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Preface

The 2010 European Conference on Modelling Foundations and Applications (ECMFA 2010) was dedicated to assessing the state of the art and the state of the practice in model-based engineering. It was the sixth edition in the series of conferences previously known under the title "European Conference on Model-Driven Architecture – Foundations and Applications (ECMDA-FA)." The name change reflects the de facto broadening of the conference scope beyond the MDA® initiative of the Object Management Group® to cover all major advances related to model-based engineering approaches.

These proceedings, like the ones from previous editions in the conference series, will undoubtedly serve as a reference to all who follow model-based engineering theory and practice. The included papers document the steady evolution of model-based development methods into a mature discipline, with well-established standards, industrial-strength tools, and emerging theoretical foundations. They also serve to illustrate that model-based approaches are capable of significant productivity and quality improvements relative to more traditional development methods.

This year, the Programme Committee received 73 submissions of which 15 foundations papers and 9 applications papers were accepted. Despite the "European" connotation in the title of the conference, the authors of the submitted papers represent 28 different countries from four continents. The significant number of applications papers was particularly encouraging, providing evidence of the increasing rate of adoption on model-based approaches in industry. With the latter comes an even greater need and responsibility to establish a sound theoretical underpinning, which is what the foundations papers in the proceedings aim to provide. The progress in this direction is both tangible and significant, each year bringing an expanded understanding of the key abstractions and ideas behind core topics such as metamodelling, model transformations, code generation, and modelling language design.

We are most grateful to our 68 Programme Committee members for providing their expertise in the form of detailed reviews and dedicated discussions. Their constructive feedback to the authors and indispensable contribution to the selection of the papers is most appreciated. We also owe special gratitude to the members of the ECMFA Conference Steering Committee, who supported us in many ways. In particular, we are thankful for the tremendous help offered by the previous year's Programme Chair, Richard Paige. Finally, we would like to thank all authors who submitted papers to ECMFA 2010, our keynote speakers—Colin Atkinson and Diarmuid Corcoran—and the sponsors of ECMFA 2010.

June 2010

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