



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Technical Work on Ada 2005 Standard Completed

***Formal approval by ISO (International Organization for Standardization)
expected by Q4 2006***

PORTO, Portugal (June 6, 2006) – On the occasion of the 11th Ada-Europe Conference on Reliable Software Technologies, Ada-Europe, the international organization that promotes the knowledge and use of Ada in academia, research and industry in Europe, reported on the completion of the technical work on the new Ada 2005 standard and its steady progress towards formal approval by ISO, the International Organization for Standardization.

The first of the three steps of the ISO standardization process has been successfully completed. The Working Group in charge of the technical details of the standard, named WG 9 and headed by the convener Mr. James Moore, unanimously approved the Ada 2005 standard on May 1st, 2006. Delegations of Belgium, Canada, France, Germany, Italy, Japan, Switzerland, UK and USA are actively represented in WG 9, along with international liaisons, one of which is Ada-Europe. The proposed amendment that creates the Ada 2005 standard has since been submitted to formal balloting at the next ISO level, the Standards Committee SC 22, which deals with all Programming Languages. The formal ballot at SC 22 level is now well underway and is due to complete by September 1st, 2006. After approval at SC level, the proposed amendment needs to pass a final balloting stage at the highest level of authority within ISO, the Joint Technical Committee JTC 1, which is in charge of the whole Information Technology sector. The final balloting stage at JTC 1 level will commence straight after completion of the SC 22 ballot and is expected to complete in November 2006.

All members of WG 9 and all those who collaborated in producing the definition of the Ada 2005 standard are enthusiastic about the wealth of innovative features that are to greatly increase the attractiveness of the language in applications where reliability, safety, efficiency, openness and maintainability are paramount.

“The WG 9 ballot completed even earlier than planned,” said Prof. Erhard Ploedereder, President of Ada-Europe. “This is a clear token of the eagerness of the Ada community to see through ISO standardization and of their full satisfaction with the technical contents of the new standard. Ada-Europe has backed up to a

very important level, both technically and financially, the specification and formalization of the Ada 2005 standard. Throughout the whole Ada 2005 process we have witnessed Europe gain an increasingly prominent role, in full collaboration with the rest of Ada community worldwide. Ada-Europe has acted as a key facilitator of that process and we are truly proud of the result achieved."

Ada 2005 offers a wealth of new features and enhancements in a number of areas. The Object-Oriented Programming features have been extended with Java-like interfaces attractively enhanced to provide safe integration with concurrent programming. The language now also permits to use the more conventional "object.operator" syntax, to which OOP users have grown accustomed. Program structuring features, which were always one of Ada's strong points, have been further enhanced to ease the definition of mutually-dependent package specifications. Real-time system support, where Ada has always been far ahead of other mainstream programming languages, has been extended to additional and even coexisting task dispatching policies including well-known Earliest Deadline First (which is an absolute first!), execution-time clocks along with time budget monitoring, and task termination handlers. The standard includes full compile-time and run-time support for the Ravenscar Profile, which is a great aid to high-integrity applications. The predefined environment of the language has been extended with several new capabilities including a brand-new Containers library. A number of further enhancements were also made to increase the general expressiveness of the language, including more flexible and yet safe use of access values. In all, Ada 2005 is an even safer and more agile language than its predecessors, loosing none of the efficiency that has been a hallmark of the Ada language design.

About Ada-Europe

Ada-Europe is the international organization that promotes the knowledge and use of Ada into academia, research and industry in Europe.

Currently, the member organizations of Ada-Europe are: Ada-Belgium, Ada-Denmark, Ada-Deutschland, Ada-France, Ada-Spain, Ada in Sweden and Ada in Switzerland. In addition, Ada-Europe has a number of individual members throughout other Europe countries, bringing membership close to 300 persons from all membership categories.

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