

# BILL BRISHNA



Bill Brishna, the Rogers Centre's lead Windows NT Specialist, came to Toronto from Europe over twenty years ago armed with a Bachelor of Science degree. At that time, the electronics industry was very popular and Bill was able to find work in this field within three weeks of his arrival. Desiring to keep up with the rapid changes in the industry, Bill came to Ryerson Polytechnic University in 1987 to upgrade his skills. Bill began to develop a strong interest in computers. "Back then, we didn't even have floppy drives, we used to store data on audio tapes," Bill recalls.

Bill's education with computers really began on his own time as a personal initiative. The first computer he ever bought was an 8086 and he managed to wipe out the entire hard drive within four hours. "I formatted the C drive instead of the D drive and there was nothing left on the computer," says Bill. "But this is how you learn, you learn by playing with the computer."

After he graduated from Ryerson in 1991 with a Degree in Electrical Engineering, Bill found employment with IBM where his interest in computers increased and he did work in the areas of upgrading, troubleshooting, installing etc. After working for IBM for several years, he left to work with a friend who owned his own retail computer business. There, Bill honed his technical skills even further, developing advanced expertise in hardware maintenance.

Bill came to work at Ryerson in June of 1999 after completing his certification as a Microsoft Systems Engineer. According to Bill, one of the most rewarding aspects of his job is working with students. He claims that most of the new ideas that push the limits of the present technology come from student projects. "When you work with students, you learn along with the students," says Bill, who never tires of learning new things. In fact, he spends most of his free time on the computer, searching for new technologies, new ideas, and new developments. He insists on keeping current, constantly upgrading his knowledge and skills in an environment he describes as "...challenging and ever-changing. This is what I have defined as my profession," he said. "This is my interest and it's going to stay that way." ■

## THE ROGERS CENTRE WELCOMES NAMIR

12

The Rogers Communications Centre is pleased to welcome Namir Jirgis to its roster of computer support specialists. Namir has joined the team that includes Bill Brishna and Pedja Ljubomirovic. Namir has filled the position of Hardware, Software and Network Specialist. Namir is highly qualified in his field and is a welcome addition to the Rogers Centre. ■