Message from
the Program Chair

This volume contains the papers presented at the 15th Euromicro Conference on Real-Time Systems (ECRTS 2003), the premier European conference in the area of real-time computing, held in Porto, Portugal, 2-4 July 2003.

The typical subjects treated in the conference are traditionally related to scheduling, communication, operating systems, design methods, computer architectures, networks, performance analysis, and many more. During the last few years, the field of real-time systems quickly expanded toward new application areas, including multimedia computing, embedded systems, and wireless networks. Such new domains gave rise to new challenges and stimulated research in novel directions, such as quality of service management, energy-aware computing, stochastic scheduling, and feedback-based techniques for adaptive operating systems. The papers contained in this volume reflect such a trend and describe the work of leading research groups from all over the world.

This year’s conference attracted 103 submissions from 15 different countries, including the United States, South America, and Asia, showing a net increased interest in this conference from the international community. Among the submissions, 32 papers have been selected for publication and appear in this volume.

In addition to the main technical sessions, this year we have organized the following special events: the 1st Workshop on Co-Design in Embedded Real-Time Systems, chaired by Iain Bate; the 2nd Workshop on Real-Time LANs in the Internet Age, chaired by Lucia Lo Bello; the 2nd Workshop on Synchronous Languages, Applications and Programming, chaired by Alain Girault; the 3rd Workshop on Worst Case Execution Time Analysis, chaired by Jan Gustafsson; and the 1st Workshop on Advanced Real-Time Operating System Services, chaired by Michael González Harbour. A Work in Progress (WIP) session, chaired by Luis Almeida, provides an interesting forum that allows the audience to learn about emerging research activities and closely interact with the authors.

The program also includes three invited talks: Kostas Glinos, from the European Commission, will present the current status of the call for proposals on Real-Time and Embedded Systems in the IST thematic priority of 6FP; Sjir van Loo, from Philips Research, will talk about new challenges in developing multimedia applications; and Paul Caspi, from VERIMAG, will discuss a proposal for a European curriculum on Embedded Software and Systems.

I would like to thank all the reviewers who gave up their valuable time to read the submissions and ensure the high quality of the program. Special thanks go to Gerhard Fohler, chair of the Euromicro Technical Committee on Real-Time Systems, for his guidance, to Eduardo Tovar, General Chair of the Conference, for his excellent job in local arrangements, and to the Euromicro staff for administrative support.

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