



# INCOSE UK Newsletter

## Pick and Mix at the Autumn Event

Having regained our breath after the Herculean efforts required to get the International Symposium on the road, we have turned our attention to the Autumn Event. I must apologise for the delay in formulating the plans for the event, but I hope that you will agree it was worth the wait.

As you will see from the enclosed 'flyer', the Autumn Event promises four days of events to choose from. Details of the attendance costs are being worked out as I write this editorial, but you can be assured they will be highly competitive in relation to commercially managed events. You will be able to sign up for any or all days of the event, depending on your commitments and where your interests lie. The daily charge will be discounted for attendance at any two or all three days of the main event. Tutorials are separately costed.

If you are interested in the cutting edge of soft systems, then Monday is for you. This is a follow on from a highly successful session at INCOSE '99, and the aim is to use this session to launch a UK Soft Systems Focus Group. If you want to be in at the start of a major new initiative in Systems Engineering, then you'd better be there.

Tuesday and Wednesday provide four half-day sessions on topics of current interest. There will be a mix of papers, panel discussion and audience interaction in each session. The aim is to inform INCOSE membership of current trends and issues and at the same time solicit input and discussion that might help to progress these issues in the future. All results will be documented and the current plan is to present them on the web site for the benefit of INCOSE members.

Thursday will provide a number of Tutorials to choose from. Exact details have still to be finalised, but if you enjoyed the Tutorial sessions at the 1998 UK Symposium at Hendon, then I am sure that you will find something of interest.

The event is being held at the home of DERA's Systems and Software Engineering Group (SEC), which is establishing itself as a centre of excellence for Systems and Software Engineering. We expect to see a good attendance from this quarter and the event should also be well attended by the academic side of SE. Coupled with the exhibition the Autumn Event will present the best opportunity for networking with industry and academia this side of the millennium.

Just to give you a break from all this excitement we have set aside an hour for the AGM on the Wednesday. The other flyer that you received with this Newsletter gives you details of the AGM and procedures for nominating Chapter officers. Don't be shy about putting your name forward, your Chapter committee will be only too pleased to welcome new faces and new ideas.

As you will see from the events section of this Newsletter there is much else going on in and around INCOSE, and we would like to see much more. Any budding local eventers are urged to contact myself or John Mead and see if they can emulate the sterling work being done by Chris Davies in Bristol.

Also, if you have any contributions to the Newsletter, large or small, please let me know. At the risk of repeating myself again, there is always space for news, views, technical pieces, event notices, cartoons etc. etc in your Newsletter.

*Pete Lister*

Please send any contributions to this Newsletter to The Editor, INCOSE UK Newsletter, c/o Peter Lister, Aerosystems International Ltd, West Hendford, Yeovil, BA20 2AL.  
Tel: 01935 443000 Fax: 01935 443070 e-mail: [pete.lister@aeroint.com](mailto:pete.lister@aeroint.com)

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## Workbench

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## Document Management

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## Software Engineering

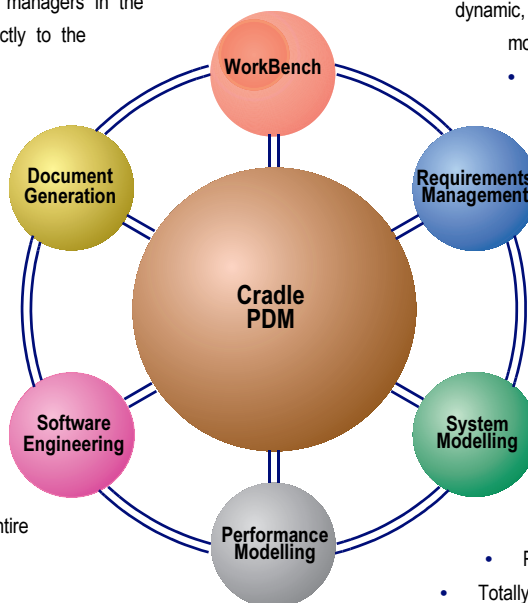
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## INCOSE Director Elected to the Royal Academy of Engineering



Peter Brook, DERA's Director of Systems Engineering, and INCOSE Director at Large, was recently elected to the Royal Academy of Engineering (the UK's National Academy of Engineering). *"Distinguished for his contribution to air defence technology, particularly air defence simulation. He helped to establish the discipline of complex*

*systems engineering and has managed large scale strategic defence programmes."* We congratulate Peter Brook FIEE of having received this most prestigious honour.

