Overview

Robert R. Brown
Hughes Aircraft Company

The third session dealt with the problems, approaches, and techniques associated with the advancement, development, and implementation of structured programming. The two papers that follow are typical of ideas presented during this session. “Structured Programming: Agony and/or Ecstasy,” by John Brown, provides some practical guidelines for introducing any software discipline into an organization. He makes a strong case for a business-like approach—i.e., enlightened management committed to well-defined objectives.

John Brackett’s paper sheds some light on a topic that received a lot of attention at the workshop—module-level specifications. He draws on several years of experience at SofTech as they evolved toward formal methods of external and internal module specifications.

The other speakers at this session whose papers are not included were Glenn Atkisson of Boeing, Joe Sullivan of Mitre, and John Hiles of McDonnell-Douglas Automation Co. Other topics discussed were design languages, quantitative measures of structuredness, and tools for analyzing structured code.