ABOUT THE TOOLS CONFERENCE SERIES

We hope you enjoy this volume, reflecting the contributions to one of the conferences in the TOOLS Series.

The Conference Series was started in 1989 to provide an international forum for the dissemination and advancement of object-oriented technology. The conference emphasizes the applications and practical aspects of the object-oriented methods; it also accepts theoretical and conceptual contributions provided they have a strong relevance to practitioners.

The conferences provide an opportunity for managers, developers and researchers interested in the progress of the field to meet, review the state of the art and exchange experiences. Each conference consists of the following elements:

- Invited lectures by leading international experts.
- In-depth tutorials on elementary, intermediate and advanced aspects of object-oriented technology.
- Submitted contributions, selected by the TOOLS program committee through a rigorous refereeing process.
- Exhibition of commercial and academic tools, products and services in the O-O field.
- Workshops providing experts with a setting to discuss advanced aspects of the technology.
- User group and standards meetings (normally on the day following the conference proper) held in conjunction with TOOLS to take advantage of the presence at the conference of many potential participans.

Reflecting the international nature of interest and contributions to object-oriented development, the conference is held three times a year on three different continents: TOOLS EUROPE, TOOLS USA and TOOLS PACIFIC. Furthermore, the latest addition in 1997, to the TOOLS Conference Series is TOOLS ASIA.

The following table gives a rough schedule for each event, and of the corresponding deadlines for submitting papers. Please note that this information is only approximate and that the actual dates may vary; check the details with the conference organization at one of the addresses below, especially if you wish to submit a paper.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Event</th>
<th>Location</th>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Deadline for Submission</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>TOOLS EUROPE</td>
<td>Western Europe</td>
<td>May</td>
<td>December of previous year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOOLS USA</td>
<td>California</td>
<td>Early August</td>
<td>March of same year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOOLS PACIFIC</td>
<td>Pacific Region</td>
<td>Late November</td>
<td>July of same year</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>TOOLS ASIA</td>
<td>China</td>
<td>September</td>
<td>May of the same year</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Proceedings of all previous TOOLS Conferences are published by Prentice Hall and available from the conference organization at the address below:

TOOLS Conferences
270 Storke Rd, 2nd Fl
Santa Barbara, CA
93117-2972, USA
Phone: (805) 685-1006, Fax: (805) 685-6869
Email: Error! Bookmark not defined.
World Wide Web: Error! Bookmark not defined.

Prospective authors should also contact the TOOLS organization to get a copy of the Guidelines for TOOLS authors and maximize the likelihood of having their paper accepted.