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Sankt Augustin, January 24, 2003

Dear Prof. Stahl,

I am glad to hear that you are pursuing a research agenda at Drexel University that will continue the work you did here with us last year. In particular, I am happy that you may be using and extending the BSCW/BSCL system as part of this research. We are delighted to hear this and fully support your efforts in this direction.

We deeply appreciate your contributions to designing, developing and publicizing the BSCL system during your 13-month stay at our research labs. This work was a major part of our participation as the lead software developer in the multi-national European Union ITCOLE Project. The BSCL system that you worked on with us is still being tested and used in schools in several countries. You may be interested to know that several papers, demos and workshops have been proposed for the next CSCL conference reporting on BSCL and its classroom use.

As you know, we have incorporated BSCL within the larger BSCW system as an option that is always included in the download. The source code for both systems is freely available for non-commercial use, including all the uses that you are proposing. Furthermore, as a result of your working on the ITCOLE Project with us, we have formally granted you a five year license to the non-commercial use of this source code.

Beyond the legalities, we strongly encourage you to extend BSCL and to make it more broadly available for educational use in the United States. BSCW is, of course, widely used to support collaboration in Europe, but is less well-known in America. We are committed to continuing to support BSCW and BSCL.

Vorstand der Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft o. Prof. Dr.-Ing. Dr. h.c. mult. Dr.-Ing. E.h. Hans-Jürgen Warnecke, Präsident Dr. jur. Dirk-Meints Polter Prof. Dr. Dennis Tsichritzis Dr. rer. pol. Hans-Ulrich Wiese

Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft zur Förderung der angewandten Forschung e.V., München We welcome your continued collaboration in this and will supply whatever support we can to facilitate your research. In particular, we may be able to have our BSCW developers provide training for your students and participate in workshops to exchange ideas and experiences. In addition, we will likely have opportunities where students in Germany can participate with American students in international work groups.

Best of luck in your research endeavors,

Prof. Wolfgang Prinz, Ph.D.

Director of the CSCW Research Department

Dr. Wolfgang Appelt Department Head