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PRESS RELEASEPRESS RELEASE**IFAC DICTIONARY**

An important activity of IFAC's Terminology Committee, headed by H.L. Mason (USA), has been the preparation of a **M u l - t i l i n g u a l D i c t i o n a r y o f A u t o m a - t i c C o n t r o l**, containing about 1000 terms, arranged to show their equivalents in English (both British and American), French (of France, Belgium and Switzerland), German (from Düsseldorf to Zürich to Vienna), Italian (from Milan to Rome), Russian (of Petrograd, Moscow, Kiev, and Azerbaijan), and Spanish (out of Barcelona and Buenos Aires). Each of the six languages has its own introduction and an index interrelated with the other five by an extensible numbering system with the principal headings: Basic Concepts, Types of Action, Variables and Signals, Elements of Systems, Performance Characteristics, and Mathematical Techniques.

The volume was planned and supervised by Executive Editor D.T. Broadbent of Elliott Flight Automation (London); he was assisted by an editorial staff of five - Professor J. Hoffmann (Belgium), Dr.-Ing. R. Oetker (Germany), Ing. G. Foddìs (Italy), Professor M.A. Gavrilov (USSR), and Professor G.A. Ferrate (Spain). These experts, working from basic English, and examining the standards of many countries, selected equivalent usages based on their cumulative experience of something like 100 man-years of bilingual or trilingual professional activity in industrial or academic aspects of control engineering. These terms are recommended to be used by authors writing papers for the 1969 IFAC Congress in Warsaw and for the coming IFAC Symposia.

The Dictionary has just been published by the Instrument Society of America (ISA) on behalf of IFAC, with financial assistance from UNESCO. Copies are obtainable at a price of 9 U.S. dollars from ISA Headquarters, 530 William Penn Place, Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania 15219, U.S.A.



## IDENTIFICATION IN AUTOMATIC CONTROL SYSTEMS

The first IFAC Symposium on Identification in Automatic Control Systems was held at the Technical University in Prague on June 12th-15th, 1967. It was sponsored by the IFAC Technical Committee on Theory and organised by the Institute of Information Theory and Automation of the Czechoslovak Academy of Science. Sixty-seven papers were presented by authors from 17 countries, and there were 360 participants. The preprints in two volumes are available at U.S. \$ 20 from the State Publishing House "Academia", Prague.

In summarizing the papers for the Bulletin, P.C. Parks, Reader in Applied Mathematics, School of Engineering Science, University of Warwick, England, stated they reflected the great scope for ingenuity in the design of adaptive models, use of special test signals such as pseudorandom binary sequences and the writing of digital computer procedures, but noise considerations are likely to dominate the field. It was not surprising, therefore, that Professor K.J. Astrom's paper "On the achievable accuracy in identification systems", where he uses the Cramer-Rao inequality to obtain lower bounds on modelling accuracy, proved to be the outstanding paper of the symposium. Another very important paper was the survey "Process and Parameter Estimation" by Professor P. Eykhoff. The proceedings will become classical material in this new branch of automatic control.

## SOVIET CYBERNETIC SYMPOSIUM

On 14-18 February, 1967, the 1st All-Union Symposium on Statistical Problems in Engineering Cybernetics was held in Moscow. The Symposium was organised by the National Committee of Automatic Control of the USSR, by the Science Council for Engineering Cybernetics of the USSR Academy of Sciences and by the Institute for Automatics and Telemechanics.

The attendees were scientists working in the fields of probability theory and mathematical statistics and of their applications in control theory. The Symposium was attended by 1,300 people.

Altogether 200 papers and communications were read, 29 of them from foreign scientists, while 300 people spoke in discussions.

Further details can be sought from:

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