



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Ada-Europe Launches Annual Student Programming Contest “The Ada Way”

VALENCIA, Spain (June 16, 2010) – On the occasion of Ada-Europe 2010, the 15th annual Conference on Reliable Software Technologies, Ada-Europe, the international organization that promotes the knowledge and use of Ada in European academia, research and industry, launched an annual Student Programming Contest under the provisional title of “The Ada Way”.

The contest will be a yearly competition among student teams, whereby each team must have a codename and a logo, a university affiliation, and the endorsement by an educator. The theme of this year's contest will be announced by September 1, and submissions will be accepted until April 30 of the following year. A *Steering Committee* composed of representatives of promoting institutions will oversee the organization of this contest.

Submissions will be marked by an *Evaluation Committee* composed of leading Ada experts, such as John Barnes (author of the famous *Programming in Ada* books), S. Tucker Taft (leader of the Ada 95 language revision), Ed Schonberg (co-author of the open-source GNAT Ada compiler and toolset), Joyce Tokar (convenor of the ISO working group on the Ada language standards), etc.

The winning team will be notified by May 31. The Steering Committee will offer the winners one free registration, accommodation, and airfare to the *Ada-Europe conference*, a slot in the conference program, publication space in the *Ada User Journal*, and visibility in other media. Additional prizes might be offered.

Ada-Europe wants the competition to be fun and educational. The theme of the contest will be determined by the Steering Committee, and shall be intellectually challenging and elating. Evaluation criteria shall include correctness, clarity and readability of the code, ingenuity, cuteness, and time and space efficiency.

Submissions shall include the source code and the User Manual. The code must run out-of-the-box when following the User Manual's instructions. The implementation does not need to be 100% Ada, but of course the essence must be in Ada, and only the Ada code will be part of the evaluation. Tullio Vardanega, president of Ada-Europe, stated: “*The winning submission must be a reference for good Ada programming, software design, and innovation.*”

About Ada-Europe

Ada-Europe is the international non-profit organization that promotes the knowledge and use of Ada into academia, research and industry in Europe. Current member organizations of Ada-Europe are: Ada-Belgium, Ada in Denmark, Ada-Deutschland, Ada-France, Ada-Spain, Ada in Sweden and Ada-Switzerland. Ada-Europe also includes and welcomes individual members from other European countries with no national organization, and has a total membership in the region of 300.

A PDF version of this press release is available at www.ada-europe.org.

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