Preface

It is my honour to welcome you to the First International Workshop on Enterprise Distributed Object Computing (EDOC '97).

I am very excited that this new workshop has received an overwhelming response from researchers and industry experts in distributed object technology worldwide. This is demonstrated by the very large number of papers submitted to EDOC '97; we received 83 papers, involving close to 200 authors from more than 20 countries. Such a response reflects the reality that the maturing middleware technologies such as CORBA, Java-RMI and DCOM — while increasingly finding their way into enterprise applications — still pose many new challenges. These challenges are reflected in the topics of EDOC '97: business objects and components, enterprise architectures, distributed objects frameworks and patterns, intra and inter-organizational workflow, enterprise modeling and so on.

The high quality of the submitted technical papers made it difficult to select some 35 papers for presentation at EDOC '97. The technical paper presentations will be complemented by a panel session with thought-provoking topics.

We are also delighted that three prominent experts in enterprise distributed computing will give their keynote addresses. Jim Coplien (Bell Labs, USA) will summarize his latest results in using patterns for describing and modeling organizations. Kevin Tyson (Enterprise Engineering Associates, USA) will report on the latest trends in deploying business objects for large financial organizations. Sandy Tyndale-Biscoe (Birchquest Ltd, UK) will provide an insight into the latest developments in the ITU-T/ISO work on the Enterprise Language for Open Distributed Processing (ODP).

For the benefit of the EDOC '97 audience, the EDOC '97 program will be supplemented by two tutorials on new and increasingly important topics. Robert Shelton (Open Engineering, USA), a founder of work on business objects in the Object Management Group (OMG), will present the latest results regarding this area within the OMG community. Cris Kobryn (MCI Systemhouse, USA), who is the leader of the Semantics Task Force for the Unified Modelling Language (UML), will present a tutorial on the UML.

I would like to thank the EDOC '97 Program Committee and other reviewers for their hard work in reviewing the submitted papers. It was my pleasure to collaborate with the Technical Program Chairs, Morris Sloman and Cris Kobryn, in selecting the technical program. Their enthusiasm and professionalism have contributed greatly to the success of the event.

EDOC '97 could not have happened without Jenny MacKay, who has single-handedly coordinated the entire EDOC '97 logistics. On behalf of EDOC '97 community, I thank Jenny for doing a most outstanding job.

It has been my pleasure to work with graphic artist Matt Mawson who prepared the artistic and effective promotional materials for EDOC '97.
Finally, I would like to thank my colleagues in DSTC for their support in establishing this workshop.

I hope that the beautiful environment and delightful climate of the Gold Coast will help to make EDOC '97 an unforgettable experience.

I am pleased to be able to share with you the opportunity to launch this new workshop which will continue bringing together experts in enterprise distributed object computing for years to come.

Zoran Milosevic
EDOC '97 General Chair