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Preface

The annual international conference on Database and Expert Systems Applications (DEXA) is now well established as a reference scientific event. The reader will find in this volume a collection of scientific papers that represent the state of the art of research in the domain of data, information and knowledge management, intelligent systems, and their applications.

The 20th edition of the series of DEXA conferences was held at the Johannes Kepler University of Linz, from August 31 to September 4, 2009.

Several collocated conferences and workshops covered specialized and complementary topics to the main conference topic. Seven conferences—the 11th International Conference on Data Warehousing and Knowledge Discovery (DaWaK), the 10th International Conference on Electronic Commerce and Web Technologies (EC-Web), the 8th International Conference on Electronic Government (EGOV), the 6th International Conference on Trust, Privacy, and Security in Digital Business (Trust-Bus), the 4th International Conference on Industrial Applications of Holonic and Multi-Agent Systems (HoloMAS), the First International Conference on eParticipation (ePart), and the Second International Conference on Data Management in Grid and P2P Systems (GLOBE)—and 14 workshops are collocated with DEXA.

These events formed a unique international forum with a balanced depth and breadth of topics. Its much appreciated conviviality fostered unmatched opportunities to meet, share the latest scientific results and discuss the latest technological advances in the area of information technologies with both young scientists and engineers and senior world-renown experts.

This volume contains the papers selected for presentation at the DEXA conference. Each submitted paper was reviewed by at least three reviewers, members of the Program Committee or external reviewers appointed by members of the Program Committee. Based on the reviews, the Program Committee accepted two categories of papers: 35 regular papers and 35 short papers of the 202 originally submitted papers. Regular papers were given maximum 15 pages in the proceedings to report their results as well as a 25-minute presentation slot in the conference. Short papers were given an 8-page limit and a 15-minute presentation slot.

The excellence brought to you in these proceedings would not have been possible without the efforts of numerous individuals and the support of several organizations.

First and foremost, we thank the authors for their hard work and for the quality of their submissions. We also thank the members of the Program Committee, the reviewers, and many others who assisted in the organization for their contribution to the success and high standard of DEXA 2009 and of these proceedings.

Finally we thank the DEXA Association, the Austrian Computer Society, the Research Institute for Applied Knowledge Processing (FAW), and the Johannes Kepler University of Linz for making DEXA 2009 happen.

June 2009

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