User Group Conferences 2002

European User Group Conference, Oxford, UK

This year's meeting took place in September at the home of Vector Fields, in Oxford UK. We started events with an OPERA-3d Advanced course which was well attended. During this day we also took the opportunity to meet with our agents who regularly attend the User Conference. The following day we visited the Oxford Instruments Superconductivity Laboratory. Oxford Instruments have been a highly valued, long standing customer and provided us with a very interesting tour of their facility where they produce powerful magnets. Later that evening Vector Fields hosted dinner at the hotel. The next day the User Group Conference opened with a welcome from William Beeckman, the new chairman, and some interesting talks were given by customers interspersed with talks by the VF staff. William has agreed to continue as chairman for another year, which we are delighted to hear.

North American User Conference, Chicago, USA

The 2002 Vector Fields User Conference was held in November at the Company's North American Headquarters in Aurora IL, near Chicago. Chairman of the conference, Al Franco of Electric Boat, welcomed the attendees following a continental breakfast. David Carpenter of Vector Fields Inc gave a talk on the "Current Status of the Company" and summarized the performance of the Company over the last few years. Vishnu Srivastava of Philips Medical Systems then gave a talk on the "Design of Magnet Shield for MRI Systems" and showed how he used the Vector Fields Software to achieve these goals. Next, Joe Buan of Vector Fields Inc reviewed the "Current Status of OPERA" and brought everyone up-to-date on the latest features in the released version of the software.

Following the mid-morning break, Kiyun Han of Vector Fields Inc described the use of CONCERTO in Miniturization of Microstrip Patch Antennas Using the Sierpinski Fractal Geometry. This was followed by Steve Elliott of Thin Film Consulting and Lyn Chedister of Varian Medical Systems who presented "Non-physical Emission Surfaces wih Langmuir/Fry Emission Models" showing how to obtain physical solutions with OPERA-2d and SCALA (3D). After discussions and lunch, Jason McDonald of Vector Fields Inc introduced the R&D aspects of work at Vector Fields with "Future Development of OPERA". This was followed by a multi-application talk by Jimmy Chang of Argonne National Laboratory describing "Simulations of Magnetohydrodynamics in Material Processing – EM Stirring, EM Confinement and Electroconsolidation". The "Current Status of CONCERTO" was highlighted by Chris Riley of Vector Fields Ltd and sparked some discussion for the afternoon break. Finally Paula Zivi of Anteon was elected to the position of Chairperson for the 2003 Conference.

Vector Fields Software in Brief

OPERA Suite

For 2D and 3D analysis of static and low frequency fields using finite element analysis. Incorporates the TOSCA, ELEKTRA, CARMEN, TEMPO and SCALA modules

CONCERTO Suite

For 3D analysis of high frequency fields for microwave devices using the finite difference time domain method. Incorporates 3D Modeller, Editor, Simulator and Optimiser Modules.

For further details complete and return the coupon on page 8

Staff Profiles

Deb Clements

Deb joined VF Ltd in June 2001 as a Receptionist and Office Administrator. Initially she was employed on a temporary basis and moved to a permanent position in August 2001. Deb was educated in Oxford and lives locally in Kidlington a mere mile away from the VF office, with her husband and two teenage children.

Her interests are DIY and up-dating the house they moved into some four years ago, gardening, shopping and holidays abroad. She also helps run and organise an under thirteen boys soccer team with her husband for which her son plays.

Joe Buan

Joe joined Vector Fields Inc in August 2000 as an Application Engineer. He earned a B.S. in Physics from the University of Illinois at Urbana in 1995. From 1995-1997 he took a break from Physics to get a Master's Degree in Sports Management, specializing in ice hockey. Prior to joining VFI, Joe worked for three years at Dunlee designing X-ray tube components. Whilst there he started using OPERA to model the electron emissions and space charge from X-ray tube cathodes. Since joining the company Joe has been involved with technical support, consultancy, benchmarking, training, presales and database administration.