Welcome Message from the General Chair, 
Vice-General Chair and Conference Coordinator

On behalf of the organizing committee, it is our pleasure to welcome you to the 2004 International Conference on Dependable Systems and Networks (DSN-2004), the leading international conference on dependability, being held this year at the Palazzo dei Congressi in Florence, Italy.

This conference attempts to provide answers to a very important question, namely: “how can we make the computer systems and communication networks that we increasingly rely on more dependable?” Our lives have become critically dependent on the correct operation of these systems as we surf the web, fly airplanes, drive cars, manage our finances, and even heat our homes. We need to face up to not only inadvertent faults, errors and failures, which have been the traditional concerns of the dependability community, but also to malicious exploitation of imperfect systems and networks, and intentional cyber-attacks.

The DSN program committees have put together an excellent technical program for researchers, practitioners, and users to learn and exchange information on the latest research results and the state of the practice in dependable systems and networks. Multiple tracks include the Dependable Computing and Communications Symposium (DCCS), the Performance and Dependability Symposium (PDS), as well as Workshops, Tutorials, a Student Forum, and Fast Abstracts highlighting late-breaking research. There will be plenty of opportunity for informal discussions during breaks, lunches, a welcome reception, and the social event.

This volume contains the papers and presentations of the DCCS and PDS tracks. The accompanying Supplemental Volume contains the Fast Abstracts and presentations at the Workshops and Student Forum.

We would like to take this opportunity to thank the members of the Organizing Committee, and most particularly the Program Committee Chairs and Members for their hard work to make this conference a reality. The success of this event is due to their efforts. We also thank the current Steering Committee Chair, Paulo Veríssimo and Vice-Chair, Jean Arlat for their guidance and support. Several sponsors deserve our thanks for their generous financial contributions to the conference. Finally, we want to thank the authors for the excellent papers contained herein. Without any of you there would be no DSN.

Thanks for coming. Enjoy the conference and Florence!

Luca Simoncini  
General Chair DSN 2004

David Powell  
Conference Coordinator

Andrea Bondavalli  
Vice-General Chair DSN 2004