SPEARNEt News

Issue No. 2

November, 1987

SPEARNEt Sites - December 1987

SPEARNEt is a computer based communications network for the academic and research community in the Australian region.

The protocol set for SPEARNEt is the JNT Coloured Book Protocol using the X.25 Packet Network as a transport mechanism. The main services provided are virtual terminal, file transfer and electronic mail. The protocols are available for a wide range of computers and operating systems.

SPEARNEt News

Spearnet News is published by the Spearnet Interim Management Committee. The newsletter was prepared by staff at the Prentice Computer Centre, University of Queensland.

Enquiries should be directed to —

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Minerva: 07:UNQ006
TELEX: AA40315 UNIVQLD

ACSnct: SPEARNEt@UQKL10.DECNET.UQ.OZ
FAX: +61 7 371 5896

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SOUTH PACIFIC EDUCATIONAL AND RESEARCH NETWORK
COMMENT

Alan Coulter, Chairman, SPEARNET Interim Management Committee, and Director, Prentice Computer Centre, University of Queensland.

It is pleasing to note that second SPEARNET newsletter has been produced, although it must said that there is a limit to how far it is possible for the Prentice Computer Centre to provide on-going funding for this activity.

The Australian Vice-Chancellors Committee (AVCC) has now considered the report on Networking in Australia and Other Tertiary Institutions prepared on the Committee's behalf by Emeritus Professor A.S. Carrington. The report was also made available to the Australian Committee of Directors and Principals in Advanced Education (ACDP). As a result, a Joint AVCC/ACDP Working Party has been established to prepare detailed recommendations on networking for advice to and action by the AVCC and ACDP. This Working Party met on 1 October.

I hope that it will be possible to provide a list of the recommendations of the Carrington Report and views of the Working Party in a subsequent newsletter. At this stage, my observations are as follows:

(a) Both AVCC and ACDP recognise the importance of networking and the topic will continue to be part of the formal agenda of those committees.

(b) The concept of SPEARNET with Coloured Book as initial protocols is accepted.

(c) Both SPEARNET and ACSnet should move to OSI standards as soon as practical.

(d) The scope of the SPEARNET network developments should be limited in the first instance to Australia and New Zealand.

(e) Without restricting current network developments, there is seen to be a need for a survey to assess the demand for inter-institutional network services, especially in regard to facilities required and volume of use.

The second SPEARNET Workshop will be held on 10-11 December at the University of Melbourne. The first workshop at University of Queensland was very successful and made important contributions to the development of SPEARNET and network understanding. I am sure that the second, hosted by the CSIRO Division of Information Technology, will be no less successful.

JANET DIRECTORY

The University of Queensland has available copies of the latest JANET directory issued by the Rutherford Appleton Laboratories in the UK. This directory exists as a VAX/VMS command file for updating the site tables used by the UWIST coloured book implementation under VAX/VMS. It may be of use to non VAX/VMS sites for reference information such as finding the X.21 address of JANET sites and determining what services a site provides. It is available as the ASCII file [.NRS]IPSS027.COM on the UQ micro VAX II WOMBAT. (AUSTPAC address 050527372000090) and may be file transferred from other SPEARNET sites by quoting the user name GUEST and password GUEST.

Australian Name Registration Authorities.

The domains and their registered Name Registration Authorities (NRS's) are:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Domain</th>
<th>Name Registration Authority</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>.AU</td>
<td><a href="mailto:krc@munnari.oz.au">krc@munnari.oz.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Elz, Computer Science, University of Melbourne.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.OZ.AU</td>
<td><a href="mailto:krc@munnari.oz.au">krc@munnari.oz.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Robert Elz, Computer Science, University of Melbourne.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.EDU.AU</td>
<td><a href="mailto:mlegg@flinders.edu.au">mlegg@flinders.edu.au</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Mark Legg, Computer Centre, Flinders University of S.A.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.COM.AU</td>
<td>PSI%236520023::wfj</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Warwick Jackson, PRAXA, Melbourne.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.GOV.AU</td>
<td>PSI%222634014::csdf_milton</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>David Milton, ABC.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>.CSIRO.AU</td>
<td><a href="mailto:hales@mel.dit.csiro.au">hales@mel.dit.csiro.au</a> (or hales@diti melb.oz.au)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Trevor Hales, DIT Melbourne, CSIRO.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
List of known Australasian Coloured Book sites.

