More tutorials, cheaper subscription

Dear Editor:

I have been a regular reader of IEEE Design & Test and would like to make some suggestions.

1. Include more tutorial type articles covering a wide range of topics. These articles can be used both to motivate and to educate students who may be considering doing research in this area.

2. Reduce the subscription cost. The cost of subscribing is very high, and most people I have talked to feel that they do not get their money's worth compared with Computer.

3. Give Computer Society members a choice to subscribe to either Computer or D&T free. Make both magazines available at a reduced price. This will enable CS members who are interested only in D&T to get their magazine without any additional cost. Others can still enjoy both.

Arun K. Somani
Univ. of Washington, Seattle

Need for software descriptions

Dear Editor:

This is not to flatter you, but we do find IEEE Design & Test extremely informative. The papers in the transactions appear after too much delay and we do not get most conference proceedings.

Moreover, the articles in D&T are far more readable. People like me are often not interested in detailed proofs. Since I started receiving D&T in 1985, I have found it considerably easier to keep abreast of developments in this area. Items such as written reviews cover more ground.

One suggestion, for what it is worth, is to include descriptions of software packages from time to time in D&T. A description of the features, with sample inputs and outputs would help a lot in the decision to acquire or develop similar packages.

R. Raghuram, Indian Inst. of Tech.
Kanpur, India

D&T instead of Computer

Dear Editor:

Many CS members may want to select one of the CS specialty magazines as part of their membership benefit, rather than receiving Computer. Every CS member I have discussed this with has agreed they would rather receive D&T than Computer if the option were available.

Also, I would like to see some sections of D&T widened to increase their usefulness to a practicing engineer. The New Products, Scene, and Industry Briefs sections are valuable. The Calendar section should include information on meetings, courses, etc., other than those offered by professional institutions (D&T might even make a small amount on this advertising), since ALL these events are of interest to the reader. As a European, I would clearly like to see more coverage of events in Europe, such as trade shows.

Colin Maunder, Telecom
Ipswich, England

Correction

The article by P. Agrawal et al., "MARS: A Multiprocessor-Based Programmable Accelerator," (October 1987, pp. 28-36) contained several production errors. Figures 6 and 7 (p. 34), which were switched, appear below in their entirety, as does the complete biography for P. Agrawal (from p. 36). Our apologies to the authors and to our readers.

Pratima Agrawal is a distinguished member of the technical staff in the Computing Systems Technology Research Department of AT&T Bell Laboratories, where she works on several aspects of design automation. Previously, she was supervisor of the VLSI Design Methodology Group in the company's Microprocessor Architecture Department. Her research interests are VLSI testing, simulation, and computer architecture.

Agrawal holds a BE and an ME in electrical communication engineering from the Indian Institute of Science and a PhD in electrical engineering from the University of Southern California. She is program committee chairperson for the 1987 IEEE International Conference on Computer Design (ICCD 87) and a senior member of the IEEE.

Figure 6. Layout of a 16 x 16 crossbar.

Figure 7. Photomicrograph of PE chip.