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Computer-Aided Cooperative Product Development

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Foreword

This volume contains a selection of papers presented at the MIT-JSME Workshop on Cooperative Product Development held at the Massuchusetts Institute of Technology, Cambridge, Mass., U.S.A., November 20/21, 1989. Twenty-eight papers have been selected to appear in this volume. The papers are organized into the following six categories:

- Frameworks, dealing with problem-solving architectures,
- Organizational issues, investigating strategies for organizing engineering activities for effective utilization of computer-aided tools,
- Negotiation techniques, dealing with conflict detection and resolution between various agents,
- Transaction management issues, dealing with interaction issues between the agents and the central communication medium,
- Design methods, dealing with techniques utilized by individual agents,
- Visualization techniques, including user interfaces and physical modeling techniques.

Sponsorship and financial support for the workshop was provided by the Japanese Society of Mechanical Engineers (JSME), the Intelligent Engineering Systems Laboratory at MIT, and the Bell Atlantic Knowledge Systems, Inc. (which markets the LASER knowledge-based programming environment). Joan McCusker (U.S.A.) and Yasuyo Fukuda (Japan) helped with the administrative process. Shamim Ahmed, Keng Lim, and Albert Wong were student volunteers. All this support, and the support of our families, is gratefully acknowledged.

January 1991 D.Sriram

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