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Asia-Pacific Software Engineering Conference
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Welcome to the third Asia-Pacific Software Engineering Conference (APSEC '96). It is an honor for me to serve as the general chair for this international software engineering conference in the Asia-Pacific region.

Six years ago, in March 1992, the first Joint Conference on Software Engineering (JCSE) was held in Seoul organized by the Special Interest Group on Software Engineering of the Korea Information Science Society (SIGSE/KISS) and the Special Interest Group on Software Engineering of the Information Processing Society of Japan (SIGSE/IPSJ). The motivation of that regional conference was to promote technical exchanges between software engineers and researchers of these two countries. While the first conference was a closed meeting, the second conference, which was held in November of 1993 in Fukuoka, Japan, was open to other Asian countries responding to the needs for a regional conference where researchers and practitioners from this region can easily participate. Papers were submitted from all over the Asian countries and the number of submissions to the second JCSE almost doubled. With this phenomenal success of the joint conferences, the Steering Committee decided to initiate the Asia Pacific Software Engineering Conference (APSEC) opening the door to the much greater region.

The first APSEC was held in Tokyo, Japan in December 1994, followed by APSEC '95, which was held in Brisbane, Australia in December 1995. Over the years the number of submissions has increased substantially and also the quality of papers has improved steadily as can be seen in APSEC '96. Papers were submitted not just from the Asia-Pacific region but from far beyond this region. APSEC has established itself as an international conference. Now APSEC returned to Seoul where this series of meetings/conferences originally started, grown from a regional meeting with limited participation to an international conference open far beyond this region.

APSEC '96 is sponsored and organized by the Korea Information Science Society in cooperation with Korea Research Foundation, International Institute for Software Technology at the United Nations University, Electronics Technology Research Institute (ETRI), Systems Engineering Research Institute (SERI), Hyundai Information Technology Co., Ltd., and HandySoft Corporation.

I would like to thank all who submitted papers to APSEC'96. Special thanks go to Program Committee and Organization Committee members whose contribution and devotion was instrumental in making this conference a great success. Finally, I would like to welcome you to APSEC'96. I hope this conference will be a fruitful experience for you. I also hope that you enjoy while staying in Seoul, Korea.

Kisoo Sung
Conference Chair
Message from the Program Co-Chairs

The program for APSEC '96 consists of three keynote addresses, two panel sessions, and 45 technical paper presentations divided into 15 sessions. The program committee received 118 paper submissions: 19 from Australia, 18 from Europe and North America, and 81 from Asia. Each paper was carefully reviewed by at least three referees in each relevant field based on originality, significance, correctness, presentation, and relevance to the conference. After this rigorous review process, 45 papers were selected for inclusion in the program and presentation. These carefully selected papers were divided into 15 presentation sessions with topics covering important software engineering issues. We regret that we could not include many excellent papers due to the lack of time and space. We would like to thank all of the authors who submitted their valuable work for consideration. We would also like to express our sincere appreciation to the members of the Program Committee and other reviewers for their extraordinary efforts in reviewing the papers and making this conference a reality.

We are very fortunate to have three keynote speakers; all are leaders in software engineering from industry and academia: Taik-Ho Kim, President and CEO of Hyundai Information Technology Co., Ltd.; Takuya Katayama of the Japan Advanced Institute of Science and Technology; and William E. Howden of the University of California at San Diego. We are greatly indebted to them for accepting our invitation to address this conference. We believe that the audience for their speeches will be inspired by their rich experience and insight into current issues of software engineering and future trends of software technology.

In addition, we have two panel sessions covering topical and controversial issues such as software reuse and the application of object-oriented technology. Panelists were carefully selected by the organizers to balance perspectives between practitioners and researchers. We would like to thank the panel organizers and participants.

Finally, we are grateful to Regina Spencer Sipple and Bob Werner of the IEEE Computer Society Press for their efforts in publishing these proceedings.

On behalf of the organizing committee members, we cordially welcome you to APSEC '96 and hope you enjoy our program.

Kyo C. Kang
Shing-Chi Cheung
Program Co-Chairs
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