Welcome Message from the SPattern 2010 Workshop Organizers

The usefulness of design patterns is widely accepted and they are a fundamental part of modern object-oriented languages. They have also been incorporated into several software development methodologies aiming to support less experienced developers who can use them to receive advice and knowledge of experts. Regarding security patterns, there is still significant research needed to become fully established because no accepted methodology exists for their use so far. This section of the Workshop proceedings contains five papers accepted for publication at the 4th International Workshop on Secure Systems Methodologies Using Patterns.

Recent studies indicate that the security pattern domain is rapidly growing which is reflected by the significant number of publications in papers and books. Catalogs of security patterns are a good step to organize them, but they are not enough. Building secure systems is a difficult process where security aspects are interlaced with the satisfaction of functional requirements. Developers are typically experts on a language or a development methodology but know little about security, which results in them not knowing what security mechanisms make sense at which moments. Further methodologies are needed that guide a designer at each stage of the development cycle. A few of them have appeared, but none of them has been tested in production applications.

The papers accepted for publications and the discussions during the workshop will help to get a better understanding of all the issues involved in the development and use of secure systems methodologies using patterns. The five papers accepted are grouped into two sessions: SPattern Development and SPattern Application.