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Preface

This volume contains the proceedings of the 25th International Conference on Application and Theory of Petri Nets (ICATPN 2004). The aim of the Petri net conferences is to create a forum for discussing progress in the application and theory of Petri nets.

Typically, the conferences have 100–150 participants, one third of these coming from industry, whereas the others are from universities and research institutions. The conferences always take place in the last week of June.

The conference and a number of other activities are coordinated by a steering committee with the following members: Wil van der Aalst (The Netherlands), Jonathan Billington (Australia), Jrg Desel (Germany), Susanna Donatelli (Italy), Serge Haddad (France), Kurt Jensen (Denmark), Maciej Koutny (United Kingdom), Sadatoshi Kumagai (Japan), Giorgio De Michelis (Italy), Tadao Murata (USA), Carl Adam Petri (Germany, Honorary Member), Wolfgang Reisig (Germany), Grzegorz Rozenberg (The Netherlands, Chairman) and Manuel Silva (Spain).

The 2004 conference was organized by the Department of Computer Science of the University of Bologna, Italy. We would like to thank the organizing committee, chaired by Roberto Gorrieri, for the effort invested in making the event successful. We are also grateful to the following sponsoring institutions and organizations: Associazione Italiana per l'Informatica ed il Calcolo Automatico (AICA), Microsoft Research, and Network Project & Solutions (NPS Group).

We received a total of 62 submissions from 26 different countries. The program committee finally selected 19 regular papers and 5 tool presentation papers. This volume comprises the papers that were accepted for presentation. Invited lectures were given by Gianfranco Ciardo, Roberto Gorrieri, Thomas A. Henzinger, Wojciech Penczek, Lucia Pomello and William H. Sanders. Their papers are also included in this volume.

Several tutorials and workshops were also organized within the conference, covering introductory and advanced aspects related to Petri nets. Detailed information can be found at the conference URL (`www.cs.unibo.it/atpn2004`).

We would like to thank all those who submitted papers to the Petri net conference. We are grateful to the program committee members and the referees for their valuable effort in reviewing and selecting the papers. We gratefully acknowledge Andrei Voronkov (University of Manchester) for his technical support with the PC management tool. Finally, we would like to mention the excellent cooperation with Springer-Verlag during the preparation of this volume.

April 2004 Jordi Cortadella and Wolfgang Reisig

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