

STERREKUNDIG INSTITUUT TE UTRECHT

STERREWACHT "SONNENBORGH"

Utrecht, November 9th 1977.

onze ref.:

uw ref.:

To all FORTH users.

Dear Members,

Herewith I have the pleasure of inviting you to the 4th European FORTH Users Meeting, to be held in the Seminar Room of the Geneva Observatory on 16 and 17 December 1977. This is planned to occur after the ESO-conference on Large Telescopes of the Future.

The program will be "general topics and users" on 16 December, whereas a standards meeting follows on 17 December.

Greetings,

H. Munnich

STERREKUNDIG INSTITUUT TE UTRECHT

STERREWACHT 'SONNENBORGH'

Utrecht, November 8th 1977.

onze ref.:

uw ref.:


To all FORTH users.

EDITORIAL COMMENT

At the EFAUG meeting in Herstmonceux it appeared that after one year of existence the group now has available:

- a) A Standard Forth as documented in the lists AST.01 and AST.01 Extended (USA) and LEVEL 0 and LEVEL 1 (Europe) except for some words still to be discussed with the Americans.
- b) In order to encourage use in other than astronomical application it has been proposed to support the standard under the name FORTH 77. FORTH 77 implies in its standard form the AST.01 and LEVEL 0 designations (see also a)) and as an extension the AST.01 EXTENDED and LEVEL 1 words.
- c) A FORTH STANDARDS COMMITTEE (FSC) has been formed. The Americans will be asked to contribute one or two members.
As of now the FSC has the following members:
 - 1) American representative as yet unnamed;
 - 2) American representative as yet unnamed;
 - 3) Paul Bartholdi (Observatoire de Genève);
 - 4) Philip Hill (St. Andrews);
 - 5) Hans Nieuwenhuijzen (Astronomical Institute Utrecht), secretary;
 - 6) Robbie Spruit (CFHT Meudon).
- d) With standards as outlined in a) b) c) the (European) FORTH Users Group ((E)FUG) will shift its emphasis toward a real USERS group, i.e. towards dissemination of programs and combinations of programs written in FORTH and discussions thereof.
- e) As a matter of practical importance I would like to mention the availability of a quite useful type of "compile-time security", generated through the efforts of most of the members of the European group. ("In the Americas this would perhaps properly be called "compile-time checking".")

Herewith I thank everyone who has helped to make our meetings successful for their time and energy.


Hans Nieuwenhuijzen.