

From the Editor's Desk

Alok Srivastava

Welcome to this issue of ACM Ada Letters. In this issue you will find a very interesting paper “Developing a Profile for Using Object-Oriented Ada in High-Integrity Systems” by veteran Ada practitioner and educator Jean-Pierre Rosen.

The issue also provides details on AdaCore compiled **Ada Gems**:

- `gprbuild`, GPS's Key Shortcuts Editor and Managing the GPS Workspace *by Emmanuel Briot*
- Let's SPARK! – Part 1 and Part 2 *by Yannick Moy*
- The Scope Locks Idiom *by Pat Rogers* and
- Tokeneer Discovery – Lessons 1 to 6 *by Dean Kuo and Angela Wallenburg*

In this issue you will also find the Call for Papers (CFP) for the SIGAda 2011 annual international conference with emphasis on Engineering Safe, Secure, and Reliable Software which will be held from November 6-11, 2011 in Denver, Colorado. Another major Ada event, the Ada Connection combining the 16th International Conference on Reliable Software Technologies – Ada-Europe 2011 – with Ada Conference UK 2011 will take place from June 20 – 24, 2010 in Edinburgh, Scotland's capital city and the UK's most popular conference destination. The 15th International Real-Time Ada Workshop (RTAW-15) will be held in Liébana (Cantabria), Spain from September 14-16, 2011.

The incoming version, Ada 2012 is very soon will be a reality. The WG9 committee, after discussions with the ARG and with members of the Ada community, has instructed the ARG to complete the Amendment to Ada 2005 so that ISO standardization of the new version can be completed by 2012. This is a relatively short horizon, but it matches the interval between previous releases, demonstrates that the language continues to evolve with software theory and practice, and at the same time places a bound on the changes to the language, and ensures that they do not present an undue implementation burden on existing compilers. The most important enhancements are those directly related to correctness, namely the introduction of more powerful assertion mechanisms in the language: pre- and post conditions for subprograms, global assertions, type invariants, are other mechanisms that encourage the programmer to better specify the meaning of the code they write, and allow the run-time to verify that this meaning is in fact obeyed.

Our regular contributor Trudy Levine has provided updates to the Ada Reusable Software Components.

Ada Letters is a great place to submit articles of your experiences with the language revision, tips on usage of the new language features, as well as to describe success stories using Ada. We'll look forward to your submission. You can submit either a MS Word or Adobe PDF file (with 1" margins and no page numbers) to our technical editor:

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We look forward to hearing from you!

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Editorial Policy (from Alok Srivastava, Managing Editor)

As the editor of Ada Letters, I'd like to thank you for your continued support of ACM SIGAda, and encourage you to submit articles for publication. In addition, if there is some way we can make Ada Letters more useful to you, please let me know. Note that Ada Letters is now on the web! See http://www.acm.org/sigada/ada_letters/index.html. The two newest issues are available only to SIGAda members. Older issues beginning March 2000 are available to all.

Now that Ada is standing on its own merits without the support of the DoD, lots of people and organizations have stepped up to provide new tools, mechanisms for compiler validation/assessment, and standards (especially ASIS). The Ada 2005 language version is fulfilling the market demand of robust safety and security elements and thereby generating a new enthusiasm into the software development. Ada Letters is a venue for you to share your successes and ideas with others in the Ada community. Be sure to take advantage of it so that we can all benefit from each other's learning and experience.

As some of the other ACM Special Interest Group periodicals have moved, Ada Letters also transitioned from quarterly to a **tri-annual publication**. With exception of special issues, Ada Letters now is going to be published three times a year, with the exception of special issues. The revised schedules and submission deadlines are as follows:

Deadline	Issue	Deadline	Issue
June 1 st , 11	August, 2011	October 1 st , 11	December, 2011
February 1 st , 12	April 2012	June 1 st , 12	August, 2012

Please send your article to Dr. Pat Rogers at rogers@adacore.com

Guidelines for Authors

Letters, announcements and book reviews should be sent directly to the Managing Editor and will normally appear in the next corresponding issue.

Proposed articles are to be submitted to the Technical Editor. Any article will be considered for publication, provided that topic is of interest to the SIGAda membership. Previously published articles are welcome, provided the previous publisher or copyright holder grants permission. In particular, keeping with the theme of recent SIGAda conferences, we are interested in submissions that demonstrate that "Ada Works." For example, a description of how Ada helped you with a particular project or a description of how to solve a task in Ada are suitable.

Although Ada Letters is not a refereed publication, acceptance is subject to the review and discretion of the Technical Editor. In order to appear in a particular issue, articles must be submitted far enough in advance of the deadline to allow for review/edit cycles. Backlogs may result in an article's being delayed for two or more issues. Contact the Managing Editor for information on the current publishing queue.

Articles should be submitted electronically in one of the following formats: MS Word (preferred) Postscript, or Adobe Acrobat. All submissions must be formatted for US Letter paper (8.5" x 11") with one inch margins on each side (for a total print area of 6.5" x 9") with no page

numbers, headers or footers. Full justification of text is preferred, with proportional font (preferably Times New Roman, or equivalent) of no less than 10 points. Code insertions should be presented in a non-proportional font such as Courier.

The title should be centered, followed by author information (also centered). The author's name, organization name and address, telephone number, and e-mail address should be given. For previously published articles, please give an introductory statement (in a distinctive font) or a footnote on the first page identifying the previous publication. ACM is improving member services by creating an electronic library of all of its publications. Read the following for how this affects your submissions.

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Back issues of Ada Letters can be ordered at the price of \$6.00 per issue for ACM or SIGAda members; and \$9.00 per issue for non-ACM members. Information on availability, contact the ACM Order Department at 1-800-342-6626 or 410-528-4261. Checks and credit cards only are accepted and payment must be enclosed with the order. Specify volume and issue number as well as date of publication. Orders must be sent to:

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