

## From the Editor's Desk

*Alok Srivastava*

Welcome to this issue of ACM Ada Letters. In this issue you will find two very interesting papers Parsing Hierarchical Data Format (HDF) Files and Automatically Generating Document Type Definition (DTD)-Specific XML Parsers, both by veteran Ada practitioner Karl Nyberg.

The issue also provides status on Maintenance and Revision of Ada Programming Language's incoming version Ada 2012. Alan Burns and Joyce L. Tokar have provided status on Ada and the Software Vulnerabilities Project and an annex on SPARK specific vulnerabilities.

In this issue you will also find the Advance program of the SIGAda 2010 annual international conference with emphasis on Engineering Safe, Secure, and Reliable Software which will be held from October 24-28, 2010 in Fairfax, Virginia; a suburb of Washington DC. 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.

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

This year's SIGAda 2010 will bring a vast range of Tutorials, Technical Papers, Panel Discussions, Workshops and Keynote speeches. I am sure you will find the value to attend the ACM SIGAda 2010 conference excellent.

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:

Pat Rogers, Ph.D.  
AdaCore, 207 Charleston, Friendswood, TX 77546 (USA)  
+1 281 648 3165, rogers@adacore.com

We look forward to hearing from you!

Alok Srivastava, Ph.D.  
TASC Inc.  
475 School St, SW; Washington, DC 20024 (USA)  
+1 202 314 1419 Alok.Srivastava@auatac.com

## 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](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:

<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Issue</b>	<b>Deadline</b>	<b>Issue</b>
October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 10	December 2010	February 1 <sup>st</sup> , 11	April 2011
June 1 <sup>st</sup> , 11	August 1 <sup>st</sup> , 2011	October 1 <sup>st</sup> , 11	December 2011

**Please send your article to Dr. Pat Rogers at [rogers@adacore.com](mailto: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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## KEY CONTACTS

### **Technical Editor**

*Send your book reviews, letters, and articles to:*

Pat Rogers  
AdaCore  
207 Charleston  
Friendswood, TX 77546  
+1-281-648 3165  
Email: rogers@adacore.com

### **Managing Editor**

*Send announcements and short notices to:*

Alok Srivastava  
TASC Inc.  
475 School Street, SW  
Washington DC 20024  
+1-202-314-1419  
Email: Alok.Srivastava@auatac.com

### **Advertising**

*Send advertisements to:*

William Kooney  
Advertising/Sales Account Executive  
2 Penn Plaza, Suite 701  
New York, NY 10121-0701  
Phone: +1-212-869-7440  
Fax: +1-212-869-0481

### **Local SIGAda Matters**

*Send Local SIGAda related matters to:*

Greg Gicca  
AdaCore  
1849 Briland Street  
Tarpon Springs, FL 34689, USA  
Phone: +1-646-375-0734  
Fax: +1-727-944-5197  
Email: Gicca@AdaCore.Com

### **Ada CASE and Design Language Developers Matrix**

*Send ADL and CASE product Info to:*

Judy Kerner  
The Aerospace Corporation  
Mail Stop M8/117  
P.O. Box 92957  
Los Angeles, CA 90009  
+1-310-336-3131  
Email: kerner@aero.org

### **Ada Around the World**

*Send Foreign Ada organization info to:*

Dirk Craeynest  
c/o K.U.Leuven, Dept. of Computer Science,  
Celestijnenlaan 200-A, B-3001 Leuven (Heverlee)  
Belgium  
Email: Dirk.Craeynest@cs.kuleuven.be

### **Reusable Software Components**

*Send info on reusable software to:*

Trudy Levine  
Computer Science Department  
Fairleigh Dickinson University  
Teaneck, NJ 07666  
+1-201-692-2000  
Email: levine@fdu.edu

## **SIGAda Working Group (WG) Chairs**

See <http://www.acm.org/sigada/> for most up-to-date information

### **Ada Application Programming Interfaces WG**

Geoff Smith  
Lightfleet Corporation  
4800 NW Camas Meadows Drive  
Camas, WA 98607  
Phone: +1-503-816-1983  
Fax: +1-360-816-5750  
Email: gsmith@lightfleet.com