*From the INCOSE web site*

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## Coming Events

### INITIAL ANNOUNCEMENT - LOCAL INCOSE EVENT

Evening Lecture on Smart Procurement by Peter Brook of DERA.

Earlier this year at the first Bristol local INCOSE event, Professor Derek Hitchins gave a presentation on Demystifying Systems Engineering. Following the success of this event, a second evening lecture is planned as a precursor to the establishment of a formal local group.

Peter Brooks from DERA will give an evening talk on the topic of SMART Procurement. This will be held on October 19<sup>th</sup> 1999 at the BAWA in Bristol. SMART Procurement is the new way in which the Defence Procurement Agency (DPA) - formally known as MoD(PE) - will procure systems on behalf of the armed forces. It encompasses many of the principles of Systems Engineering, under the banner of "Better Cheaper Faster". This lecture will provide the opportunity to learn about the initiative and to understand how SMART Procurement will impact those who work (either directly or indirectly) with the DPA. Attendance at the event is free, and it is open to both members and non-members alike.

Due to diversity of industries located within the Bristol area, we believe that a local group will provide a valuable forum for Systems Engineers to meet and exchange ideas. We are planning to hold a further series of events within the region in the New Year that will include lectures, site visits and workshops. Further details of these events will be presented at the meeting on the 19<sup>th</sup>.

Further details of this event will follow shortly.

We look forward to seeing you there.

*Jane Smith*

*Quintec Associates Ltd*

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### SYSTEMS ENGINEERING THE PYRAMIDS

IEE Evening Masterclass by Professor Derek Hitchins and Eurlng Paul Budgen on Tuesday 16 November 1999, 17.30 hrs (tea at 17.00 hrs) at Savoy Place, London.

This presentation provides a fascinating insight into the history and building of Khufu at Giza, Egypt (better known by its Greek name, the Great Pyramid of Cheops), and makes use of this wonder of the ancient world to provide a light-hearted introduction to some engineering and management techniques.

The Masterclass will first concentrate on current thinking regarding the purpose of the pyramid. It will cover ancient Egyptian culture and will examine the concept that it was a sophisticated astronomical time clock, used to fix the dates for religious festivals. Some of the theories regarding the building of the pyramid will then be examined, using interactive methods to illustrate a number of modern systems engineering concepts. The lecture is not only for engineers, but also for all those excited by the fascination of the wonders of the ancient world.

The Masterclass is designed to popularise systems engineering in such a way that both specialists and lay people may enjoy and be entertained, intrigued, and even, perhaps, educated. Education is intended to be low-key, but has proved to be effective.

### A PROFITABLE RELATIONSHIP OF SYSTEMS ENGINEERING APPLIED TO PROJECT MANAGEMENT

IEE Evening discussion meeting to be held on Monday, 29 November, 1999 at 17.30 hrs (Registration and tea at 17.00hrs) at Savoy Place, London

The discussion meeting aims to show, by example, how project management has profited by systems engineering. There is a tendency to separate systems engineering and project management such that their objectives appear to be conflicting. As a result project management loses the profitable benefits that systems engineering can bring to a project. By ignoring systems engineering, many projects are denied the fundamentals for success. This meeting shows how benefits can be gained even when systems engineering is introduced after a project has started. Those who work in project engineering and systems engineering will gain from the practical experiences, shared by the speakers, of making systems engineering work as well as being productive in large projects.

# CargoLifter - The Transport-Airship for the Future

CargoLifter is a young and innovative company established to develop and produce airships for the transportation of large and heavy goods. At present, the prototype of the CL 160 P1 Airship is being developed, licensed and tested by CargoLifter Development GmbH. The CargoLifter hangar is under construction in Brand, south of Berlin.

A team of around 100 highly professional engineers from all over the world is seeking colleagues for the Design Divisions and System Engineering.

For the Design Division we are seeking Project Engineers who will be responsible for the tasks required for the certification of the respective airship systems: specification, development and system integration between the areas Systems, Structures and Power Systems. Good command of English is necessary for these positions.

The System Engineering Division is responsible for establishing an interdisciplinary collaborative approach to derive, evolve and verify a life-cycle balanced system solution which satisfies the CargoLifter business plan.

## **ILS Manager**

**Job Code CD 007**

The incumbent will be responsible for conducting the LSA for the airship, including development of the maintenance plan, FMECA, reliability, availability and maintainability analysis utilising the latest assessment tools such as SPAR.