This following list comprises the known sites that are running an implementation of the United Kingdom’s Coloured Book protocols. The protocols implemented are Yellow Book (Network Independent Transport Service), Blue Book (Network Independant File Transfer Protocol), and Grey Book (Network Independant Mail Protocol).

Listed with each site is the X.121 address to access the site, and the Yellow Book Transport String to access the Coloured Book facilities.

University Of Queensland.
(Prentice Computer Centre).
Name: UQKL10.UQ.EDU.AU
Contact Person: Arthur Hartwig (07)377 4079.
Mailbox Name: ARTHUR
Postal Address: St Lucia, Brisbane. Queensland, 4067.
X.121 Address: 5052-737-20000
Blue Book Transport String: 1.FTP
Grey Book Transport String: 1.FTP.MAIL

Name: WOMBAT.UQ.EDU.AU
Contact Person: Arthur Hartwig (07)377 4079.
Mailbox Name: ARTHUR
Postal Address: St Lucia, Brisbane. Queensland, 4067.
X.121 Address: 5052-737-20000-90
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

Name: UQVAX.UQ.EDU.AU
Contact Person: Arthur Hartwig (07)377 4079.
Mailbox Name: ARTHUR
Postal Address: St Lucia, Brisbane. Queensland, 4067.
X.121 Address: 5052-737-20000-94
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

University College Of Northern Territory.
Contact Person: Tery Anstey
Mailbox Name: POSTMASTER
Postal Address: G.P.O. Box 1341
Darwin, Northern Territory.
X.121 Address: 5052-898-30021
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

University Of New England.
(Computer Centre).
Contact Person: Gordon Smith.
Mailbox Name: GORDON
Postal Address: Armidale, N.S.W. 2351.
X.121 Address: 5052-677-22006
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

James Cook University.
Contact Person: Brad Cooper

Mailbox Name: B_COOPER
Postal Address: Townsville, Queensland. 4811.
X.121 Address: 5052-777-21002
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

Flinders University.
Name: FLINDERS.EDU.AU
Contact Person: Mark Legg.
Mailbox Name: MLEGG
Postal Address: Bedford Park, Adelaide,
South Australia. 5042.
X.121 Address: 5052-827-20012
Blue Book Transport String: .SPCP.FIP
Grey Book Transport String: .SPCP.FIP.MAIL

University of Western Australina
Contact Person: Phil Dufty
Mail Box Name: PO_DUTFY
Postal Address: Western Australia Regional
Computer Centre, University of Western
Australia,
NEDLANDS W.A. 6009
X.121 Address: 5052-938-2100020
Blue Book Transport String Address: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String Address: .FTP.MAIL

University of Tasmania. (Department Of Information Science).
Name: UTASMANIA.EDU.AU
Contact Person: Rod Bilson.
Mailbox Name: ROD
Postal Address: G.P.O. Box 252C
Hobart, Tasmania. 7001.
X.121 Address: 5052-022-30003
Blue Book Transport String: .SPCP.FIP
Grey Book Transport String: .SPCP.FIP.MAIL

South Australia Institute Of Technology. (Computer Centre).
Name: SAIT.EDU.AU
Contact Person: Rollo Ross.
Mailbox Name: CCAJR
Postal Address: P.O. Box 1, Ingle Farm
South Australia. 5098.
X.121 Address: 5052-826-22004
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL
South Australia College of Advanced Education
Name: SACAE.EDU.AU
Contact Person: Ian McDonald
Mailbox Name: MCDONALDI
Postal Address: South Australia CAE
Mgill Campus, Lorne Ave. MAGILL SA 5072
X.121 Address: 5052-833-22013
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

Qld. Institute of Technology
Contact Person: Alan Agnew
Mailbox Name: ZICSAGNEW
Postal Address: Q.I.T. Computer Centre
George Street, Brisbane, Q. 4001
X.121 Address: 5052-722-23015
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

Division Of Information Technology (CSIRO). (Computing Networking Group).
Contact Person: Trevor Hales
Mailbox Name: TREVOR
Postal Address: 55 Barry Street, Carlton
Melbourne, VIC. 3053.
X.121 Address: 5052-334-30001
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

Division Of Radio Physics (CSIRO).
Contact Person: Paul Rayner
Mailbox Name: PAUL
Postal Address: P.O. Box 76, Epping, N.S.W. 2121.
X.121 Address: 5052-286-21001
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

