Welcome to the 2012 IEEE 5th International Conference on Cloud Computing (CLOUD 2012). CLOUD 2012 is co-located with the 8th IEEE 2012 World Congress on Services (SERVICES 2012), the 2012 IEEE 19th International Conference on Web Services (ICWS 2012), the 2012 IEEE 9th International Conference on Services Computing (SCC 2012), the 2012 IEEE 1st International Conference on Mobile Services (MS 2012), and the IEEE 2012 1st International Conference on Services Economics (SE 2012). It was formally promoted by the IEEE Computer Society in 2003, and is now the most prestigious professional conference dedicated to cloud computing.

“Change we are leading” is the theme of CLOUD 2012. Cloud computing has become an elastic pay-as-you-go service creation, delivery, consumption, and management platform in services computing. The technical foundations of cloud computing include a service-oriented architecture (SOA), virtualization of hardware and software, process and workflow optimization, and usage-based accounting and billing. The goal of cloud computing is to cost effectively manage the life cycle of quality-assured services and to share resources among service consumers, partners, and vendors in the cloud value chain. The resource sharing at various levels results in various cloud offerings, such as infrastructure clouds (e.g., hardware, IT infrastructure management), software clouds (e.g., software as a service focusing on middleware as a service, or traditional CRM as a service), application clouds (e.g., application as a service, UML modeling tools as a service, social network as a service), and business clouds (e.g., business process as a service).

The CLOUD 2012 Research Track accepted 48 papers out of 282 paper submissions with an acceptance rate of 17%. The other technical program tracks include the Applications & Experiences Track, the Industry Track, and the Work-in-Progress Track. The technical program covers a broad scope of the state-of-the-art research and development efforts in cloud computing. All accepted papers are published by the IEEE Computer Society Press in the CD-ROM and online versions of the Proceedings of CLOUD 2012.

The success of a large-scale international conference, like this one, requires the dedication and contributions of many volunteers and staff support. We would like to take this opportunity to express our deep appreciation for the efforts of the program committee who provided the technical reviews and necessary discussions for the submitted papers. We would also like to gratefully acknowledge the IEEE Computer Society as our conference sponsor and its staff for their strong support.

We trust that you will enjoy this unique and attractive program. We look forward to seeing you at the IEEE CLOUD 2012 event in Hawaii, USA.

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