Several years experience leading the ILS effort for a major system development including both hardware and software development and support as well as an engineering and/or graduate degree in system engineering are required.

## **Risk Manager/Engineer**

**Job Code CD 066**

The incumbent will be responsible for developing policies, plans and procedures required to successfully develop and implement a proactive risk management plan for a major transportation system development. Responsibilities will include identifying and managing manpower and resource requirements as well as providing training to divisions and groups involved in the risk management process.

This position requires an engineering and/or graduate degree in system engineering as well as some years experience leading the risk management effort for a major system including both hardware and software development.

## **Weights Analyst**

**Job Code CD 090**

This position will involve monitoring and reporting weights performance and the implementation of weight control programmes where required. Liaison with world wide suppliers could also be involved. Several years experience as an Aerospace Weights Engineer with both structures and systems weight estimation knowledge is essential.

Required is the ability to work under own initiative, a good understanding of centre of gravity and inertia issues, CAD systems (best: CATIA experience) and standard PC applications, engineering and/or graduate degree in system engineering.

## **Configuration Engineer**

**Job Code CD 011**

The incumbent will be responsible for establishing and implementing a Configuration Plan/Scheme for a major system development including hardware and software. Included is the implementation of system requirements management tools to support traceability tasks and analysis through specifications and interface control documents.

He/she must have experience with CM/PDM and some years experience in the configuration management effort for a major system development including both hardware and software. Other requirements are strong background in data management and PDM, thorough understanding of system engineering and associated support tools and an engineering and/or graduate degree in system engineering.

## **Safety Engineer**

**Job Code CD 046**

The incumbent will perform safety analysis of airship systems including compilation of functional hazard assessments, FMEA's fault tree analysis, etc., and provide guidance to functional engineering groups on all safety related matters. He/she will also be involved in various design certification activities as required.

Bachelor's degree in engineering or equivalent experience in aerospace engineering is required. He/she must have experience in

safety analysis including preparation of FMEA's and calculation of failure rates and be familiar with AC/ACJ 25.1309. Knowledge of SAE ARP 4761 would be a plus. He/she should be able to perform Maintainability Analysis and should have several years experience in general system design and certification or R&M activity.

## **Specification/Interface Management Specialist**

**Job Code CD 047**

The incumbent will collect and analyse information and perform various analysis involving the application of engineering principles and methods including: requirements analysis, functional analysis, allocation, synthesis, systems analysis and control. He/she should have experience as an Integrated Product Team Leader (IPT) or IPT member on conducting engineering activities requiring collaborative efforts. Specific responsibilities will include specification development support, including data templates and structures associated with requirements analysis and specification development software tools such as DOORS.

This position requires a bachelor's degree in engineering (systems, mechanical, electrical, civil or naval architecture), some years experience in interface management or the equivalent in specialised education and training and proficiency in DOORS requirements analysis tools and add-ons such as decision-link. Desirable is aviation certification background and knowledge and proficiency with MS Office products.

## **Data Management Specialist**

**Job Code CD 049**

Specific responsibilities include developing, maintaining and managing the project Integrated Product Data Environment (IPDE).

This position requires a bachelor's degree in engineering and/or a master's degree in operations research, some years of experience or the equivalent in specialised education and training. Further requirements are: knowledge and proficiency in web-base technologies and programming languages; proficiency with MS Office and Lotus Notes products.

## **Reliability Engineer**

**Job Code CD 008**

The incumbent will be responsible for developing and implementing the reliability plan for the airship, including reliability assessments, allocation plan, analysis using the latest tools (e.g. SPAR) and availability assessments.

Several years experience in reliability engineering of a complex system and an engineering and/or graduate degree in system engineering are required.

## **Human-Systems-Interface Engineer**

**Job Code CD 070**

Position will involve working on human systems interface requirements and analysis associated with the design and development of an aviation transportation system. Additionally, the position will also require defining and managing work packages associated with human factors engineering, co-ordination with government agencies and overseeing subcontracted work when required.

The successful candidate will have a master's degree in human factors engineering, systems engineering or engineering psychology and a minimum of 2 years experience in large scale system design or commercial product design. Research and development and applied experimental experience is also required.

## **Cost Engineer**

**Job Code CD 009**

The incumbent will be responsible for developing cost estimates for design, development and manufacture of a complex air system including cost analysis, allocation and control.

