



Jan Peleska – The Admirable Expert in Applicable Formal Methods for Safe Industrial Products (Laudatio)

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Jan Peleska – the Admirable Expert in Applicable Formal Methods for Safe Industrial Products

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This is a laudatio in honour of Jan Peleska on the occasion of his 65th birthday. Rather than praising Jan's whole scientific career and achievements, which would go beyond my space and time limits, this laudatio expresses my admiration for an outstanding person, an admiration I know is shared by colleagues around the world.

The admirable expert in applicable formal methods for safe industrial products. Jan Peleska has established an outstanding international reputation for his research and leadership in the field of *Applicable Formal Methods for Safe Industrial Products*.

He has, in the most remarkable and successful way, combined a career in academia with a career in industry.

After having been employed for 10 years in industry, in 1995 he became a full professor in computer science at Bremen University. Since then, he has been conducting research in applicable formal methods for validation, verification, and test of safety-critical embedded systems, typically for the railway, avionics, automotive, and aerospace domains.

In 1998 Jan and his wife, Cornelia Zahlten, founded the company *Verified Systems International GmbH*, and since then, he has been scientific leader of the company as head of Research & Development. Today, the company has 25 employees and provides tools and services in the field of safety-critical system development, verification, validation, and test.

In the company Jan's research results from the university are adopted and used for the development of safe industrial products for customers like Siemens, Airbus, Daimler AG, and Astrium. Jan has been the brain behind Verified's flagship product, *RT-Tester*, a very comprehensive test automation tool suite for automatic test generation, test execution and real-time test evaluation. Jan is especially famous for his methods for complete testing, and in 2015, the company was awarded the runner-up trophy of the EU Innovation Radar Prize for making a novel testing strategy, developed by him and his colleague Wen-ling Huang at the university, available for industrial use. Indeed, *Verified* has verified that Jan's research results are industrial applicable!

The most wonderful colleague and friend. Besides being a brilliant researcher, Jan is the most wonderful colleague and friend.

I have collaborated with Jan since 1996. It has been wonderful to have Jan as collaborator and friend all these years. I am so grateful for that.

Jan has influenced my career in such a great way: He put me on the right track, the railway research track, when he in 1996 invited me to collaborate on the formal modelling and verification of a real-world, distributed railway control system. Since then, we have collaborated on many railway projects and we have co-authored 28 papers. Jan has inspired me a lot, always full of exciting and innovative research ideas that have led to success. He has a fantastic sense of what is needed and also knows how to achieve that.

Beyond this, Jan is also a really good friend: so caring, helpful, charming, and generous.

Jan, thank you for the most wonderful collaboration and friendship over so many years! My warmest congratulations on your birthday and my best wishes for a happy and long life,

Anne Haxthausen