

# The Editor's Corner

## Paperese

IN THE PRESENTATION of papers at technical conventions, authors frequently utter phrases which sound deceptively like English but which are actually in a strange tongue called Paperese. When spoken by an expert, the transition from normal English to Paperese is difficult to recognize. Those less skilled, however, occasionally betray the shift by a moistening of the lips, a cough or a vacant stare.

Some people at these conventions actually listen to some of the papers, and for the benefit of the less experienced among these we present here some of the more common phrases in Paperese together with their English translations. We are indebted to D. von Recklinghausen for suggesting several of these phrases. Supplementary lists would be welcome and will be published in a future issue if enough contributions are received.

| PAPERESE   | ENGLISH TRANSLATION  |
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| A novvul approwch wuz uzed.  | Benjamin F. Meissner did it thirty years ago.  |
| Thuh theery wull bee preezentd furst.                                    | I worked out the math last night.  |
| Obviuslee . . .  | I haven't bothered to figure it out, but . . .   |
| Thuh dezine ubjectivz wur az followz:                                    | When we finally got the prototype working, it had these characteristics:                 |
| Theez ubjectivz wur mett.  | We're having a little trouble with production models, but the prototype works fine.      |
| . . . strateforwurd . . .  | . . . brute force . . .  |
| . . . awtomattik . . .   | . . . has an on-off switch   |
| . . . sollid stayt . . .   | . . . contains a diode . . .   |
| . . . portubbl . . .   | . . . has a handle . . .   |
| . . . semmee portubbl . . .  | . . . has two handles . . .  |
| Purformans haz bin radicallee improovd.                                  | Last year's model was lousy.   |
| Thisss wurk wuz purformd fowr yeez uggo.                                 | I ran out of new material for papers, but needed an excuse to go to the convention.      |
| Thisss resurch haz demmunstrated thuh feezi billittee uv thiss approwch. | We couldn't make it work, but we're trying to get the government to extend the contract. |

PETER W. TAPPAN, EDITOR