SIGAda Viability Review

Our goals and benefits

- To coordinate, provide and disseminate information relating to
  - The Ada programming language
  - High-integrity programming practices involving safety-critical and real-time coding

- Our primary outreach
  - The SIGAda conferences (up through 2011)
  - The HILT (High Integrity Language Technology) conference (since 2012)
  - Our SIGAda web page
  - Our tri-annual publication (*Ada Letters*)
  - International Real-Time Ada Workshop proceedings (yearly)

Outreach

- Our SigAda home page sums it up

About Ada
Ada Basic Information
Ada FAQs
Creating Ada Software

Ada Awareness
Ada answers
Ada Information Clearinghouse
Ada Usage and Success Stories
Interesting Ada Articles
Who's Using Ada?
SIGAda's Booth Schedule
Ada Logos
"Powered by Ada" Poster Gallery

Ada Community
Ada in Universities
Ada Organizations Around the World
Ada Related Conferences
Contacting Others in Ada Community
Local SIGAda Chapters
Ada Vendors
Ada Information Resources
Job Bank at the AdaIC

Conferences

- Renamed HILT in 2012 to focus on high-integrity design and programming
  - A broader scope to attract participants from both outside and inside the Ada community.

- The conference combines invited and accepted papers. We have a low number of high-quality papers, supplemented by a similar number of invited papers from leaders in industry and academia.

- Our low number of submissions by itself does not indicate problems with the conference.

- Based on what we've heard from attendees, the quality of the conference over the past few years, especially with the "Tilt for HILT", has gone up considerably.

Financial issues

- In spite of downturn in economy and the military sequestration, our conference attendance is stable. We feel an annual conference that continually draws 75 people or more is reasonable, if it meets the needs of our community.

- We have shown we have the ability to predict and budget accurately based on our estimated attendance.

- Our co-locating with SPLASH (SIGPlan) will help us gather additional exhibitors – which is where we have lost part of our revenue.

In conclusion

- We are not a "one-trick pony". SIGAda is **_much_** more than a SIG based on a "dying language".

- Ada is **_not_** dying!
  - Ada is widely used worldwide in both academic and industry, and the number of high-integrity applications in Ada is growing (see http://www.seas.gwu.edu/~mfeldman/ada-project-summary.html).
  - GAP (GNAT Academic Program) involves 200 schools in 35 countries using Ada in their curriculum.

- Our conferences focus on Ada, but also on high-integrity design and coding – with top-notch speakers!

- We leverage membership and vendors with Ada-Europe

- Changes to conference policies (officer travel, discounted registration) have reversed our conference "losing streak"!