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Preface

The idea behind the series of volumes "Advances in Petri Nets" is to present to the general computer science community recent results which are the most representative and significant for the development of the area.

The main source of papers for the "Advances" is the annual International Conference on Applications and Theory of Petri Nets. Selected papers from the latest conferences are considered for the series. In addition, the "Advances" present also papers submitted directly for publication - potential authors are encouraged to submit papers directly to the editor of the "Advances". All contributions go through an independent refereeing process and, if accepted, they often appear in the "Advances" in a revised and extended form.

The main aims of the "Advances" are:

- (1) to present to the "outside" scientific community a fair picture of recent advances in the area of Petri nets, and
- (2) to encourage those interested in the applications and the theory of concurrent systems to take a closer look at Petri nets and then join the group of researchers working in this fascinating and challenging area.

"Advances in Petri Nets 1993" covers the 12th International Conference on Applications and Theory of Petri Nets held in Gjern, Denmark, in June 1991. I would like to thank the members of the program committee for their help in selecting papers from the workshop to be submitted to the "Advances".

Special thanks go to the referees of the papers in this volume who very often are responsible for considerable improvements of papers presented here. The referees were: M. Ajmone Marsan, C. André, F. Baccelli, G. Balbo, E. Best, R. Bhatia,

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