

Bottom Dollar

Software marketed to Far East

Technology developed by University professor

Computer software developed by a University professor will soon be put to use in the Far East.

Keicho Ltd., a Japanese computer software services firm, will develop and market products based on software technology developed by Stephen Fickas, professor of computer and information science.

Representatives of Keicho were on campus last week to sign a contract detailing the nature of the firm's rights to the software. University and City of Eugene officials also attended the signing ceremony and a luncheon to mark the agreement.

The deal was made possible with the help of the Advanced Science and Technology Institute (ASTI), a University and Oregon State University joint

organization, designed to coordinate the transfer of local research to commercial applications. The Keicho pact is the first ASTI-negotiated licensing agreement that provides private industry the right to use research by a University faculty member.

Keicho will pay an initial licensing fee and annual royalties for a period of five years, providing income to Fickas, the University and the Department of Computer and Information Science.

According to Fickas, his research makes artificial intelligence programs more readily adaptable to special needs. He said the processes in most artificial intelligence computer systems are written into one large software program, and in complex fields such as banking,

running discrete applications through a large program can be cumbersome, expensive and difficult to modify.

These potential problems are unlikely to surface under application of Fickas' system, a giant framework for artificial intelligence software in which discrete processes or unique areas of expertise needed by customers can be inserted.

Keicho, with headquarters in Tokyo, primarily markets its software programs and development services among Far East financial institutions. Its clientele include the Bank of Tokyo, IBM Japan and Honda.

A former University computer science student, Beak Young Joon, introduced Keicho officials to Fickas' research. Joon works in Keicho's artificial intelligence department.

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Joe Daugirda Consultant

Tax refunds await to be claimed

The Internal Revenue Service has released the names of hundreds of persons who have filed for federal income tax returns from Oregon but have not yet claimed their money. Nearly \$280,000 has not been claimed.

Persons who filed for federal income tax returns from Oregon but have not yet received a refund can call the

IRS toll-free tax information number (1-800-424-1040) for instructions on how to apply for their checks. Information needed includes name and address indicated on the tax return, current name and address, tax year for which the refund is believed to be due, social security number, amount of refund claims, and signature of taxpayer.

Something New

A new weekly section, "Bottom Dollar," debuts in today's Emerald. The section contains financial, business and economic news that may be of interest to readers.

Comments on or suggested story ideas for "Bottom Dollar" should be addressed to the **Managing Editor** and mailed to **Oregon Daily Emerald, P.O. Box 3159, Eugene, OR 97403** or delivered to the Emerald office, EMU Suite 300.

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