Several years experience as a leading Cost Engineer using various techniques including developing and applying empirical cost factors and activity based costing methodologies and engineering and/or graduate degree in system engineering or finance are required.

Candidates with determination, flexibility and pioneer spirit and those who are team players are best suited for this challenging project. Please send your application (quoting the job code above) together with your CV listing the most important projects you have managed and giving the earliest starting date and your salary requirements to CargoLifter's HR Management Consultants:

Human Resources Manager  
Point Management GmbH  
P.O. INT  
Lindenstrasse 1  
D-15757 Briesen  
GERMANY

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## The UK Chapter's Stand at INCOSE 99: Surgery Report

INCOSE 99 was a serious event with the exception of a few light hearted moments, and some who showed delightful irreverence to some traditions. The most notable being Allen Fairbairn with his record of self awarded merit banners. Some of the USA delegates were "charmed by your Brits' sense of humour" - well I took it to be charmed, as they were charming people from the USA.

The Chapter Stand was a SE surgery and our thanks to those "consultants" who provided their services free of charge, to the astonishment of their patients who received such valuable advice. These consultants who wore their regulation white coats and stethoscopes included:

- Derek Hitchins
- Peter Sydenham
- Herve Rochecouste - Austria
- Ken Newland
- Rob Collins
- Phil Brown - USA
- Sten Dalberg - USA
- John Boardman
- John Williams
- Brian Manning
- Dave Mawby
- John Mead

Many thanks to them all for taking it in turns to be on duty at every break, rest period and meal time.

As might be expected we inevitably were called upon to consult and deal with one delegate's sore hand. He had hurt it in a door the night before and his wife was convinced we were the people to put it right.

For those of you who missed the best SE conference this century and are bereft of our Surgery Report we've saved you a copy.

*Patrick Moore*

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## INCOSE REPORT

### CONFIDENTIAL MEETING NOTES:

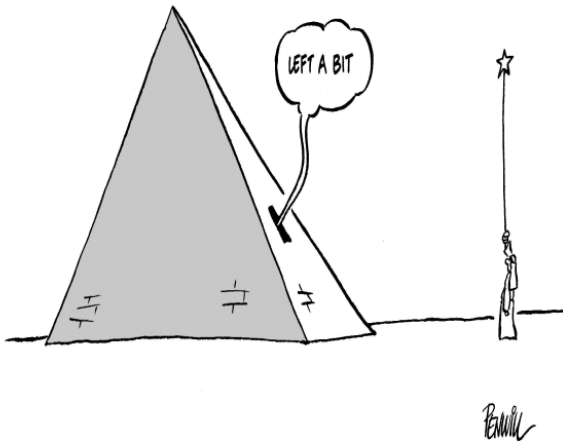
Pharaoh Khufu is at it again-that sorry, god, is forever changing his mind. Talk about requirements creep! First he wants an underground burial chamber - reasonable, you might think, and traditional, too. So we bore the tunnel going down at 2 cubits along, 1 cubit down for months as usual, and finally we start on the underground chamber.

Then, bless your life, when we are only half-way through he decides that *everyone* does that, so he must be different. He'll have a couple of chambers set high up in the body of "his" pyramid just like that. A living god he may be, but this is ridiculous. Or, as I said to him in no uncertain terms: "Highly innovative, Oh! beloved of Atum, Ruler of the silver Nile, mightiest of Pharaohs." I know how to drip sarcasm. Who ever said that the customer is always right had never met Pharaoh Khufu!

Anyway, I sketched out a couple of ideas on the sand, thinking he would see how daft it all was. Not him, he added in a few extras of his own. Let's see now, in addition to the two chambers, he wants a Grand Gallery. And he means Grand. It has to accommodate the limestone blocks that I will eventually have to slide down the entrance passage to seal it for all time - and that's a lot of blocks. I shall have to design the greatest corbelled structure of all time. (Note to myself: *Remember to build an escape passage - being trapped in there would not be good.*)

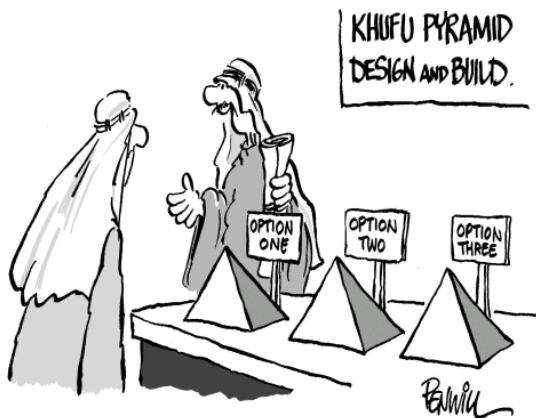
Then above the upper chamber he wants a whole set of "relieving chambers," as he calls them - although who is getting relieved from what is beyond me. I'm just the architect. Finally, he wants four narrow shafts to emerge, two from each chamber, North and South. He wants them to point to the dawn culminations of four different stars. Just like that, and he wants secret rooms off these star shafts - for what, Osiris alone knows.

