Welcome to the Proceedings for the Fifth Annual IEEE International Conference on COTS-Based Software Systems (ICCBSS’06) held at Orlando, Florida, USA. These proceedings — containing contributed papers documenting current research and relevant experience, workshops, and a tutorial — provide a good understanding of both the current state of the art and the current state of practice in developing, acquiring, deploying, and sustaining COTS-based software systems. We believe that you will find them to be a very useful source of insightful, timely information.

This year’s submissions comprised a truly international scope, with a balance of papers from academia and industry. Authors from Europe, North and South America, Africa, and Asia submitted their latest results on a diverse range of COTS-related issues. A total of 18 papers and 3 technical reports were selected for as regular papers. The papers covered a wide range of topics ranging from very theoretical papers analyzing the adequacy of formal models and techniques, to reports on lessons learned from observation of industrial case studies. All the papers were reviewed by at least three members of the Program Committee. We would like to thank all the members of the Program Committee for their thorough job, fully accomplished within short deadlines. Five posters describing work in progress were presented during a conference social event. Their abstracts appear in the proceedings.

Each conference day was opened by a keynote presentation. The keynote speakers were Paul Everitt (Zope Europe Association) and Dewanye E. Perry (Motorola Regents Chair of Software Engineering at The University of Texas at Austin). We would like to express our sincere gratitude to these distinguished speakers for sharing their insights and experience with the audience.

In addition to the main conference, we had two half-day and one full-day workshops held before the conference, as well as a half-day tutorial given by the Software Engineering Institute. All these events made the conference more versatile and attracted a wider range of attendees.

We look forward to seeing you at ICCBSS’07.

Xavier Franch, Rose Gamble
November 2005