Welcome to Japan and to DSN 2005. This year’s DCCS program consists of 55 excellent papers that cover a wide range of dependability issues and show the depth and breadth of our community’s research efforts. This excellent collection is the result of a quite thorough selection process, in line with the long tradition of this conference and, formerly, of FTCS.

This year, the symposium received 205 complete submissions out of the 261 initial ones, a quite large number that demonstrates the importance of dependable computing and the vitality and creativity of our community. These submissions included several submissions from industry, and joint submissions between academia and industry besides the usual bulk from universities and national research labs. To note also a marked trend continuing from past years of cross-organization and cross-country submissions. To demonstrate the international nature of DCCS, the submission pool contained contributions from over 35 countries from all continents.

The review process followed the tradition of thoroughness that has come to be expected of this conference. The program committee members suggested external reviewers for the papers in early December. The rate of completed reviews from external referees exceeded 70 percent. In total, 846 completed reviews were produced for the 205 submissions. These reviews were discussed in a program committee meeting in Pisa the last 21 and 22 February 2005 with more than 40 PC members attending. Each regular paper was reviewed by 2 program committee members and up to 3 external reviewers, while practical experience reports and software demonstration submissions were each reviewed by 3 program committee members and 2 external reviewers, producing an average of 4.13 reviews per paper. Such an important number of submissions was particularly challenging, and generating these 846 reviews has been possible thanks to the generous efforts of many individuals.

I would like to thank very warmly and convey my deep appreciation to the 47 program committee members (none of them missed a single review!) and to the 470 external reviewers who volunteered their time and expertise to produce the reviews.

Many individuals have helped me in many ways during the long preparation that led to this program. I am grateful to Paulo Veríssimo, Jean Arlat and Mootaz Elnozahy for their excellent advice, support and mentoring. I am also very much indebted to Silvano Chiaradonna, whose invaluable help with the set up, operation and maintenance of the START tool used for the Program management, played a decisive role in the smooth processing and coordination of the work resulting in the DCCS technical program.

Thanks to Lorenzo Falai and Ettore Ricciardi who helped in organizing the program committee meeting and other logistical functions. Finally, I would like to thank the ISTI-CNR for hosting the symposium’s Web site, and The University of Firenze for supporting the program committee meeting and partial sponsorship of the program. I hope you will find the program rewarding and inspiring. Enjoy it and enjoy Yokohama!