

MTA EUROPE

by Kate Schell

The 1997 MTA-Europe meeting took place on Wednesday, October 29th, at the Palace Hotel in Brussels, Belgium. There were just over eighty registered attendees.

Presentations ranged from user interface enhancements using Web and Windows technology to upgrading systems to cope with the Year 2000 problem and the impending advent of the Euro. Vendors included ESI Technology Corporation, CyberTools, QMI, George James Software, InterSystems and Micronetics.

Two vendors, InterSystems and Micronetics, held sessions the day before the MTA-E meeting. Both were well attended, with approximately fifty participants each.

During the MTA-Europe business meeting the members agreed to develop a stronger web presence. Wolfgang Kirsten stepped down as the editor of the *M Professional*, and it was decided to submit articles to *M Computing* rather than to attempt to keep both publications going. Participants enthusiastically supported a 1998 meeting of the same format, also to be held in Brussels.

The social event, held in the hotel, centered on a five-course meal. Belgians take their food and their cigarettes seriously. Although we

didn't set aside much time for tourism, we did manage to see the "Grand Palace," and can assure all concerned that Belgian waffles are much more substantial than those sold under the name at American breakfast restaurants.

Our thanks to our European colleagues for a good meeting and a good time. **M**

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