CPAA is issued monthly in three sections (*Atoms and Waves*, *Nuclei and Particles*, and *Solid State*) and contains abstracts of articles about six months before publication. In this way, individual physicists keep abreast by being alerted to forthcoming articles scheduled to appear in the se-

lected journals (mainly AIP and Europhysics Journals). Obviously, there will then be some encouragement for authors to publish articles in the selected journals because their work will become known earlier. One of the main functions of the CPAA publication is that other physicists will be able to contact the authors of interesting papers before they are published, since the main author's address is given.

Other products of the CPI programme are :

Searchable Physics Information Notices (SPIN) — a computer readable magnetic tape which records the title, type, journal, volume, date, page number, abstract, key words, subject classification numbers and bibliographic references of each article.

Current Physics Microfilm (CPM) is a monthly microfilm version of the full text of all articles in the primary journals published by AIP in the previous month, including translations of Soviet journals.

Current Physics Titles (CPT) are published monthly in the same sections as CPAA and alert users to what currently appears in the primary literature in physics.

The CPI programme is gradually being integrated with the publishing of AIP journals, so that there is as little duplication of typesetting as possible. However, it is clear that the support of physicists throughout the world is needed to make the CPI programme feasible. To this end, AIP is currently negotiating with the Institution of Electrical Engineers, London (publishers of *Physics Abstracts*, *INSPEC Physics Tapes*, and *Current Papers in Physics*) to launch an integrated *World Physics Information* service in 1974.

European physicists, laboratories, institutes and libraries who wish to have further information on CPAA, or any of the other AIP services, should contact the European agents :

IEE, Savoy Place, London WC2R

Europhysics Journals

Czechoslovak Journal of Physics (Section B)

Fizika (Yugoslavia)

Il Nuovo Cimento (Parts A and B) (Italy)

Journal de Physique (France)

Journal of Physics (UK)

The Philosophical Magazine (UK)

Physica (The Netherlands)

Zeitschrift für Naturforschung A (Fed. Rep. of Germany)

These are the general physics journals included in CPAA at the date of the meeting in Geneva.

(continued from page 1)

collapses under the strain of unsupported argument, nor ignore them, which would have been unwise when society is certainly very conscious of them.

Concern with the use of knowledge emerging from physics research rippled through lectures to a far greater extent than at Florence. The Proceedings include, for example, the talk of **B.B. Goodman** on *Applications of superconductivity* and the talk of **A. Schlüter** on fusion reactors mentioned above. Potential applications were picked out in many other talks.

Thus the Proceedings of the Wiesbaden Conference is a good mirror of today's physics, not only because it summarizes the state of the art (or, rather, 'state of the science'), but also because it catches the position of physics in the broader context of society.

Editor's note : Trends in Physics is now available at Sw.Fr. 55.— (including postage), or at Sw.Fr. 50.— (including postage) to Individual Ordinary Mem-

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are limited. Members of DPG will, however, automatically receive a copy free-of-charge.

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