

ACM SIGOPS EUROPEAN WORKSHOP 1988

Wolfson College, Cambridge, England

19th to 21st September 1988

Autonomy or Interdependence in Distributed Systems?

Organizers:

Prof. Roger Needham, Computer Laboratory, Cambridge, England
Dr Andrew Herbert, ANSA Project, Cambridge, England

Program Committee:

R.M. Needham (UK)	A.J. Herbert (UK)	S.J. Mullender (NL)
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Topic:

The workshop will discuss the relative importance of autonomy and interdependence between computers in distributed systems.

There are two kinds of distributed systems: those that consist of autonomous computers trading resources with one another, but keeping local control over them; and those where computers depend upon networked services (such as filing, naming and authentication) and where resources are controlled globally..

The first kind of system can suffer from redundancy of function, problems of heterogeneity and poor resource sharing characteristics.

The second kind suffer from problems of dependency: computers cannot work stand-alone and are vulnerable to failure of networked services; global control requires homogeneity; global control makes it difficult to identify sources of authority and responsibility and to protect private resources from invasion or misuse by others.

What are the design choices for practical systems?

The workshop is limited to 50 people. If you wish to apply, please submit seven copies of a position paper of not more than four pages on the workshop topic by April 15th 1988. Notification of acceptance will be sent by May 27th 1988.

Papers should be sent to Prof. R.M. Needham, Computer Laboratory, New Museums Site, Pembroke Street, Cambridge CB2 3QG (tel: +44 223 334600; rmn@cl.cam.ac.uk).

Registration:

Details will be sent with notices of acceptance. The workshop fee is £186 for ACM SIGOPS members, £222 for non-members including accommodation in Wolfson College.

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