Lecture Notes in Computer Science 2867

Edited by G. Goos, J. Hartmanis, and J. van Leeuwen

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Self-Managing Distributed Systems

14th IFIP/IEEE International Workshop
on Distributed Systems: Operations and Management, DSOM 2003
Heidelberg, Germany, October 20-22, 2003
Proceedings

Springer

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Cataloging-in-Publication Data applied for

A catalog record for this book is available from the Library of Congress

Bibliographic information published by Die Deutsche Bibliothek
Die Deutsche Bibliothek lists this publication in the Deutsche Nationalbibliographie; detailed bibliographic data is available in the Internet at <http://dnb.ddb.de>.

CR Subject Classification (1998): C.2, K.6, D.1.3, D.4.4, K.4.4

ISSN 0302-9743
ISBN 3-540-20314-1 Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York

Springer-Verlag Berlin Heidelberg New York
a member of BertelsmannSpringer Science+Business Media GmbH

http://www.springer.de

Typesetting: Camera-ready by author, data conversion by DA-TeX Gerd Blumenstein
Printed on acid-free paper SPIN: 10966747 06/3142 5 4 3 2 1 0

Preface

This volume of the Lecture Notes in Computer Science series contains all the papers accepted for presentation at the 14th IFIP/IEEE International Workshop on Distributed Systems: Operations and Management (DSOM 2003), which was held at the European Institute for Research and Strategic Studies in Telecommunications (EURESCOM), Heidelberg, Germany, October 20–22, 2003.

DSOM 2003 was the fourteenth in a series of annual workshops and it follows in the footsteps of highly successful previous meetings, the most recent of which were held in Montreal, Canada (2002), Nancy, France (2001), and Austin, USA (2000). The goal of the DSOM workshops is to bring together researchers in the areas of network, systems, application and service management, from both industry and academia, to discuss recent advances and foster future growth in this field. In contrast to the larger management symposia, such as IM (Integrated Management) and NOMS (Network Operations and Management Symposium), the DSOM workshops are organized as single-track programs in order to stimulate interaction among participants.

The specific focus of DSOM 2003 was "Self-Managing Systems", reflecting the current interest and development in the field to address the ever-increasing complexity and heterogeneity of today's distributed systems, and their operation and management. The majority of the papers, presented in 8 sessions at DSOM 2003, address some important aspect of this highly relevant problem area. The level of interest in DSOM has been growing steadily over the years. This year we were fortunate to receive a record submission of 84 high-quality papers from 22 countries, of which 20 were selected for the 8 technical sessions. The acceptance ratio was below 24%, thus making DSOM 2003 the most selective DSOM ever. In addition, we received 21 work-in-progress papers, of which 6 were selected.

This workshop owes its success to all the members of the technical program committee who did an excellent job of encouraging their colleagues in the field to submit high-quality papers, and who devoted a lot of their time to review a total of 105 submissions and help create an outstanding technical program. We thank them sincerely. We are also very grateful to the volunteer reviewers who gave generously of their time to make the review process effective. Our special thanks go to Olivier Festor and his team at INRIA-LORIA in Nancy, France for hosting the DSOM 2003 website, and for ensuring its continuous availability throughout the critical phases of the submission, review and voting phases. We would also like to thank IBM Corporation, the DSOM 2003 corporate patron. And, finally, we would like to express our sincere thanks to Raouf Boutaba and IFIP TC WG 6.6 for generously providing us with significant funding for the Best Paper Award.

Heidelberg and New York, October 2003

Marcus Brunner
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The task of reviewing the papers submitted to DSOM 2003 was extremely important. It is therefore a great pleasure to thank the additional reviewers listed below for their constructive and detailed comments. Their efforts were key in assuring the high quality of the workshop.

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