Preface

The *5th International Conference on Technology and Automation (ICTA'05),* Thessaloniki, 15-16 October 2005, is organised by the Department of Automation of the Alexander Technological Educational Institute of Thessaloniki, Greece. As stated in the title, this is the 5th in a row of a series of conferences held in Greece, the first one held back in 1996. In the past, this series of conferences gathered contributions from all major Universities, Research Centres and Technological Institutes in Greece and from other European institutes.

The scope of ICTA'05 is to bring together researchers from all over the world and to promote activities in various areas of control and automation by providing a forum for the presentation of technical achievements and future directions. Leading experts from all over the world, prestigious journal editors and chairmen of technical societies participate in the International Program Committee.

The conference is technically co-sponsored by the IEEE-Control Systems Society, USA, it is held in cooperation with EURASIP (European Association for Signal-Image Processing) and it is co-sponsored by the IEEE-Greece Section and by the IEEE-Control Systems Society-Greek Chapter (CSS-GR).

The main conference areas are as follows:
>Automatic Control and Systems Modeling
>Intelligent Control Systems
>Robotics
>Automation, Instrumentation and Measurements
>Signal and Image Processing

ICTA'05 has attracted 112 submissions out of which 69 high quality papers were accepted based on a thorough and comprehensive review of each and every paper (rejection rate 38%). A double-blind peer review process was followed as the minimum requirement whereas, in many cases 3, 4 or even more reviewers were employed for the review of some of the papers. Overall, more than 125 reviewers were employed (on top of the members of the International Program Committee), originating from more than 25 countries worldwide. A number of 160 authors distributed in more than 25 countries worldwide participate in the conference.

We are grateful for the technical cooperation from the IEEE Control Systems Society and we specially want to thank Professor Ted Djaferis, University of Massachusetts, USA, for his support. Moreover, we would like to thank Professor Markus Rupp, Vienna University of Technology, Austria, for the cooperation with EURASIP.

We would also like to thank the members of the Organizing Committee, the International Program Committee and the Reviewers. Last, but definitely the most, we would like to thank the authors and participants, for their contributions that have made this conference possible.

It is our belief that by now ICTA has established its international character and our aim is to improve it in all aspects and promote it further by organizing the 6th International Conference on Technology and Automation in the near future.

Constantinos Batas   Panagiotis Tzionas   Dimitris Manolakis
                                                        Aristides Gogoussis

General Chair   Program Chairman   Editors