The 13th IEEE International Workshops on Enabling Technologies: Infrastructure for Collaborative Enterprises (WET ICE 2004) was held 14-16 June 2004 in Modena, Italy, a city famous for the manufacturing of exotic cars, finest balsamic vinegars, and (for the opera lovers) the home of the legendary tenor Luciano Pavarotti. The Red, White, and Green colors of the front cover of the WET ICE2004 Proceedings reflect the colors of the national flag of the host country, Italy.

As in the previous years, the participants were from across the world—this time from 16 different countries. Of the six workshops of WET ICE 2004, the ETN-GRID workshop was a new one. This was the ninth year for the ES/WET ICE workshop (first ES/WET ICE workshop was held in Stanford University, California, USA, in 1996). It was the fifth year for the ECE/WET ICE workshop (the first ECE/WET ICE was held at NIST, Gaithersburg, Maryland, USA, in 2000). The remaining three WET ICE 2004 workshops: ACEC, DMC, and TAPOCS were held for the second time. The WET ICE format was same as before: six workshops were conducted in parallel. The entire group came together during the joint sessions: the plenary talks, the final group discussions/reports, best paper announcements/presentations, and opening and closing of WET ICE.

A total of 96 papers were submitted to six workshops of WET ICE. The Program Committee of each workshop was responsible for reviewing the papers submitted to the corresponding workshop. Fifty-eight full papers (60% acceptance) and thirteen short papers were accepted for presentation at the conference and also for inclusion in the Proceedings. You will also find the final reports by the organizers of the workshops summarizing the discussions that took place during each workshop. The best paper for each workshop was announced and a short version of each paper was presented on the final day of WET ICE during the joint session. These papers are specially marked with asterisks in the Table of Contents of the Proceedings.

The highlight of the social events of WET ICE 2004 was a visit to the Ferrari museum (we almost lost one attendee from our group who overstay there!!) followed by the conference dinner in a historic building in Vignola located on the outskirts of Modena.

I want to gratefully acknowledge the contributions of the Steering Committee, the workshop chairs, reviewers of the papers, and the paper authors for the high-quality workshops. My heartfelt thanks go to the General Chair, Dr. Giacomo Cabri, for his outstanding efforts to make WET ICE a great success. Finally, I would like to thank the Engineering Faculty of Modena, especially Professor Franco Zambonelli, for help in the local arrangements (and also for his stimulating plenary talk).

Once again, WET ICE will be held in Europe next year. Linköping University, Sweden located 200 km south of Stockholm will be the venue of WET ICE 2005 with Professor Nahid Shahmehri of Linköping University as the General Chair. The dates are 13-15 June 2005. Hope to see you in Sweden.

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Organizer, WET ICE 2004