

(Apologies if you receive multiple copies of this announcement)

Workshop on the Verified Software Repository

15 September 2008

BCS London Offices

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CALL FOR PARTICIPATION

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In 2004, the UK Computing Research Committee initiated a number of “Grand Challenges” aimed at stimulating long term research in key areas of computing science. One of the challenges (GC6) focuses on Dependable Systems Evolution. GC6 has two central principles: theory should be embodied in tools, and tools should be tested against real systems. The goal is to produce a Verifying Compiler (a suite of integrated tools) and a repository of verified software.

The results of the first VSR pilot project, conducted in 2006, on verifying the Mondex system, using different formalisms and tools, are the first artifacts to be deposited in the repository. A number of other pilot studies are underway in various parts of Europe, USA, Canada and China. This is a truly international initiative, and the UK is a major contributor.

In 2005, Joshi and Holzman from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory at CalTech suggested the specification and verification of a POSIX-compliant filestore interface to flash memory. The filestore has strict fault-tolerance requirements that make it suitable for use by forthcoming NASA missions. This was suggested to the ASM, B and Z communities as an interesting challenge to work on, and some rose to this challenge by submitting papers to the upcoming ABZ 2008 conference, held immediately after the VSR-net workshop.

The purpose of this VSR-net workshop is to bring together researchers and practitioners interested in the current challenges, and wishing to contribute to future challenges. Cliff Jones, University of Newcastle, will give the keynote talk at the workshop. In addition, there will be talks from:

- \* Jim Woodcock, University of York -- Pilot projects for the VSR
- \* Richard Banach, University of Manchester -- Mondex
- \* Michael Butler, University of Southampton -- Verified filestore

\* John Fitzgerald, University of Newcastle -- Cardiac pacemaker

The organizers welcome short presentations on work related to GC6 and the verified software repository. If you are interested in giving a talk, please send a one-page abstract to Jim Woodcock (jim@cs.york.ac.uk) and Paul Boca (paul.boca@googlemail.com) by 18 July. You will be notified whether your abstract has been accepted by 1 August.

There will be an informal proceedings which may be published electronically. A book on the verified software repository is planned, which will be based on this and other VSR-net related workshops.

### Important Dates

18 July 2008	Submission of one-page abstract
1 Aug 2008	Notification of acceptance
1 Sept 2008	Draft paper (optional)
15 Sept 2008	VSR-net Workshop
16-18 Sept 2008	ABZ 2008 conference.

### Organizers

Jim Woodcock, University of York  
Paul Boca, Programming Research Ltd

### Venue

British Computer Society, 5 Southampton Street, London, UK

### Registration

Attendance is free for ABZ2008 delegates. A small fee will be charged for non-ABZ attendees to cover costs.