Message from the General Chair

On behalf of the organizing committee of the 28th IEEE Symposium on Reliable Distributed Systems (SRDS 2009), it is my pleasure to welcome the participants of the symposium to Niagara Falls, New York. The workshop and symposium are being held at the state-of-the-art Conference Center Niagara Falls, which is a few steps away from Niagara Falls, one of the most famous waterfalls in the world. The venue is also within 20 minutes from the State University of New York at Buffalo and about 40 minutes from the Buffalo-Niagara International Airport.

The 30 accepted papers in this year’s symposium represent 14 countries, which is a good geographical distribution. This year, we did the paper selection differently from the previous years. With the help of the conference management software and the excellent cooperation of the Technical Program Committee members, the Program Co-Chairs were able to handle the TPC meeting for paper selection in a virtual setting. This in no way compromised the quality of the technical sessions. SRDS has the reputation as a high quality symposium on reliable distributed systems with a focus on dependability and security and I feel confident that you will agree with me on this when you see this year’s technical program. We have put together three keynote talks, one from academia, one from industry and one from a federal funding agency, covering both fundamental and practical aspects of the topic and its sustenance in the years to come. We have planned workshops on “Dependable Network Computing and Mobile Systems”, “Field Failure Data Analysis” and “Embedded Systems and Communications Security”, which I believe will bring added value to the symposium. This year, we have also included the Symposium’s Best Paper Award. Special thanks go to Microsoft Research for their support in this regard.

I would like to thank the entire organizing committee for their timely support in putting together the technical program, publicity, finances, awards, workshops, local arrangements, and publication. The support of the steering committee all along is much appreciated. I would like to thank Bharat Bhargava and Andrea Bondavalli who where there always to help me at times of need. I would also like to thank Luigi Romano, Felicita Di Giandomenico, and Joni da Silva Fraga for sharing with me their invaluable experience of organizing last year’s symposium. It will be incomplete if I do not thank our sponsor IEEE Computer Society and my institution, the State University of New York at Buffalo for its support. Last, but not least, I would like to take this opportunity to thank Professor K.H (Kane) Kim of the University of California, Irvine for his service to SRDS this year and in the past. Despite being busy directing the DREAM (Distributed Real-Time Ever-Available Microcomputing) laboratory at Irvine, he was kind enough to call and make sure that everything is taken care of in running the symposium. Kane, as we all know, is one of the founders of this symposium that was started in 1981 and is a longstanding contributor and advisor and has been a source of encouragement for the successful organization of this symposium every year.

Finally, I would like to thank the program committee members, reviewers and, in particular, the participants of this symposium for your contribution to SRDS 2009.

Shambhu Upadhyaya

General Chair