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Ecma applauds Eiffel getting top recognition

Eiffel and Bertrand Meyer win the ACM Software System Award

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Ecma is proud to announce that **Dr. Bertrand Meyer** is this year's recipient of the ACM Software Systems Award, http://awards.acm.org/software_system/, one of the most prestigious awards in computer science, for his design of the Eiffel programming language and environment. **Dr. Bertrand Meyer** is one of the few European scientists to receive this honour.

Eiffel is a method of software construction and a language applicable to the analysis, design, implementation and maintenance of software systems. It assists developers to create correct software systems. A central feature is the support for Design by Contract, where each component is accompanied by pre/post-conditions that define its behaviour. Thus Eiffel adapts techniques from the context of proving programs correct to be applied to all the stages of designing and developing correct software.

Based on object-oriented programming, Eiffel includes support for object classes, which often correspond to abstract data types, and type inheritance. In addition, Eiffel also supports many other features that are needed for creating complete solutions to complex programming tasks, including support for type conversions, exception handling, concurrency, and "agents."

The language is sophisticated in design but simple in presentation, syntactically forgiving yet semantically precise, object-oriented by intent while mindful of historically useful language constructs. Thus Eiffel has exerted considerable influence on other languages. It became an ISO standard in November 2006.

Commenting about the recognitions conferred by the ACM Software System Award **Dr. Bertrand Meyer** notes: *"I should add that the standards process through Ecma has played a significant role in the recognition of Eiffel leading to the award, and this should really be used to highlight recognition of Ecma."*

Dr. Istvan Sebestyen, Secretary General of Ecma also quoted: *"We at Ecma are extremely proud about this news! First of all congratulations to **Dr. Bertrand Meyer!** I am really pleased to see when people, who have also shown excellence in standardization and get recognized at such a high level. And we are proud that Eiffel (Ecma-367 "Eiffel: Analysis, Design and Programming Language, 2nd edition" (June 2006) was standardized in Ecma and 'fast-tracked' to JTC 1 as the ISO/IEC 25436 standard."*

About Ecma International

Since its inception in 1961, Ecma International (Ecma) has developed standards for Information and Communication Technology (ICT) and Consumer Electronics (CE). Ecma is a non-profit industry association of technology developers, vendors and users. Experts from industry and other organizations work together at Ecma to develop standards. Ecma submits its work for approval as ISO, IEC, ISO/IEC and ETSI standards and is a frequent practitioner of "fast tracking" of specifications through the standardisation process in International Standards Organisations (ISOs). Publications can be downloaded free of charge from <http://www.ecma-international.org/>.

For more information: please contact Dr. Istvan Sebestyen, Secretary General of Ecma International. Email: istvan@ecma-international.org.

About Eiffel Software

Eiffel software, <http://www.eiffel.com>, was founded in 1985 with the mission of developing compilers and tools based on the power of pure object-oriented concepts to improve programmers' productivity, lifecycle efficiency and quality of the resulting applications. For twenty years Eiffel Software has delivered to its customer base the most cost-effective and advanced development tools on a large variety of platforms. Thanks to the power of the language and the tools of the environment, Eiffel users continuously demonstrate that they can produce 2 to 10 times as much software in the same amount of time as can be achieved using other IDEs and toolsets. For more information please contact **Caroline Madison**, email, caroline@eiffel.com or call +1-805-685-1006.

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