



By Astrid Schoofs

What is happening in Russia

One of PICMG Europe's activities is to participate in industry trade fairs in Europe to promote the PICMG Standards and to support its members in obtaining new customers and new leads. For PICMG Europe members it is also an effective and inexpensive way to be represented at a fair without all the costs of a booth and manpower. 90 percent of the industry fairs, which are of any importance to our members, are, however, in Germany. We were therefore very interested when we received market information from the organizers of EXPO ELECTRONICA, May 28-31 in Moscow, Russia.

Overview

The Russian market for electronic components is beginning to stabilize gradually after the crisis. In 2001, its turnover was around \$23 billion after dropping to \$16 billion in 1998. The manufacture of electronic systems, stimulated by the devaluation of the ruble and some government initiatives, is moving into Russia. The consumption of electronic parts in 2000 exceeded \$1 billion, and its annual growth is over 20 percent. Today, among the key branches of the domestic manufacture of electronic systems and equipment are:

- Specialized electronics
- Telecommunication systems
- Automobile electronics
- Home appliance electronics
- Manufacture of electronic parts
- Computers
- Office equipment

Estimates show that in the future, the market for industrial electronics will reach a turnover of tens of billions dollars, and the market for electronic parts for the manufacture of domestic electronic systems will be able to reach a turnover of \$5 billion already by 2010.

The Russian Government has approved a USD 2.6 billion-program *Electronic Russia 2002-2010* that is intended to boost e-commerce and Internet use in the country. The architects of the program project that by the end of the program in 2010, the IT sector in Russia will account for 2 percent of the economy (compared with the current level of 0.61 percent) and IT exports should reach \$1 billion to \$2 billion per year. The program addresses four areas:

- Regulatory and legal environment
- Internet infrastructure
- E-government
- E-education

It aims to increase the efficiency of the economy both in the public and private sectors, to make wider use of information technologies in government departments, and transfer much of the state's work online. It also aims to improve the quality of higher education in IT and develop new independent media based on Internet resources. E-education, the delivery of distance learning programs via the Internet, is a priority for the Russian government.

One of the consequences of the chaos that followed the collapse of the Soviet Union has been that much of the information technology revolution of the last decade passed Russia by. This was particularly true in the public sector. With recent increases in both economic and political stability, the Russian government is seeking to catch up, and has developed a strategy to encourage the growth of Electronic Russia (E-Russia) program. They expect that savings through increased operational efficiency will more than offset the costs of the program.

Budget and finance

The total amount earmarked for the program is USD 2.6 billion (USD 1=29 Rbs), which comprises USD 1.3 billion from the federal budget, USD 769 million from regional and municipal budgets, and USD 500 million from extra-budget sources.

Tasks and objectives

The main objective of E-Russia is to increase the efficiency of the economy, to improve management in the public sector and enhance self-government by applying information and communication technologies (ICT). In order to reach this goal, it is necessary to address the following tasks:

- Create effective legislation governing ICT
- Ensure valuable communication and interaction between the state bodies, agencies, and companies by applying state-of-the-art ICT technologies
- Create conditions for more extensive and more effective use of ICT in the economic and social sphere
- Provide up-to-date computer training for education professionals in accordance with the reform of education being concurrently carried out
- Create incentives for the development of an independent press and media by employing ICT in their professional activities
- Support the establishment of e-commerce market places for state procurement and other commercial activities of the state
- Develop the infrastructure of telecommunication networks, as well as access to electronic libraries, archives, databases of scientific and technical information for citizens, state-owned organizations, and educational institutions

Opportunities for CompactPCI and AdvancedTCA architectures

Especially with this last objective in mind, PICMG Europe, with support of her members, has decided to participate in this Expo Electronica in Moscow.

We think that in this decision making process we can influence the choice of the right architecture by showing the technologies and specially the products and systems.

Operational management and technical support for the program will be under the Ministry of Telecommunications and Information.

For more info on EXPO Electronica Moscow or member participation, please contact astrid@picmgeu.org.

What is PICMG?

PICMG stands for PCI Industrial Computers Manufacturers Group. The intent of this manufacturers group is to use the technology and components of the commercial PCI local bus in industrial environments. By making the power of the commercial PCI local bus available for the industrial market, we all will set a new level of price/performance in open control architectures.

Current PICMG Europe Members:

ACKSYS Communications & Systems	INTEL
ADLINK TECHNOLOGY INC	Interface Concept
Agilent Technologies	Iskratel
Apra-norm Elektromechanik GmbH	KONTRON
APW Ltd.	LVPower
Asis	MarekMicro
AVX (ELCO Europe, a division of AVX)	Meilhaus Electronic
BVM Ltd.	Microbus Plc.
CET Technologies PTE Ltd.	Motorola Computer Group
CIRPACK	National Instruments
Comtel	NAT
Dage Group	Nyquist Industrial Control
Digital Development	Performance Technologies
Digital-Logic AG	Perlos Corporation
DMD Computers	PLX technology Europe
D-TACQ Solutions	Radisys Corporation
EKF Elektronik	RECAB Realtime Computers Ltd.
Elma Electronic	Rittal
Elma Trenew Electronic	RTSoft
Enea OSE Systems	SBS Technologies Europe
Eonic Solutions	SMA Regelsysteme
ept GmbH & Co.	Schroff
Erni	Stargen
Eurotech	SUN Microsystems
Force Computers	Thales Contact Solutions
GESPAC	Thales Communications
Hartmann Elektronik	Tyco Electronics
HARTING	Wieseman & Theis GmbH
Inova Computers	Würth Electronic

The definition of the technical specifications is done via the office in the USA. In 1997, a European branch office of PICMG has been installed, called PICMG Europe, promoting the usage of systems for industrial environments based on the PCI local bus in Europe.

Writing the specifications has been done. Marketing of the technology and products is the necessary next step. PICMG Europe is the necessary and independent association for supporting this goal.

In the marketing of these technical specifications, we are stronger as a group than as a number of individual operating companies. Moreover, users expect from open environments that suppliers co-operate on the same back panel anyhow. 🌐

PICMG Europe support

For more information on PICMG Europe as well as ordering specifications (PICMG 3.0, 3.1, and 3.2 can now to be ordered), please contact astrid@picmgeu.org.

PICMG Europe

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