

Communicator

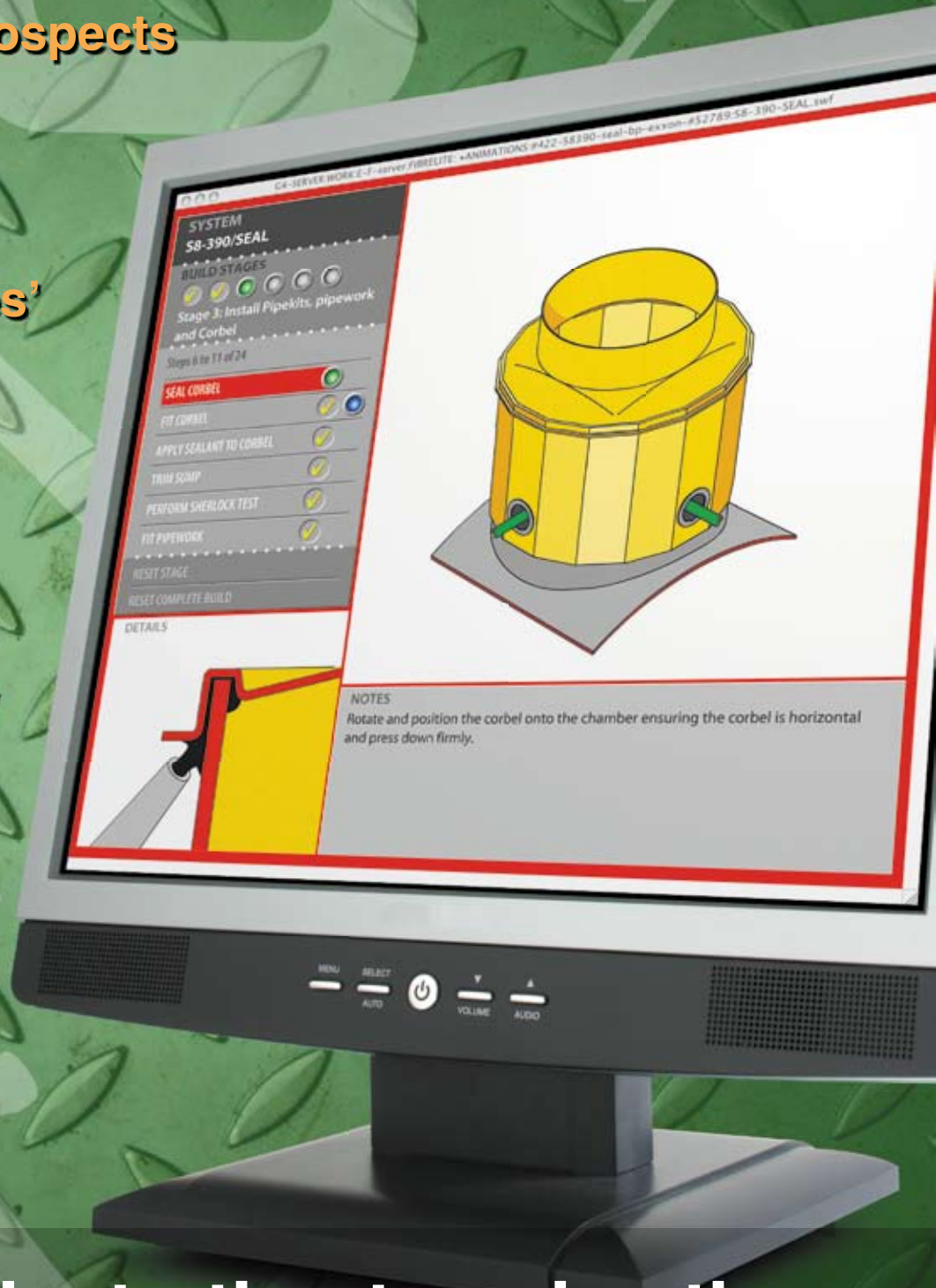
The Institute of Scientific and Technical Communicators
Winter 2005

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Documentation Awards

The entry this year was up, thanks to the hard work put in to promote the awards by Paul Ballard of 3di Information Solutions, Chair of the ISTC's Marketing Steering Group.

Class 1a: Printed technical information

Sponsor: **AST**

Winner: **Wendy Coy of Intervoice**

Runner-up: **Jane Hodges of Gazelle Training**

'I was surprised and delighted to win the award,' says Wendy. 'Winning has helped raise the profile of our UK team within the company, which has been great.'

Class 2a: Online technical information

Sponsor: **AST**

Winner: **Fiona McGregor of Paragraphics UK**

Runner-up: **Janet Basdell of Plain Words**

Fiona said, 'I have been moved by the impact it is already having on my clients.' She added that, in one case, a manager checking his predecessor's choice of supplier took the view that her work had been approved by her peers—who better to judge?

Class 2b: Online non-technical information

Sponsor: **Plain Words**

Winner: **Pat Gerwat of CODA**

Runner-up: **Pam Nicholl of Waitrose**

Pat was delighted, saying they think their success 'derives from good working practices, excellent cooperation within the team, and innovative navigation design'.

No award was presented for Class 1b.

Thanks to the sponsors who so kindly supported the Documentation Awards. If you would like to sponsor or enter a class in 2006, please e-mail awards@istc.org.uk for details.

Marian Newell FISTC

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Horace Hockley Award 2005: Dr Noel Williams



The Horace Hockley Award is awarded each year to someone who has made a major contribution to our industry. It's hard to think of someone who has made a more practical contribution to enhancing the professional standing of UK technical communicators than Dr Noel Williams. By pioneering the first Master's degree in the field, he paved the way for us to attain an academic level comparable with our most illustrious subject-matter experts.

By offering the course through open learning, Sheffield Hallam University made the opportunity as accessible as possible. In the ten years or so since, many ISTC members have gained the qualification and can at last present themselves as professionals equal to colleagues in other disciplines.

Noel began his career with an

interest in English Literature, which he developed first into linguistics and then into the world of computers and programming languages in the mid-1980s. He followed his 1979 MA at Cambridge with a PhD in English Language at Sheffield University in 1984. Now Reader in Communications at Sheffield Hallam, he has strong research interests in writing and communication technologies. He mainly works with multimedia technologies, though his most recent project is on the value of voice recognition for writers.

One of the main developers of the MA in Technical Authorship (now Communication), he remained as Course Leader until Florence Dujardin took on that role. He continues to support third-year students in producing their dissertations.

With over 100 academic publications to his name, including eight books, Noel is an experienced writer. He has worked as a consultant or researcher for the DfEE, McGraw-Hill, IBM, AT&T, Marshall Cavendish, various TECs, the Arthritis and Rheumatism Council, and the British Academy. He was also a member of the working group that developed BS 7830:1996, Guide to the design and preparation of on-screen documentation for users of application software (recently incorporated into ISO/IEC 18019).

Sadly, Noel was unable to join us at Conference to collect his award in person because he is unwell. We extend our best wishes to him, along with our gratitude for his work in our field. **C**

The ISTC would like to thank all Conference supporters:

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