



USENIX Annual Technical Conference

Pre-Announcement and Call for Papers and Presenters

January 6-10, 1997
Anaheim Marriott Hotel
Anaheim, California

Program Committee

John T. Kohl, Program Chair, *Atria Software*
Matt Blaze, *AT&T Research*
Bill Bolosky, *Microsoft Research*
Nathaniel Borenstein, *First Virtual Holdings*
Charlie Briggs, *Digital Equipment Corporation*
Clem Cole, *Locus Computing*
Fred Douglass, *AT&T Research*
Rob Gingell, *Sun Microsystems*
Mike Karels, *Berkeley Software Design*
Peg Schafer, *Harvard University*
John Schimmel, *Silicon Graphics*
Carl Staelin, *Hewlett-Packard Laboratories*

Invited Talks Co-ordinators

Mary Baker, *Stanford University*
Berry Kercheval, *Xerox PARC*

Due Dates for Refereed Paper Submissions

Manuscripts Due: *June 18, 1996*
Notification to Authors: *August 7, 1996*
Camera-ready Final Papers Due: *November 13, 1996*

Conference Schedule Overview

Tutorials: *January 6-7, 1997*
Technical Sessions and Invited Talks: *January 8-10, 1997*
Birds-of-a-Feather Sessions: *January 7-9, 1997*
Vendor Display: *January 8-9, 1997*
USENIX Reception: *January 8, 1997*

Conference Overview

The conference technical sessions include one track of refereed papers selected by the Program Committee. The refereed papers are published in the Conference Proceedings which are provided to all registered technical session attendees.

There is also a parallel track of Invited Talks. These survey-style sessions given by experts range over a variety of interesting and timely topics. Submitted Notes from the Invited Talks are published and distributed to registered technical sessions attendees.

Two full days of tutorials precede the technical sessions with practical tutorials on timely topics.

Other highlights of the conference include a work-in-progress session, which provides a forum for short informal technical presentations; the evening birds-of-a-feather sessions which provide

very informal gatherings on particular topics; the Guru is IN sessions, informal discussions where noted experts from the USENIX community will answer technical questions; and vendor exhibits, which provide the opportunity for no-nonsense evaluation of products and services.

Refereed Papers

The emphasis for the 1997 USENIX Technical Conference is on advanced systems' uses in the global computing environment. How do we build computing systems which fulfill current needs yet can grow to handle the future demands? What techniques and technologies can we use to satisfy a large, growing, and changing computing appetite? How do we support new computing styles with advanced computing systems? How do we protect the systems we build from failures or abuses?

The Program Committee seeks original and innovative full papers about the applications, architecture, implementation, and performance of modern computing systems. Some particularly interesting related topics are:

- Scaling the advanced system: down to laptops, palmtops, embedded systems; up to large file systems and memories, mass storage, faster networks, new protocols
- Mobile systems: network connectivity, system support, application design
- Tasks/roles where advanced systems shine or fall short
- Practical network security, privacy, and cryptography
- Electronic commerce, internetworking
- Multi-media challenges, solutions, and innovations
- Interoperation/standards: tools, techniques, and experience connecting with other computing systems

This list is by no means exhaustive; you are encouraged to submit papers on other advanced system related topics. As at all USENIX conferences, papers that analyze problem areas and draw important conclusions from practical experience are especially welcome.

How to Submit a Refereed Paper

It is imperative that you contact the USENIX Association office to receive detailed guidelines and suggestions for submitting a quality paper to the refereed track of the technical sessions. Please send email to

usenix97authors@usenix.org
or telephone 510 . 528 . 8649.

In addition, specific questions about submissions to the USENIX 1997 Technical Conference may be sent to the program chairman via email at

kohl@usenix.org.

The program committee will review full papers this year (rather than extended abstracts as in the past). Papers should be 8 to 12 single-spaced 8.5" × 11" pages (about 4000-6000 words), not counting figures and references. Papers longer than 12 pages will be discarded without review.

Include references to establish that you are familiar with prior work and how it relates to your work. Where possible/applicable, provide detailed performance data to establish that you have a working implementation and measurement tools. A good paper will demonstrate that the authors:

- are attacking a significant problem,
- are familiar with the current and past literature about the problem,
- have devised an original or clever solution,
- if appropriate, have implemented the solution and characterized its performance,
- have drawn appropriate conclusions about what they have learned.

Note that the USENIX Technical Conference, like most conferences and journals, requires that papers not be submitted simultaneously to more than one conference or publication, and that submitted papers not be previously or subsequently published elsewhere. Papers accompanied by non-disclosure agreement forms are not acceptable and will be returned to the author(s) unread. All submissions are held in the highest confidentiality prior to publication in the Proceedings, both as a matter of policy and in accord with the U.S. Copyright Act of 1976.

Authors will be notified by August 7, 1996. Some accepted papers will be shepherded by a program committee member through an editorial review process prior to publication in the conference proceedings.

Where to Send Submissions

Please send one copy of your manuscript to the program chairman via one of the following methods. All submissions will be acknowledged.

Preferred method: email (PostScript or ASCII)
to: *usenix97papers@usenix.org*

If you have a MIME-capable mail system, you are encouraged to include your PostScript manuscript as Content-Type: application/postscript, Content-Transfer-Encoding: base64. Important: For PostScript submissions, use only standard PostScript fonts, and format your paper for US Letter (8.5 × 11 inches) paper. If your paper will not print properly, your submission will be returned. You should attach the cover letter (see below) as a separate MIME enclosure.