AUSTEK.
Contact Person: Richard Sharpe
Mailbox Name: RSHARPE
Postal Address: Innovation House, Technology Park, The Levels. S.A. 5095
X.121 Address: 5052-826-20000
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

Australian Anglo Observatory.
Contact Person: Helen Davies
Mailbox Name: POSTMASTER
Postal Address: P.O. Box 296, Epping, N.S.W. 2121.
X.121 Address: 5052-286-21000
Blue Book Transport String: .FTP
Grey Book Transport String: .FTP.MAIL

* Sites formally registered with the EDU.AU Name Registration Authority are listed with a preferred site name. Other sites should register as soon possible.
Australian Data Bases accessible via AUSTRAC.

MEDLINE

Contact: Sandra Henderson
(062) 621523
Telex: AA62100
FAX: (062) 571703

MEDLINE is administered by the National Library and Dept. of Health and offers a range of medical and health related data bases serving users ranging from University Libraries to individual practitioners and researchers. Enquiries can either be clinically orientated or enquiries useful in keeping researchers up-to-date with current developments in their field and providing regular listings of research reports.

CLIRS

Contact: Mr Jon Duggan - Sales Manager
(02) 959-5075
Telex: AA151224
FAX: (02) 925-0755

CLIRS is a comprehensive electronic law library containing many data bases on eg. legislations, Case law, Digests and Findings lists, legal practice notes, Company and Financial practice, Land Titles, Mineral Resources, training materials etc. These data bases have powerful retrieval and search facilities eg. on Catchwords.

Information Express

Contact: Janette Taylor - Sales Coordinator (008) 338806 (Toll Free)
Telex: AA151224
FAX: (008) 209-2200

Information Express (IE) provides up to the minute information from national and international sources. This information includes - news headlines, commodity prices, weather, stock market prices, futures prices and specialised data from institutional providers. This service is useful for those particularly interested in up-to-the-minute perishable information. This data base has powerful search commands and fast retrieval.
Australian Bibliographic Network (ABN)

Contact: Dr Warwick Cathro - Executive Officer (062) 621546
Mrs Linda Groom - User Support (062) 621690
Telex: AA62100
FAX: (062) 571703

ABN provides a national on-line service accessing a data base of over 3 millions records of up-to-date information which describes books, journals, films, maps, sound recordings and other library materials, also where these items may be found in Australian libraries. This data base may be searched on-line by subject, title, keywords, author, series etc. during periods - Monday 9am - 7pm AEST and Tuesday to Friday 8.30am - 7pm AEST.

AUSINET

Contact: John Cook (03) 541-5600
Telex: AA33852
FAX: (03) 543-3671

AUSINET a National on-line information retrieval service provides access to more than 40 data bases containing Australian full text, bibliographic and numeric information ranging from Accounting to Zoology. Key full text data bases include The Australian Financial Review, the CCH Case Digest Library and QTECH - QTECH being a data base of technological innovations which have been or are being developed in Queensland. QTECH is useful to a wide range of people involved in technology and can be searched rapidly by the user on any topic of interest.

Primary users of AUSINET include corporate libraries and information centres, government and academic libraries.

CSIRO AUSTRALIS

Contact: Ms Sue Harvey - Manager (03) 418 7339
Telex: AA30236
FAX: (03) 419-0459

AUSTRALIS offers the ability to retrieve and manipulate scientific and technical information. This information concerns Australian scientific and technical developments which until now have been very difficult to obtain. AUSTRALIS can answer questions such as ie. nutritional states of Australian children, who can give me details on SIRAGCROP?, or who is doing research on pepino, babaco, nashi, Kiwi fruit etc.

AUSTRALIS is available throughout Australia on CSIRONET. Over 30 databases are available and it expected that this number will grow rapidly.

