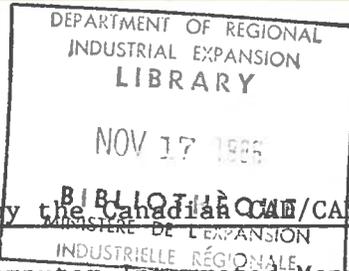




CAD/CAM

NEWSLETTER



July - August 1986

Information Compiled by the Canadian CAD/CAM Council
for the Advancement of Computer Integrated Manufacturing *

1. CAD/CAM Holiday?

Does the world at large, outside Canada, take a holiday from CAD/CAM? The question is rather like asking if the competition takes a holiday. Hopefully and probably so, on an individual basis. Collectively, never.

This year, and for the first time since the CAD/CAM Newsletter commenced in August 1979, the Newsletter for the months of July and August have been combined into a single issue, but the abstracts sections enclosed are complete for both months. The forty abstracts enclosed, highlighting CAD/CAM developments and thinking from around the world, have been selected from a total of over 9800 in the field of computers and control, published worldwide over a two month period. Of these, approximately 200 or more are clearly in the field of CAD/CAM, CIM and robotics. To answer the question, "No, collectively the world at large does not take a holiday from CAD/CAM - or technology development in any form, for that matter".

This is part of the Canadian dilemma. Many of the "world-watch" abstracts enclosed were selected at the editor's summer cottage during vacation, while also watching the humming birds in the feeder, the deer and the heron by the river, listening to the call of the loons on the lake, the nighttime thumping feet of raccoons on the porch, squirrels on the roof or the distant hooting of an owl. All things which most Canadians love and enjoy when they can.

Our dilemma, collectively, is to find ways and means to continue to enjoy the Canadian standard of living with its many pleasures, while at the same time developing the science and technology base which will increasingly be necessary to support it in the highly competitive and technology based world of the future.

The findings of this year's Couchiching Conference held at Geneva Park, Ontario were summarized by a leading national newspaper (Globe and Mail, August 19, 1986), under the heading, "We're not learning the skills we need". This issue, more than any other, they conclude, will determine

the conditions of life in this country for a large part of the population.

This applies to development, application and education in nearly all fields of science and technology, not just advanced manufacturing technologies such as computer integrated manufacturing. That is just one, of several, where the issues and stakes are most crucial.

2. Items planned for the September Issue

- CAD/CAM Council holds the fifth national coordination meeting in Montreal, September 15-16 for CAD/CAM centres across Canada.
- New report available describes CAD/CAM activities at NRC.
- Availability of a report providing a detailed review of robotics R&D in Japan.
- Information on the release of the CAD/CAM Council's 1986 report "Management in Crisis: Implementing Computer Integrated Manufacturing in Canada".

3. Twenty Selected Abstracts Provide a World View on CAD/CAM

For a review of CAD/CAM developments around the world, please refer to the selection of twenty abstracts for each month in the section attached. These will assist your organization to meet both the management and technical challenges of computer integrated manufacturing.

4. This newsletter may be reproduced in whole or in part. Reprinting in other Canadian publications is encouraged. Acknowledgement to the Canadian CAD/CAM Council would be appreciated.

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