Out of Control

FIFTH ANNUAL "MAN-IN-THE-LOOP" CONFERENCE
RESTRICTED—ROBOTS ONLY

"Sure they're entitled to have their own conference—but for some reason, I've got a creepy feeling about this meeting."

John J. Nitao is a Senior Staff Engineer at FMC Corporation's Central Engineering Laboratories in Santa Clara, California. He received his Ph.D. degree in applied mathematics from the University of California, Berkeley, where he held a Hertz Fellowship. His B.S. degree is from Harvey Mudd College. Currently, he is working in the areas of robotic vehicles, machine system identification, and weld process distortion control. Before working for FMC, John Nitao was with the Sohio Petroleum Company where he was involved in various analytical modeling and numerical algorithm development projects utilizing vector supercomputers. He has also done research in the modeling of nuclear reactor safety systems.

Alexandre M. Parodi received his B.A. degree in math from the University of Orsay in 1975 and his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in physics and computer science from the University of Marseille (France) in 1983. In 1979, he joined CAPCA (Automatic Computation Center of the French Navy Labs) in Toulon, France, where he developed image processing systems. From 1980 to 1983, as a Project Leader at CSEE, Paris, France, he developed a high-speed data flow machine for real-time image analysis, and designed various algorithms for video target tracking, especially to extract the target from the background. In 1983, he joined the FMC Central Engineering Laboratories' Artificial Intelligence (AI) Center to work on the Autonomous Land Vehicle (ALV) program. He has developed the ALV architecture, the multiple-constraint path planner, and participated in the pilot design. He now leads the ALV computer vision project. His research interests include high-speed parallel machines and AI.