Applied AI News

Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Virginia (Richmond, VA) has developed an expert system to classify, evaluate and process medical claims. The system, called MedScreen, reportedly can process up to 500 claims in 45 minutes, an operation that used to take several days to complete.

Citibank's Network Development and Operations (Long Island City, NY) has developed an intelligent help subsystem as a diagnostic aid to network operators. This expert system provides context-sensitive help to operators at Citibank's internal telecommunications network control center, assisting the operators by quickly identifying malfunctions and suggesting solutions.

IBM (Armonk, NY) and Dragon Systems (Newton, MA) have jointly developed VoiceType, a speech recognition system based on elements of the DragonDictate product, which allows hands-free typing. Typing and system operations can be run through VoiceType, allowing the user to create documents and run the computer through spoken commands.

Two Norwegian oil companies — Total and Norsk Hydro — have teamed up to develop the Offshore Directional Drilling Advisor (ODDA), an expert system for planning and conducting directional drilling operations. ODDA is made up of five modules: four drilling assistance modules and one for the analysis of data collected during operations

Pro*Stock, an intelligent system developed by Black River Systems (Winston-Salem, NC), allows investors to research 2,500 public companies on both the New York and American stock exchanges. The system offers daily updates, and lets users tap into Macro*World Master*Investor, which analyzes the relationships between economic trends, price movements and financial fundamentals to make forecasts, asset allocations and buy/sell recommendations.

AT&T's Merrimack Valley Works (North Andover, MA) has developed the Expert Capacity and Material System (XCAM), an expert system which simplifies forecast evaluations for a manufacturing operation The system automates the analysis of materials and manufacturing capacity, with the goal of producing optimum and accurate customer order production and delivery schedules.

Security Associates (Des Plaines, IL) and Johnson Controls (Milwaukee, WI) are developing plant security applications with the Neuronic Reasoning Machine (NRM). The NRM was designed by an Australian firm, Formulab International, and operates as a hybrid system, incorporating characteristics of both symbolic processing and pattern recognition. The NRM has been successfully deployed in a number of Australian banks, as well as a food storage and distribution center.

London Life (London, ON, Canada) has developed a nationwide expert system to help administrators unravel the complicated Canadian tax code as it applies to earnings on insurance policies. London Life used a client/server approach to database management while developing the system.

Empros Systems International (Plymouth, MN) has developed two expert system solutions for electric utilities The Restoration Assistant helps minimize the duration of power outages. The Load Forecasting Expert System combines traditional time series analysis techniques with heuristic methods to produce enhanced forecasts of total power system load.

CASEworks (Atlanta, GA) has formed a corporate alliance program to set a standard for the development of knowledge-assisted software engineering tools for cooperative processing/client-server environments. CASEworks plans to create a line of development tools targeted to the graphical user interface (GUI) cooperative processing market.

The US Army Laboratory Command's Human Engineering Laboratory (Aberdeen Proving Ground, MD) has awarded a $2.4 million contract to Carnegie Group (Pittsburgh, PA) to continue work on a knowledge-based logistics planning system. The system is designed to assist Army logistics planners in tactical planning for inventory and distribution management.

American NeuraLogix (Sanford, FL), a new company specializing in fuzzy logic and neural network chips, has been formed by former employees of Micro Devices, a division of Chip Supply (Orlando, FL). NeuraLogix has introduced its first product, the Fuzzy MicroController, a fully configurable VLSI fuzzy logic chip.

ICL (Birmingham, England) has completed a pilot test of an intelligent system for field service diagnosing and repairing of its high speed laser printers. ICL used a laptop-based computer-aided intelligent service (CAIS) system, which incorporates an expert system and on-line documentation, as well as electronic logging and reporting capabilities.

The US Department of Defense has awarded a $500,000 contract to Kurzweil AI (Waltham, MA) for its VoiceRAD speech-controlled radiology reporting systems. The sale was made to SAIC (San Diego, CA), which is implementing all phases of a major program, Composite Health Care System, for computerizing military health care records. Twenty-six VoiceRAD systems will be installed at 13 Air Force, Army and Navy bases in seven states and overseas in Germany.