### **Standards WG**

Robert Dewar  
73 5th Ave.  
New York, NY 10003  
Phone: +1-212-741-0957  
Fax: +1-232-242-3722  
Email: dewar@cs.nyu.edu

### **Ada Semantic Interface Specification WG**

<http://www.acm.org/sigada/wg/asiswg/asiswg.html>  
Bill Thomas  
The MITRE Corp  
7515 Colshire Drive  
McLean, VA 22102-7508  
Phone: +1-703-983-6159  
Fax: +1-703-983-1339  
Email: BThomas@MITRE.Org

### **Education WG**

<http://www.sigada.org/wg/eduwg/eduwg.html>  
Mike Feldman  
420 N.W. 11th Ave., #915  
Portland, OR 97209-2970  
Email: MFeldman@seas.gwu.edu

## **Ada Around the World (National Ada Organizations)**

From: <http://www.ada-europe.org/members.html>

### **Ada-Europe**

Tullio Vardanega  
University of Padua  
Department of Pure and Applied  
Mathematics  
Via Trieste 63  
I-35121, Padova, Italy  
Phone: +39-049-827-1359  
Fax: +39-049-827-1444  
E-mail: [tullio.vardanega@math.unipd.it](mailto:tullio.vardanega@math.unipd.it)  
<http://www.ada-europe.org/>

### **Ada-Belgium**

Dirk Craeynest  
C/o K.U.Leuven, Dept. of Computer  
Science, Celestijnenlaan 200-A, B-3001  
Leuven (Heverlee), Belgium  
Phone: +32-2-725 40 25  
Fax : +32-2-725 40 12  
E-mail: [Dirk.Craeynest@cs.kuleuven.be](mailto:Dirk.Craeynest@cs.kuleuven.be)  
<http://www.cs.kuleuven.be/~dirk/ada-belgium/>

### **Ada in Denmark**

Jørgen Bundgaard  
E-mail: [Info at Ada-DK.org](mailto:Info at Ada-DK.org)  
<http://www.Ada-DK.org/>

### **Ada-Deutschland**

Peter Dencker, Steinackerstr. 25  
D-76275 Ettlingen-Spessart, Germany  
E-mail: [dencker@parasoft.de](mailto:dencker@parasoft.de)  
<http://www.ada-deutschland.de/>

### **Ada-France**

Association Ada-France  
c/o Jérôme Hugues  
Département Informatique et Réseau  
École Nationale Supérieure des  
Télécommunications, 46, rue Barrault  
75634 Paris Cedex 135, France  
E-mail: [bureau@ada-france.org](mailto:bureau@ada-france.org)  
<http://www.ada-france.org/>

### **Ada Spain**

J. Javier Gutiérrez  
P.O. Box 50.403  
E-28080 Madrid, Spain  
Phone: +34-942-201394  
Fax : +34-942-201402  
E-mail: [gutierjj@unican.es](mailto:gutierjj@unican.es)  
<http://www.adaspain.org/>

### **Ada in Sweden**

Rei Stråhle  
Box Saab Systems  
S:t Olofsgatan 9A  
SE-753 21 Uppsala, Sweden  
Phone: +46-73-437-7124  
Fax : +46-85-808-7260  
E-mail: [Rei.Strahle@saabgroup.com](mailto:Rei.Strahle@saabgroup.com)  
<http://www.ada-i-sverige.se/>

### **Ada in Switzerland**

Ahlan Marriott  
White Elephant GmbH  
Postfach 327  
CH-8450 Andelfingen, Switzerland  
Phone: +41 52 624 2939  
Fax : +41 52 624 2334  
E-mail: [ada@white-elephant.ch](mailto:ada@white-elephant.ch)  
<http://www.ada-switzerland.org/>

### **Italy**

Contact: [tullio.vardanega@math.unipd.it](mailto:tullio.vardanega@math.unipd.it)

### **Ada-Europe Secretariat**

e-mail: [secretariat@ada-europe.org](mailto:secretariat@ada-europe.org)