Welcome to the Seventh IEEE International High-Assurance Systems Engineering Symposium 2002 (HASE 2002), Tokyo, Japan, which is the first time held outside North America.

Recently the social and economic situations have been rapidly changing and then the computing systems have been modified, expanded and integrated through the networks. Here the heterogeneous systems with their own requirements of reliability, availability, safety, security and real-time property are connected each other and the various modes of construction, operation, test, and so on may be in parallel. Then the systems are requested to keep their operations under the evolving situations. Assurance technology is proposed for making it possible to coexist the heterogeneous systems and modes under the evolving situations. The assurance technology has been advanced in these years and applied for the control and information areas. The approach of the research and development in assurance technology is oriented more to the system engineering. Here the HASE can provide the opportunity to interact among the experts from government, industry and academia for challenging this new technology fields.

As the assurance technology expands from computer to communication, two of IEEE Computer Society and IEICE (The Institute of Electrical, Information and Communication Engineers, Japan) Technical group of dependable computing system are sponsoring, and four of IEICE Communication Society, Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ), The Institute of Electrical Engineers of Japan (IEEJ) and The Japan Society for Aeronautical and Space Sciences (JSASS) are jointed as in-cooperation-with organizations.

I hope that you will find the program interesting and that you will surely take advantage of the opportunity to discuss with the colleagues in the world.

The success of the symposium depends on the contributions of many volunteers of the committee members, authors, reviewers, speakers, session chairs, and the supporting personnel and organizations. I would like to thank Program Committee Chair, Yasushi Wakahara and Vice-Chairs, Mario Dal Cin and Wei-Tek Tsai for producing the highly qualified program. I also express my appreciation to Publication Committee Chair, Satoshi Fukumoto, Operation Committee Chair, Yoshiaki Kakuda, Publicity Committee Chair, Yukikazu Nakamoto and Steering Committee Members of Farokh Bastani, Raymond Paul and Wei-Tek Tsai.

My personal thanks to all the participants who will make HASE 2002 a success.

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