

Overview of CAPE developments – as reported in The Works of DANTE

April 1998 - THE CAPE PROJECT

The CAPE (Connecting Asia Pacific and Europe) study analyses the demand and feasibility for direct connectivity between the European Research Network TEN-34 and its equivalent in the Asia Pacific region (APAN, the Asian Pacific Advanced network). The CAPE study also analyses the state of research networking in non-APAN countries. The EC DGXIII has commissioned DANTE, supported by the German NRN, to carry out the CAPE study on their behalf.

The analysis focuses on the following countries: Australia, China, Hong Kong, India, Indonesia, Japan, Korea, Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Taiwan and Thailand. Contacts with Telecom Operators and Research Networks and Institutes in the region have been established and information on the costs and benefits of direct connectivity has been gathered. A questionnaire, evaluating actual and potential demand, will be sent around user groups in Europe who are currently undertaking collaborative projects with research organisations in the Asia Pacific Area in the beginning of May.

August 1998 - CAPE STUDY - FINAL REPORT SUBMITTED

DANTE submitted the final report of the CAPE (Connecting Asia Pacific to Europe) Study to the European Commission in the end of August. Following an analysis of the current situation of research networking in Asia Pacific and the potential for co-operation between Asia Pacific and Europe, the main recommendation of the report is to connect the European research network TEN-155 directly with the Asia Pacific Advanced Network (APAN) via a landing in South Korea. The Asian Pacific Advanced Network is a non-profit international consortium that was established in June 1997 to promote the exchange of research and development within the member networks. Primary funding members were networks based in Australia, Japan, South Korea and Singapore. The USA, Canada and DANTE on behalf of the European research networks are liaison members of the APAN consortium.

DANTE furthermore suggests to connect to Asia Pacific for a minimum commitment period of 3 years, to base the funding of the network on a fair sharing of costs based on line utilisation and to use ATM technology to enable future upgrades of the link.

December 1998 - CAPE STUDY AVAILABLE

The CAPE (Connecting Asia Pacific to Europe) Study carried out by DANTE is now available from the web. The study includes overviews of the status and developments of the Internet in Europe as well as in Japan, South Korea, Singapore, China, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Thailand, Sri Lanka, Pakistan, Vietnam and Cambodia. Special attention is given to the developments in the Asia Pacific Advanced Network (APAN). The study evaluates the potential and economics for a regional cooperation.