Actually, I quite like the four star shafts. Quite a challenge for me, Pharaoh's Chief Architect (and younger brother, though he seems to have conveniently forgotten that since being elevated to stardom. Perhaps it's a sibling thing.) He doesn't seem to realise that nobody has invented angles yet. That scribe Graham Hancock has a lot to answer for - him and his magic number. Rubbish, I know nothing about any. Even the edible sort has yet to be invented, Doesn't scribe Hancock realise that we are Neolithic primates? I sort everything out using simple



proportions - height to width and that's another thing - Khufu wants his pyramid to be steeper than our father Seneferu's Red Pyramid. Dad's was 17:18 which, I must admit, looks a bit dumpy. I was thinking of 7:5 until I worked out how much stone that would take.

Anyway, I slowed big brother Khufu down a bit, I suggested that we build a model of his Pyramid so that we could try different things out. He liked that - loves toys, he does, ever since he was a child-god. I've got the lads working on the model using Nile mud bricks to represent the stones, with wood to represent the passages, chambers and those star-shafts. We've even got sliding bricks to show Khufu how we are going to seal his tomb.



"TO HELP YOU CHOOSE, WE'VE MADE THESE CLAY MODELS"

I keep wondering about those shafts, pointing at their particular stars as level-upon-level of masonry is laid - that's going to be quite a trick. I've been working out the proportions for each star. The southern star shaft from the upper chamber is easy at 1:1. That points straight at the Osiris star in Orion's Belt - well, Osiris' penis actually, but what's in a myth. The other shafts are going to be trickier, but their proportions seem to work out quite nicely as whole numbers. I've just had a brilliant idea. The northern star shaft from that chamber has to point at the Pole Star, Thuban. It's the only star that remains stationary throughout the year. That's at 7:11 - you know, 7 up for 11 along. Now if I were to make Khufu's Pyramid exactly twice that, i.e. 14 up for 11 along, then it would be

steeper than Dad's Red Pyramid, but less than 7:5. I will call that "design optimisation" and charge extra! If only they'd invented money, I would be rich.

Anyway, enough of the detailed stuff, I've got to keep the customer satisfied. (Echoes of a faint tune...?) Once I've built this model, I can take it to Khufu. That will keep him away from the construction site - the less that customer sees, the less hassle. That leaves one other problem. What to do with the model once the Pyramid is finished? The model contains all the secrets of chambers and seals, yet it would be sacrilege to destroy it.

I've just had *another* brilliant idea. Two in one day can't be bad - that mandrake root must be working. Why not put the model into one of Khufu's secret chambers? Only Khufu's *ka* will see it then, when his *ka* returns from the circumpolar stars through the star shafts to roam the heaven on Earth that is Egypt. Lucky Khufu.

*Hemon, Chief Architect, Khufu's Horizon Project*

*Patrick Moore*

## Membership and Subscriptions

We have had a very good renewal rate following the end of the year, no doubt helped by the very successful Brighton event. Our membership numbers have kept us in second place in the world league table of Chapter membership numbers, but somewhat behind Washington Metro.

It is clear however, that many have not renewed their subscriptions. Although we continue to send Newsletters for a while we cannot do this forever due to the cost. Also we do not like to lose you, especially if you would prefer to be a member and have a contribution to make but have just not got round to sending me a cheque. You know that you can join direct with the Central Office with a credit card if it is easier for you. If you have not yet renewed please send me a cheque for £50 made payable to INCOSE UK. Include either your membership number or business card to ensure that I do not allocate your money to someone else. You could alternatively complete the renewal slip on the following page.

### Advertise in INCOSE UK Newsletter

Do you want to contact over 300 Systems Engineers in the UK and Europe?

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We can also stuff your flyers with our Newsletter (charges dependent on impact on postage costs). We can negotiate reduced rates for educational or non-profit making bodies.

