

MnIPS NEWSLETTER

Formerly the ACM-ASM newsletter - A Publication of the Minnesota Information Professional Society-October, 1999

NEWSLETTER INFORMATION

The MnIPS Newsletter is published nine times a year (September - June) by Minnesota Information Professional Society. We welcome materials submitted to our calendar or articles on computing topics. Submit materials by disc or e-mail to:

Earl C. Joseph
365 Summit Ave.
St. Paul, MN 55102-2120
Tel 651-290-2846, Fax 651-290-2847
e-mail: ejo-
seph@waldenu.edu

NOTE:

MEETING INFORMATION

The meeting place:
Holiday Inn - Bloomington
35W and 94th
(1201 W 94th St.)
Phone: 884-8211

Meeting Times:

5:00 P.M. Social & Registration
6:00 P.M. Dinner
7:00 P.M. Meeting and Program
8:00 P.M. Adjourn

For reservations call:
Dennis Cummings by Oct. 15th
and Choose
BBQ Chicken or Red Group.

Tel. (651) 707-0523 (H) or

(651) 205-2632 (W) or
E-mail:
Dennis.Cummings1@usbank.com

\$20 for members
\$25 for non-members

Dinner Meeting NOTICE Tuesday October, 19 1999

Meeting of
Minnesota Information Professional Society
(Formerly ACM-ASM)

Speakers Topic:
"FLAWS IN CRYPTOGRAPHIC SYSTEMS"

Speaker:
Bruce Schneier

MnIPS PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

I am pleased to announce that the merger is complete and the new organization, Minnesota Information Professional Society (MnIPS), is official!! We have many people to thank for their efforts over the past two years. Numerous people from both ASM and ACM gave their time and effort to make this a reality.

Now, it's ONWARD and UPWARD!!! We need everyone to support the new organization in as many ways as possible. Here are some suggestions for possible participation, and the benefits you will receive:

Attend as many monthly meetings as possible - You get out of an organization what you put into it.

Bring colleagues and friends to the meetings. This makes the social hour and dinner more interesting, and allows for improved networking opportunities.

Volunteer for committee and or project assignments. You can make a difference in the quality of the organization by bringing your ideas and effort to an activity.

Make suggestions for improvement. Your ideas count! The board of directors and committee chairs don't have all the answers. You are in a perfect position to provide objective observations. We really want your input.

Support special events. The golf outing, educational seminars and special activities provide a unique opportunity for you to improve both personally and professionally by participating, sponsoring or promoting.

I want to finish by thanking all of you who attended the September 1999 meeting. Dr. David Bahn gave an interesting and provocative presentation on trends in metadata and the future of data summarization and retrieval. For those of you who were not able to

attend, we hope you'll join us this month.

Joe Perzel, MnIPS President

OCTOBER MEETING
SPEAKER INFORMATION

Bruce Schneier is Chief Technical Officer of Counterpane Internet Security, Inc., a managed security firm that used to do cryptography consulting. Schneier wrote the book **APPLIED CRYPTOGRAPHY**, created the Blowfish encryption algorithm, and created the Twofish encryption algorithm that is currently a finalist for AES. He serves on the boards of the International Association for Cryptologic Research, EPIC, and VTW. He is a contributing editor to Dr. Dobb's Journal, and a frequent writer and lecturer on cryptography.

OCTOBER MEETING
TOPIC INFORMATION

Building a secure product is a lot more complicated than reading a copy of **APPLIED CRYPTOGRAPHY**, and then stringing a series of secure algorithms and protocols together. Many "buzzword compatible" products are insecure - not because of faulty mathematics, but because of faulty implementation. Engineers misuse secure primitives, introduce security flaws elsewhere in the process, build bad user interfaces, don't allow for errors or failures, and generally fail to leverage the security of their cryptography. Traditional engineering is about making things work; security engineering is about programming Satan's computer: a ma-

licious system that does exactly the wrong thing at exactly the right time.

This talk is about common cryptographic flaws and how to prevent them. Bruce will go through them from the inside out: bad algorithms and protocols, broken random number generators, reliance on users to remember secrets and make security decisions, poor version control and update security, poor trust management, broken software implementations, false reliance on secure hardware, and so on.

The talk should be engaging, and the audience will enjoy it. Bruce has talked about this sort of thing before, but this will be the first time that he will pull it all together into a coherent whole.

EDITORIAL
PEERING INTO THE
NEXT MILLENNIUM:
Telescoping What's
Coming

by Earl C. Joseph, Professor,
Walden University & MnIPS
Editor

In 2010 our wearable computer will be more capable than today's best PC! AI cyberagents will be smart enough to do our current jobs! We'll converse with refrigerators, stoves, cameras, eyeglasses, auto, TV, wearable communicators, ... and they will talk to each other, globally! And e-commerce will be released from confinement on computer screens unto these appliances. The Net economy will become

the largest sector of the global economy and become for a short time the biggest controller of social change.

This new paradigm in computer social technology will radically change the way we work and interface with people through advances in IT and the Web.

Rick Saia and Kevin Burden (and the executives they interviewed) writing in **COMPUTERWORLD** (April 12, 1999) on tomorrow's IT makes the following near-term forecasts:

- ! "The IT organization that we are familiar with today will evolve into a more user and business-focused function.
- ! End-user departments will take more responsibility for IT work.
- ! Technology will be centrally managed.
- ! IT management will be forced to pay even greater attention to the value IT brings to the business.
- ! IT organizations will combat a continuing skills gap with more outsourcing.
- ! CIOs will undergo a status up-grade.
- ! IT learning will be expanded beyond just technical training involving more business and financial training.
- ! IT organizations develop faster rapid response capabilities." Rick Saia.
- ! Once the Y2K problem is behind IT departments, pent-up demand for upgrading and new

applications will explode.

