

The Fifteenth National Conference on Artificial Intelligence—AAAI-98

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s the field of artificial intelligence matures, our abili-Lty to construct intelligent artifacts increases, as does the need for implemented systems to experimentally validate AI research. In addition, it is becoming more important to make the tangible results of our research accessible to each other, to the scientific community, and to the public at large. AAAI-98 introduces a new program of intelligent systems demonstrations to showcase state of the art AI implementations. This program also complements the new Integrated AI systems paper track and provides researchers with a greater opportunity to show their research in action.

Researchers from all areas of AI are encouraged to submit proposals to demonstrate their systems. Submissions will be evaluated on the basis of their innovation, relevance. scientific contribution, presentation, and "user friendliness," as well as potential logistical constraints. This program is primarily to encourage the early exhibition of research prototypes, but interesting mature systems and commercial products are also eligible (commercial sales and marketing activities are not appropriate in the demonstration program, and should be arranged as part of the AAAI exhibit program). Each accepted demonstration system must be attended by at least one knowledgeable representative (preferably an architect of the system) who will be available to answer in-depth technical questions at a scheduled time.

The submission should consist of a cover letter indicating the primary author's name, affiliation, address, phone number, and e-mail address, and three copies of the following:

- 1. A two-page summary in AAAI paper format of the technical content of the demo, including credits and references. This summary will be used to compile a program for the demonstrations.
- 2. An informal videotape of the demo (in NTSC VHS format), or a demo storyboard of not more than six pages total.
- 3. A detailed description of hardware and software requirements. Demonstrators are encouraged to be flexible in their requirements (possibly with different demos for different logistical situations).

Please state what you can bring yourself and what you absolutely must have provided. We will do our best to provide resources but nothing can be guaranteed at this point beyond space and power.

Demo submissions must be received at the address below no later than Friday, February 27, 1998. Fax or e-mail submissions will not be accepted. Authors will be notified of acceptance by April 1, 1998.

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We especially hope that authors of papers accepted for presentation at the conference technical program will be able to demonstrate their research in the Intelligent Systems Demonstration Program. To present a system demonstration, however, the authors must still submit a proposal conforming to the above requirements by the demonstration program deadline.

Submitters who wish to demonstrate intelligent mechanical systems that interact with the real world (aka "robots") should direct their efforts toward the AAAI Robot Exhibition.

If you have any questions or comments about the Intelligent Systems Demonstration program, we encourage you to address them to the program chairs, George Ferguson (ferguson@cs.rochester.edu) and Randolph M.Jones (rjones@eecs. umich.edu