Remember that we will publish a listing of your forthcoming event absolutely free.

**Contact the Editor (Pete Lister) or INCOSE UK Administrator (John Mead) with your requirements.**

**Project Report 1**  
 'Complex Pyramid system issues high worldwide'

"YOU GET THE GENERAL CONCEPT?"

A member of the Minneapolis Chapter working BC Virtual Inc. has cracked 2D requirements capture. They are working on the 3D version and are planning world wide dominance in the niche 'pyramid concepts'

**'Roll-out of their new Virtual Eyes product is anticipated at INCOSE 2000'**

**Project Report 2**  
 'Interest relating to complex pyramid systems high'

"IT WAS THE ONLY WAY TO PUT ALL THE SECRET CHAMBERS AT HIGH LEVEL"

A most original systems approach has come from the antipodean INCOSE Chapter. This not only addresses the hierarchy problem - Pharaohs on top - but also is there a use for a digger-I-do. **See prototype at INCOSE 2001**



# Membership Renewal Form

Please find attached hereto my renewal cheque for £50.00 made payable to INCOSE UK

John Mead  
 INCOSE UK Administrator  
 20 Beehive Lane  
 Binfield  
 Berks  
 RG12 8TU

FOLD  
 HERE

**Membership number:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Address:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Name:** \_\_\_\_\_

**Telephone:** \_\_\_\_\_ **E-mail:** \_\_\_\_\_

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## INCOSE Board Meeting Report

John Mead has often said that we should provide a report from the Board Meeting. As a board member I am in a position to do this, the only problem is what should I report? Before I ascended to the lofty heights of President Elect, and so gained a seat on the INCOSE UK Board, I thought that matters of high strategy would be discussed. In fact the board discussions are rather more down to earth. I do not want to give the impression that board meetings are unimportant - without them, nothing much would happen in INCOSE UK. But I do find it difficult to write a report that will be of interest to the general membership, so I will try and convey the general flavour of what goes on using our last meeting as an example.

The last meeting was held at DERA Malvern, and we were fortunate to be given a presentation by James Kirby, who has been the Director of the Systems and Software Engineering Centre (SEC) since April this year. He was very impressed by the Brighton Symposium, and is keen that he and his staff play a full role within INCOSE.

There then followed the usual meeting minutiae of checking the minutes and reviewing the actions. Jeremy Goulding was welcomed back as the Chapter Secretary - a role that he had to forsake when he went to the US to work. The Chapter Secretary's role seems to have been fated to be held by people who have had to resign the position prematurely due to unavoidable work commitments. We hope that Jeremy will be able to provide some continuity in this important role.

Matthew Chittick then presented the Treasurer's Report. He always provides the latest snapshot of the accounts so that we can be sure that we have the funding to continue underwriting events, pay the Chapter Administrator, support local events etc. Things are looking reasonably good, but because the Brighton event did not generate the profits that we had hoped - despite its undoubted success for INCOSE as a whole - our ambitious plans for a Chapter executive have been put on hold for a while.

Next we discussed the plans and arrangements for the AGM and Autumn event, and this took up most of the meeting's business time. Much of the board's business is associated with planning or enabling INCOSE events, though the detailed work for larger events can be delegated to another committee. We also briefly discussed local meetings, where despite the runaway success of the Bristol group, things seem to have gone a bit quiet in other areas. It seems like a case for a bit of lobbying to persuade some more volunteers to step forward and fly the INCOSE flag.

There were a few other items on the agenda, such as relations with other organisations, and technical issues, which tend to appear regularly. Pressure of time and lack of obvious areas to discuss meant that they received scant attention at this meeting, but undoubtedly they will surface at subsequent meetings.

Finally without any 'AOB' to consider, we arranged the next meeting for a couple of weeks after the Autumn Event, so that we can take stock and start considering how to attack the 2000 UK Symposium.

If anyone feels they want to know more about the board activities please let me know, but beware! We are always on the look out for people who are willing and able to pitch in and help with the day to day work of the Chapter. It's a job that has to be done, otherwise there would be little if anything going on in the UK. Ideally, more of the work would be delegated to paid professional staff, who would then ensure that more of those actions we promise to do at board meetings (and then fail to find the time to complete) get done. But until we can find the funding for such a scheme we will continue to depend on the efforts of individuals (and the goodwill of their employers) to deliver interesting and exciting events.

*Pete Lister*

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