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Middleware 2001

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Preface

In theory, the term middleware denotes any software that can be used for more than one application. In practice, the term middleware tends to denote software abstractions for distributed computing, including communication abstractions such as RPC, and reliability abstractions such as transactions. Devising and implementing such adequate abstractions has constituted an active area of research in the last decade, bridging the gap between various fields, including programming languages, distributed systems, networking, and databases.

Middleware 2001 built upon the success of Middleware 2000 and Middleware 1998, as ideal forums for researchers and industrialists in these fields to present and discuss the latest middleware results.

Among the 116 initial submissions to Middleware 2001, 20 papers were selected for inclusion in the technical program of the conference. Every paper was reviewed by at least three members of the program committee. The selection of the papers was performed during a program committee meeting, held in Lausanne on 6 July 2001. The papers were judged according to their originality, presentation quality, and relevance to the conference topics. The accepted papers cover various subjects such as mobility, scalability, quality of service, and reliability.

I would like to express my deepest appreciation to the authors of the submitted papers, to the program committee members for their diligence in reviewing the submissions, to Richard van de Stadt for perfectly running CyberChair, and finally to the members of the steering committee and the other organizing committee members for their efforts towards making Middleware 2001 a successful conference.

August 2001 Rachid Guerraoui

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