Preface

Welcome to the Second International Conference on Software Engineering and Formal Methods (SEFM 2004) and welcome to Beijing.

SEFM 2004 aimed to bring together practitioners and researchers from academia, industry and government to advance the state of the art in formal methods, to scale up their application in software industry and to encourage their integration with practical engineering methods.

SEFM originated from a workshop on Software Engineering and Formal Methods held in June 2002 in Adelaide, Australia, as a satellite event of the 23rd International Conference on Application and Theory of Petri-Nets. It became a major international conference and was very successfully held in September 2003 in Brisbane, Australia.

The Program Committee of SEFM 2004 received 144 submissions from over 30 countries and regions. After each paper was reviewed by three referees (except for only a few that were reviewed by two referees) and intensive discussion on the borderline papers was held during the online meeting of the Program Committee, 38 high-quality papers were accepted based on originality, technical soundness, presentation and relevance to software engineering and formal methods. We wish to sincerely thank all the authors who submitted their work for consideration. We would like to thank the Program Committee members and the other referees for their great effort and professional work in the review and selection process. Their names are listed on the following pages.

Four very good tutorials and one attractive workshop have been selected as affiliated events of SEFM 2004. We would like to express our thanks to all those who submitted tutorial and workshop proposals to support the conference.

In addition to the contributed papers, the programme also includes five excellent keynote talks. We are grateful to Prof. Mathai Joseph of the Tata Research, Development and Design Centre, Prof. Hong Mei of Peking University, Prof. Jayadev Misra of University of Texas at Austin, Prof. Tobias Nipkow of the Technische Universität München, and Prof. Martin Wirsing of Ludwig Maximilian University, Munich, for accepting our invitation to address the conference.

It is a team effort that has made the conference so successful. We would like to thank Prof. Jifeng He and Prof. Fuqing Yang (General Co-chairs) for overseeing the general issues and for their support. We are truly grateful to the Steering Committee members, and to Hanpin Wang (Local Organisation Chair and Publicity Co-chair), Gianna Reggio (Publicity Co-chair), Antonio Cerone (Finance Chair) and Bernhard Aichernig (Tutorial and Workshop Chair) for their hard and effective work. We would particularly like to thank Kitty Iok Sam Chan and Anna Un Lai Chan for their hard work in maintaining the conference administration system.

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