

## **Foreword**

Over the past 12 years, DAAAM-Baltic has been an international forum for researchers and engineers to present their research results in the areas of industrial engineering, manufacturing and automation. Conference DAAAM Baltic 2008 brought together researchers from the academic communities and enterprise sector to share their experience and to foster collaboration. The Conference focused on theoretical and practical methodologies, resolving technologies of CAD, CAE, MPC etc, considering completeness, dynamics of change, new technology insertion, complexity and integration. The Conference addressed the issues of managing globalization in the internet age. Technological research and development efforts have gained greater and greater support from both government and business. Automation and computerization have already taken place in the manufacturing industry. Dynamic technology change, short product life cycle and innovation characterize the knowledge-based economy. Our society needs engineers and managers equipped with technological knowledge, global vision, and professional management knowledge in order to meet the challenges of this new age.

The DAAAM Baltic 2008 conference continued the mission of the series of conferences, lasting already for 12 years, which is to give for scientists of the Baltic Sea region an opportunity to introduce their research results and to find partners. In 2008 about 200 proposals for presentations from 18 countries were reviewed; 96 papers from authors from 13 countries were accepted.

DAAAM-Baltic meetings are regional conferences of the Danube-Adrian Association for Automation and Manufacturing International.

Six papers, presented at the Conference DAAAM Baltic 2008, were published in a special issue of the Estonian Journal of Engineering 2009, vol. 15, No. 1. This special issue contains five other papers of the Conference.

Rein Küttner  
Chairman of the Scientific Committee of DAAAM Baltic 2008