International X.25 Packet Switching Networks accessible from Australia.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Country</th>
<th>Network</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australia</td>
<td>AUSTRAPAC, MIDAS, TELETEx, PSTN(*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Austria</td>
<td>RADIO-AUSTRIA, DATEX-P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Belgium</td>
<td>DCS</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Bermuda</td>
<td>IDAS, DCS (PSTN - Dial-out)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Brazil</td>
<td>INTERDATA, RENPAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canada</td>
<td>TELEGLOBE, DATAPAC, TELEGLOBE INFOGRAM, INFOSWITCH</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Denmark</td>
<td>DATAPAK, NATIONAL PACKET NETWORK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Finland</td>
<td>DATAPAK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>France</td>
<td>TRANSPAC, NTI, TELETEx (*)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Carribean</td>
<td>DOMPAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reunion</td>
<td>DOMPAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>French Guyana</td>
<td>DOMPAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>W Germany</td>
<td>DATEX-P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hong Kong</td>
<td>IDAS, DATAPAK</td>
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<tr>
<td>Hungary</td>
<td>NEDEX</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indonesia</td>
<td>SKDP</td>
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<tr>
<td>Ireland</td>
<td>IREPAK</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Israel</td>
<td>ISRANET</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Italy</td>
<td>DARDO, ITAPAC</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Japan</td>
<td>DDX-P, VENUS-P</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Korea Rep.</td>
<td>DACOM-NET (DNS)</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

6
Korea Rep.          DACOM-NET (DNS)
Luxembourg         LUXPAC
Malaysia           MAYPAC
Netherlands        DATANET, DATANE (PSTN Dial-out), DABAS
New Zealand        PACNET
Norway             DATAPAK, NORPAK
Singapore          TELEPAC
South Africa       SAPONET
Sweden             TELEPAC, NEW TELEPAK
Switzerland        TELEPAC, DATALINK
Taiwan             PACNET
Thailand           IDAR (To Australia only)
United Kingdom     IPSS, PSS, TELETEX (*)
U.S.A.             UDTST (IT), DBS (WUI), TYMNET, TELENET, LSDS (RCA), DATAPAK (TRI), AUTONET, ALASKANET, COMPUSERVE, CONNNET, MARKNET (GEISCO)

* available in the near future.

SITE NAME REGISTRATION

Flinders University is the name registration authority (NRA) for the domain EDU (educational) within AU (Australia). All educational sites in SPEARNET should officially register their site name with us as soon as possible.

Contact: Ray McLean  
Postal Address: Flinders University, Bedford Park, Adelaide, South Australia: 5042.  
SPEARnet: rkmclean@flinders.edu.au  
ACSnet: rkmclean@cc.flinders.oz.au,  
Tel.: (08) 275 2130

Sites within other categories, that is COM, GOV or CSIRO, should contact the corresponding NRAs listed below if they have not already done so.

The Coloured Book sites currently registered within EDU.AU are detailed elsewhere in this Newsletter. Copies of the current registrations are available from FLINDERS.EDU.AU using ANONYMOUS FTP, that is by using FTP with a user name of ANONYMOUS and a blank password. Also listed are the NRS's for all domains within AU (available as the file AU). In addition there is a list of the recommendations on choosing site names for sites within EDU.AU (available as the file NAMING).

Site Name Recommendations

In the following, each recommendation is defined to be mandatory (M) or just plain desirable (D).

1. (M) That the JANET name ordering be adopted for Yellow Book transmission of information between sites in SPEARNET.

2. (D) That the user interfaces for mail systems (and FTP by default) adopt the RFC822 ordering (ie. as used in ACSnet and ARPAnet) and that any reversal of names be done before transmission and on receipt. (This may seem clumsy but it appears that it is the only sensible way to go and it does guarantee a consistent ordering convention for all networks in use in Australia).

3. (M) That all sites use only the names registered with the NRA so that names are consistent across all of SPEARNET (allowing for ordering as per recommendation 2.)

4. (M) That there be a second-level domain EDU used by educational sites and that Flinders University be the recognized naming authority for the EDU sub-domain.

5. (M) Any sites wishing to register in the EDU domain must nominate a sitename for approval by the naming authority.

6. (D) Sitenames should be chosen so that they give a 'first-guess' possibility for the organization name. All names will (generally) be limited to the form SITENAME.EDU.AU. Sites are encouraged to 'field' all Yellow Book transfers coming in to a primary sitename and to re-direct local traffic to the appropriate sub-system.

SPEARNET WORKSHOP

The next Spearnet Workshop is being held in Melbourne on the 10th & 11th December 1987. Enquiries should be directed to:

Chris Chaundy  
University of Melbourne  
Computing Services  
PARKVILLE Vic. 3052  
Tel: (03) 344-7045  
ACSnet: chau@murdu.oz  
VAX/VMS PSI mail:  
PSI%2334330003::chris