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The Software Technology Support Center was established at Ogden Air Logistics Center (AFMC) by Headquarters U.S. Air Force to help Air Force software organizations identify, evaluate, and adopt technologies that will improve the quality of their software products, their efficiency in producing them, and their ability to accurately predict the cost and schedule of their delivery. *CROSSTALK* is assembled, printed, and distributed by the Defense Automated Printing Service, Hill AFB, UT 84056. *CROSSTALK* is distributed without charge to individuals actively involved in the defense software development process.

Farewell from Lorin May

Farewell, dear readers, this is the last time I get to insult your collective intelligence. On April 1, I officially stopped working for *CROSSTALK* and became a bona fide contractor techie.

Stop laughing — I'm one of you now. Not to brag, but I frequently impress co-workers with my knowledge of C++, B++, gooey (and how to avoid them), and how to IF-THEN-ELSE every oriented object in sight. In fact, judging from the quizzical looks, I think I'm often talking over their heads.

Perhaps you are thinking, "You, the guy who thinks MacGyver is a real person, and that an algorithm is a funky dance step, are allowed to be in the same room as actual code?"

I'm sick of hearing that question. Besides, I'm working in the requirements phase, and any *CROSSTALK* reader knows that if you are going to make mistakes, requirements is the phase in which to do it.

It's nice to be able to look back on my three years with *CROSSTALK* and think, "I can be proud that I produced 35 issues of the military's premiere software journal without making a single error that was conclusively linked to a software-glitch-induced international crisis." I even have the acquittal papers to prove it.

And *CROSSTALK* was a great springboard for some of my software-related accomplishments, including:

- Developing the first comprehensive, commercially viable Y2K solution endorsed by the Gouda Cheese Makers of America (GCMA).
- Championing the consolidation of various leading software standards, frameworks, and models into one simple, user-friendly framework called MIL-STD-ISO-498-CMMI-9000-OMG-SEI-IEEE-BVD-DII-COE-CIA-CORBA-DVD-DOA-RSVP-ASAP-2167A version 2.0 (draft), also known in professional circles simply as "MSI4C9OSIBDCCCDDRA2V2D."
- Teaming with Al Gore to develop the LINUX operating system.
- Designing and coding my first software program, a modest little system called SoftComplete 1.0. At the touch of a button it automatically converts written requirements into bug-free code, writes complete documentation, and configures and installs the system to multiple-user environments in distributed locations, all in less than five minutes. Or at least it will in the next release. (System requirements: Windows 3.x, Dual 300 GigaHertz processors, 512 Terabytes of RAM, 4,194,304 Trilobites of disk space, 5 1/4" floppy drive.)

So farewell, it's been fun. If you want to chat, or wish me good riddance, drop me a line at lorinmay@hotmail.com.

— Lorin May, former associate editor

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