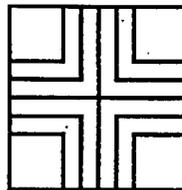


TECHNICAL CHALLENGES FACING FLAG DESIGNERS AND MANUFACTURERS



**FLAG GRAPHICS BY COMPUTER PROGRAM
SEMINAR: TUESDAY 26 SEPTEMBER ST ANNES COLLEGE**

The general potential for using CAD - Computer Aided Design - in vexillography was presented in a short session by Mr Graeme Stranton from Ultragraphics, of Mordialloc Victoria. (Ultragraphics were involved in the printing of the flag chart published for some years by the National Bank of Australia, and now produced under consultancy from the Flag Society of Australia).

Clearly, computer generated graphics made life easier for the designer, and technical production of flag information. It assured production economies of scale. These tended to diminish however when the system had to be adapted to meet the statutory vagaries of colour and proportion of different flags (eg Qatr 11:27, deep maroon, Bahamas with its particular shade of blue-green, the new FSA flag adopted in committee that very afternoon, proportions 5:8).

Emblems of intricate detail naturally lost clarity in the process of photo-reduction to chart size, but this was simply a reflection of the viewer's normal experience as flags were seen from greater distance. This reality reinforces that flag design be kept a simple as possible to provide an effective signal.

**THE PLACE OF COLOUR CODES IN FLAGCRAFT
SEMINAR: MONDAY 25 SEPTEMBER ST ANNES COLLEGE**

The observations offered on the Tuesday complemented those at this earlier, and equally short, seminar on the advantages of various colour coding systems in the design and production of flags.

William Crampton had then noted that as the Pantoñe system had achieved near universal acceptance in the graphic design world, its adoption also by vexillologists could reduce the well-known and frequent instances of colour confusion.

Against this was the relative simplicity of the array of only 20-25 shades of bunting still the mainstay of flag manufacturers. Use of this limited range of colours tended to reinforce the desirable clarity in flag production which remained the enduring legacy of traditional heraldry. In this context, the insights in Jiri Tenora's paper read on the last day of the Congress remain particularly pertinent.