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Preface

With SPLC 2005 we celebrated the formation of a new conference series, the *International* Software Product Line Conference (SPLC) which results from the “unification” of the former series of three SPLC (Software Product Line) Conferences launched in 2000 in the USA, and the former series of five PFE (Product Family Engineering) Workshops started in 1996 in Europe.

SPLC is now *the premier forum* for the growing community of software product line practitioners, researchers, and educators. SPLC offers a unique opportunity to present and discuss the most recent experiences, ideas, innovations, trends, and concerns in the area of *software product line engineering* and to build an international network of product line champions. An international SPLC Steering Committee has been established and it is the wish of this committee that from 2005 on, the SPLC conference will be held yearly in Europe, America, or Asia. The technical program of SPLC 2005 included.

- two keynotes from David Weiss (Avaya, USA) and Jan Bosch (Nokia, Finland), both leading experts with academic and industrial insights;
- 17 full and 3 short research papers organized around the following themes: feature modeling, re-engineering, strategies, validation, scoping and architecture, and product derivation;
- eight experience reports describing commercial application of product line practices;
- two panels focused on special topics in product line practice and product line research;
- tool demonstrations;
- a Hall of Fame session that continued the SPLC tradition in a slightly revised format.

In addition, the technical program was preceded by a tutorial and workshop day that included ten half-day tutorials presented by well-recognized experts and five workshops on specific areas of product line research.

The preparation of this programme would not have been possible without the help and support of many individuals. The role of the Program Committee was central in the achievement of this high-quality programme. We are indebted to each PC member for his or her commitment in reviewing the papers, participating in electronic consensus discussions and, finally, in actively taking part in the PC meeting, which was held in Essen on May 24, 2005.

Thanks also to the Organizing Committee and in particular to Jean-Marc Jézéquel for his continuous support at all stages and for making it possible to host SPLC 2005 in the beautiful city of Rennes. Most especially, we would like to thank all those who submitted their work to SPLC 2005. Without their willingness to publish and share their work SPLC 2005 would not have been possible.

June 2005

Henk Obbink and Klaus Pohl

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