

The Software Industry in Northern Ireland

1990 – 1995

"Growth Through Excellence"



The Council and its Executive Committee will advise and provide guidance on training required to meet identified skill requirements, assist organisations where necessary to develop and initiate career and training development programmes, and represent the views of the Northern Ireland software industry to Government training and funding agencies.

This will ensure that Northern Ireland maintains its potential for growth in the software development industry.

4.1.13 Software Industry Catalyst Organisation (SICO)

SICO was established on 1 September 1988 to promote the IT industry in the North West of Northern Ireland. The organisation has objectives which will be achieved by commercial and non-commercial means, and will necessitate several distinct bodies and companies operating under the one umbrella organisation.

The objectives of this organisation are to:-

- generate IT employment in the North West
- create the conditions that will induce the sustained growth of IT industry and to participate in IT infrastructural development
- create and promote opportunities for IT investment in the North West
- generate, attract, and retain a pool of expertise in the North West.

4.1.14 The Northern Ireland Regional Transputer Support Centre

The Centre is a joint venture between the University of Ulster and the Queen's University of Belfast. It is funded by the Science and Engineering Research Council and the Department of Trade and Industry, under the SERC/DTI Engineering applications of Transputers Initiative. Recently opened, its objectives are threefold: to enhance research and development in the area of parallel processing; to promote an awareness of transputer technology and to transfer this new technology into industry.

4.1.15 British Computer Society (BCS)

The BCS is the Chartered Society for Information Technology and Information Systems Engineering. The Society's professional membership grades are widely accepted as a demonstration of professional competence. It is recognised as the authoritative, impartial voice of IT professionals and in consultation with its members, provides advice, information and expertise to both government and industry on all issues affecting, or affected by, IT.

The Belfast branch, with over 700 members, is one of the 42 local branches of the Society and is regarded as being one of the top three in terms of professional standing.