Welcome to the track on “Software Process and Product Improvement” (SPPI) at the Euromicro SEAA 2008 conference! The goal of the SPPI track is to establish a forum for exchanging advances and experiences in improving software quality, with a special focus on development and management processes. The size, complexity, and criticality of current software systems require innovative approaches to develop and evolve systems in an economic and timely manner. In today's competitive world software quality is a key to economic success and stability. Software process and product improvement aims at significantly increasing both the quality of systems and the productivity of software development.

We received 27 submissions for this track. Papers went through a rigorous reviewing process and were reviewed by at least three program committee members. The 14 accepted papers are organized in the following sessions: The session on “Improving Software Management” deals with processes improvement especially from a business value and management perspective. In the session on “Defect Prediction and Prevention” the authors report on methods that enable better defect prediction. The papers in the session on “Agile Software Engineering and Product Lines” focus in particular on challenges that these innovative approaches bring to an organization. A key part of improving software development is the requirements engineering step. The papers in the session on “Requirements Prioritization and Portfolio Management” address this issue and provide experiences and taxonomies in this area. Finally, the session “Evaluation Methods for Products and Processes” describes different forms of evaluation, which is a precondition for any successful improvement.

We would like to thank all people who helped to make this conference track possible. In particular, we thank the Program Chair of the Euromicro SEAA Conference Raffaela Mirandola for her support in the overall organization.

We are very grateful to all members of the Program Committee and additional reviewers for their timely delivery of reviews.

SPPI Program Committee

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In addition the following reviewers supported the review process:

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