World economy shift to Asia by 2020

y 2020 the focus of the entire world economy shifts to Asia. By that time, China [will be] the principal engine of the world economy', predicts Chris Nailer, director at the Economics Intelligence Unit (EIU), Australia.

'Within the next 25 years, the leadership of all the major countries of Asia will undergo the first significant change in a generation. The transition will challenge the foundations of political systems and even the geographic scope of individual states.

'Uncertainty and ambiguity are the dominant characteristics of the region. This is where the strategic interests of five of the world's six major powers (USA, Germany, Japan, Russia, China and India) will most directly interact.'

This is the situation information specialists need to address as they plan for the year 2000 and beyond.

Synergy in Sydney, 1995, the Asian-Pacific conference for specials, health and law librarians, to be held from 27–30 August 1995, aims to confront the

issues the profession will face towards the new millennium. Change, empowerment, marketing and performance are major themes of the conference.

Chris Nailer will open the conference with *Management 2000*. A dynamic speaker, Chris will put our role as information specialists into a global context by describing the economic and political trends and challenges in the Asia-Pacific region.

Chris sees the challenges for international business management as:

- managing the consequences of making Asia central to strategy,
- using multi-layered approaches to business tasks, and
- effective use of the vast numbers of information tools becoming available.

Chris is well-placed to advise on the uncertain and ambiguous years ahead. Since 1993, he has been responsible for EIU's Asian consulting and research business. Chris has managed projects and research assignments in Japan, Taiwan, Korea, Indonesia, the Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam, Hong Kong and

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the People's Republic of China. He speaks Mandarin and Japanese, and is a parttime Visiting Fellow at the Australian Graduate School of Manage-ment, where



Chris Nailer, plenary speaker at Synergy in Sydney, 1995.

he lectures on Asian business on the MBA and international marketing programs.

Future issues of *inCite* will feature articles on other key speakers at the conference including Mickie Vogues (law), Beatrice Doran (health) and Jim Matarazzo. Watch *inCite* next month for more information about *Synergy in Sydney 1995*, or contact Australian Convention Management Services, phone (02) 332 4622 or fax (02) 332 4066, for more information.

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