Alternate method: Postal Delivery to:

John Kohl
Atria Software
20 Maguire Road
Lexington, MA USA 02173
Phone: 617 . 676 . 2641

The authors must also submit the following information (for administrative handling) via email to usenix97papers@usenix.org

1. The title of the manuscript and the names of the authors. (Note: the program committee does not review papers blindly; the authors' names and affiliations will be known to the reviewers).
2. The name of one author who will serve as a contact, an email address, day and evening phone numbers, postal mail address, and fax.
3. An indication of which, if any, of the listed authors are full-time students.
4. A short abstract of the paper (100–200 words) (this can be the same as the paper's abstract).

Cash Prizes

Cash prizes will be awarded for the best paper at the conference and the best student paper.

Invited Talks

An Invited Talks track complements the Refereed Paper track. These talks by invited experts provide introductory and advanced information about a variety of topics such as using standard UNIX tools, tackling system administration difficulties, or employing specialized applications. Submitted Notes from the Invited Talks are published and distributed free to technical sessions attendees. This track also includes panel presentations and selections from the best presentations offered at 1996 USENIX conferences and symposia.

Suggestions/Proposals Wanted

The Invited Talks coordinators welcome suggestions for topics and request proposals for particular talks. In your proposal, state the main focus, include a brief outline, and be sure to emphasize why your topic is of general interest to our community. Please submit via email to

ITusenix@usenix.org.

Tutorials

On Monday and Tuesday, you may attend intensive, immediately practical tutorials on topics essential to the use, development, and administration of UNIX and UNIX-like operating systems, windowing systems, networks, advanced programming languages and related technologies. The USENIX Association's well-respected program offers introductory and advanced tutorials, pre-

sented by skilled instructors who are hands-on experts in their topic areas. USENIX will offer two full days of tutorials covering topics such as:

- System and network administration
- System and network security
- Java
- Distributed computing
- Kernel internals: SVR4, BSD, Windows NT
- Systems programming tools and program development
- Portability and interoperability
- Client-server application design and development
- Sendmail, DNS, and other networking issues
- GUI technologies and builders
- WWW technologies

Proposals Wanted

To provide the best possible tutorial slate, USENIX constantly solicits proposals for new tutorials. If you are interested in presenting a tutorial, contact the Tutorial Coordinator:

Daniel V. Klein
Phone: 412 . 421 . 2332
Email: dvk@usenix.org

Work-in-Progress Reports (Whips)

Bob Gray, *U S WEST Advanced Technologies*
WIPS Co-ordinator

Do you have interesting work you would like to share, or a cool idea that is not yet ready to be published? The Work-in-Progress reports, scheduled during the technical sessions, introduce interesting new or ongoing work. The USENIX audience provides valuable discussion and feedback. We are particularly interested in presenting student work. To schedule your report, send email to wips97@usenix.org.

Birds-of-a-Feather Sessions (BOFs)

The popular evening Birds-of-a-Feather sessions are very informal attendee-organized gatherings of persons interested in a particular topic. BOFs often feature presentations or demonstrations followed by discussion, announcements, and the sharing of strategies. BOFs are offered Tuesday, Wednesday, and Thursday evenings of the conference. They may be scheduled on-site at the conference or in advance by contacting the USENIX Conference Office by phone at 714 . 588 . 8649 or via email to conference@usenix.org.

Vendor Exhibits

Vendors will demonstrate the technical innovations which distinguish their products. In this relaxed environment, attendees can discuss the product features and services on display.

Vendors: This is an exceptional opportunity to receive feedback from our technically astute attendees. If your company would like to display its products and services, please contact:

Zanna Knight
USENIX Association
Telephone: 510 . 528 . 8649
Fax 510 . 548 . 5738
Email: display@usenix.org

Conference Program and Registration Information

Special Hotel Rates

The Anaheim Marriott Hotel, adjacent to Disneyland, is headquarters for the USENIX 1997 Technical Conference and will be the location for all conference activities. The Anaheim Marriott will be offering special room rates to attendees.

Registration Materials

Materials containing all details of the technical sessions, tutorial program, conference registration, hotel and airfare discounts, and reservation information will be available mid-September, 1996.

If you wish to receive the registration materials, please contact:

USENIX Conference Office
22672 Lambert St., Suite 613
Lake Forest, CA USA 92630
Phone: 714 . 588 . 8649
Fax: 714 . 588 . 9706
Email: conference@usenix.org

About The USENIX Association

Since 1975, the USENIX Association has provided a forum where the community of engineers, scientists, and technicians working on the cutting edge of the computing world come together to communicate the results of innovation and research in UNIX and modern open systems. USENIX is well known for its technical conferences, tutorial programs, and the wide variety of publications it has sponsored over the years. USENIX is the original, not-for-profit membership organization for individuals and institutions interested in UNIX and related technologies. Evolving with technology, USENIX has broadened its activities to include open systems and the globally interconnected and interoperable computing environment.

The USENIX Association and its members are dedicated to:

- problem-solving with a practical bias,
- fostering innovation and research that works,
- rapidly communicating the results of both research and innovation, and
- providing a neutral forum for the exercise of critical thought and the airing of technical issues.

SAGE, the System Administrators Guild, a Special Technical Group within the USENIX Association, is dedicated to the recognition and advancement of system administration as a profession.

For more information about USENIX and SAGE, our publications, or events, please visit our Web site. The URL is <http://www.usenix.org>. Or, send email to our mailserver at info@usenix.org. Your message should contain the line: *send catalog*. A catalog will be returned to you.