THE BOOKSHELF


Whether designed to share information, share resources, or cooperate in accomplishing large processing tasks, networks of small computers, intelligent terminals, work stations, or specialized devices are installed in a wide variety of application environments. This tutorial—devoted exclusively to systems or networks of microcomputers—contains more than 30 reprints, as well as case studies outlining a number of networks and approaches.

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The second edition of this tutorial provides both beginning and experienced managers with the materials needed to develop a clear understanding of the basic theories, tools, techniques, and skills of software management. Areas examined in the 70 reprints include planning, organizing, staffing, direction, and controlling. Case studies cover such topics as the effectiveness of software engineering techniques and an analysis of resources used in safeguard systems for software development.

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First presented at Compcon 1, this tutorial describes the major issues surrounding the improvement of software productivity. It also looks at the environmental aspects of software development and analyzes the impact of working conditions and tools on human performance in computer programming. The 59 articles included fall into such categories as programming measurements, requirements, and environments, plus alternatives to programming.

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Microprogramming has changed from a machine implementation process for large computing devices to a widespread design practice covering the full spectrum of machines during the past ten years. These changes are discussed in the proceedings of the 14th Annual Microprogramming Workshop, one of a long and successful series of workshops sponsored by Sigmicro and the IEEE Computer Society TC on Microprogramming.

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In celebration of its tenth anniversary, this conference featured five invited papers essaying a history of parallel processing. The remaining 65 papers in the proceedings cover such topics as languages and compilers, distributed systems and networks, numerical algorithms, associative processing, multiprocessor architectures, non-numerical algorithms, special-purpose processors, interconnection networks, VLSI architectures, array processing, and performance evaluation.

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The standard defines a set of interfaces and protocols to ensure compatibility among the independent devices forming a local data communications system. Draft B of the document being prepared by the IEEE 802 Local Networks Standards Committee covers such areas as logical link control, CSMA/CD and token access methods, and physical layer service specification and signaling. The report contains a full appendix.

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