! "It will be incumbent for companies to create a renewable technology organization, an organization that uses change as a way of constantly improving itself." Frances Dramis, Executive VP and CIO, Bellsouth Corp.

! "Whether outsourced or insourced, every dollar (spent for IT) has to be looked at in terms of the value it will produce." Steven L. Sheinheit, Executive VP, Corporate Systems and Architecture, The Chase Manhattan Corp.

! "Exploiting information for competitive advantage will help justify the money that companies must pump into IT." Dennis Biederman, CIO, Menasha Corp.

! "Be willing to change and make change a core competency throughout the organization — from an individual through the work team to the total organization." Jodie Day, Senior VP and CIO, Brinker International.

! "We (CIOs) want to be the people who know how everything works everywhere in the company." Peter Dupre, CIO, W. B. Mason Inc.

! "CIOs say network infrastructure, electronic commerce, reusable code, and a mobile workforce are the chal-

lenges of the future."

Kevin Burden, Computerworld.

"But if companies don't move from the client/server model, they are going to have a large disadvantage competitively." Peter Dupre, CIO, W. B. Mason Inc.

1999-2000 FUTURE MnIPS MEETING INFORMATION

by Carol Pedersen

Below is the program for 1999-2000 dinner meetings. The schedule is complete with confirmed speakers. We still have the opportunity to pursue other organizations for joint meetings. So, if anyone has suggestions, please let me know.

Date, Title & Speaker

- Nov 16 IBM's View of E-Commerce, Ron Wood
- Jan 18 Job Satisfaction of Software Developers, Kurt Linberg
- Feb 15 Strategy how to formulate a sensible approach and maximize your return on investment when taking your company into E-Business, Michael Tapper of PSCDM
- Mar 21 Planning Technology for Small Companies, Anita Cassidy
- Apr 18 Communication and Technology, Paul Kiley
- May 16 AITP joint meeting.

1999-2000 FUTURE AITP MEETING INFORMATION

November 4, 1999

Speaker: Michael A. Tapper

Topic: eCommerce with ROI

January 6, 2000

Speaker: Nancy Hughes

Topic: Online Investing

February 3, 2000

Speaker: Michael McNamara

Topic: Team Duluth

March 2, 2000

Speaker: Michael Norton

Topic: Recent Developments in Secure Electronic Transactions

April 6, 2000

Speaker: Rachel Hollstadt (moderator)

Topic: IT Managers Panel on "How to Have a Successful Project"

May 4, 2000

Speaker: John Thorp

Topic: Realizing the Benefits of Information Technology

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NOTICE

Leland K. Beckes, an active member and former board member passed away recently. Leland, through the years, was always eager to share his interesting insights of the goings-on in the computing field.

He will be missed. Leland was a role model in many ways for some of us.

IT EXCELLENCE

by Bob Violino

Some highlights from his report in INFORMATIONWEEK of September 27, 1999

The influence of E-commerce is putting IT departments at the

head of the business table according to findings of Bob Violino from the surveys he conducted.

The key strategic technology priorities a typical IT department will implement or support over the next 12 months:

- e-commerce applications
- intranet or enterprise portals
- security
- business-to-business electronic networks
- relational databases or data warehouses
- network infrastructure
- network bandwidth
- tools, languages, and Y2K issues
- are portable or network PCs
- desktop PCs
- networked storage
- PC operating systems
- Departmental or midrange servers
- Mobile and handheld PCs.

Robert Rodin, President and CEO at Maeshall industries claims, “ A CEO in any business today has to be keenly aware of how important (computer) technology is in shaping the company’s future.”

Bob Violino claims senior IT executives will remember 1999 as the year that began with lots of worry over Y2K and ended with attention to the opportunities that e-business offers.

MnIPS Officers for 1999-2000

President

Joe Perzel [w] 612.897.6420

Vice President

Joe Reilly, Jr. [w] 612.513.5951

Treasurer

Gerry Lindner [w] 651.406.2579

Secretary

Mike Schroeder [w] 651.686.2259

Programs

Carol Pedersen [w] 612.897.6437

Arrangements

Dennis Cummings

[w] 651.205.2632

Newsletter Editor

Earl Joseph [w] 651.290.2846

Education

Haziel Matias [w] 612.627.2171

Summer Golf Outing

Jeff Hemauer [w] 651.766.1387

Audit & Bylaws

Dave Farmer [W] 651.602.1187

Marketing

Mike Reed [W] 612.417-3600



MnIPS Newsletter
P. O. Box 581054
Minneapolis, MN
55458

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

DINNER METTING

Tuesday, October 19, 1999

5:00 PM - 8:00 PM

TOPIC:

FLAWS IN

CRYPTOGRAPHIC SYSTEMS

NOTE: MEETING LOCATION

Holiday Inn Bloomington
35W & 94th (1201 W 94th St.)

FUTURES by Earl C. Joseph

“HOW MANY PROGRAMMERS DOES IT TAKE TO CHANGE A LIGHT BULB? ... NONE.. IT'S A HARDWARE PROBLEM!”