

Preface

Danube Adria Association for Automation & Manufacturing (DAAAM International) was founded in Vienna in 1990 in order to mark the 175th anniversary of the Vienna University of Technology. The purpose of DAAAM International is to provide a worldwide forum for scientists, engineers and industrialists for an exchange of new ideas and discussions about current trends in the field of advanced manufacturing and automation. The activities of DAAAM International have been supported by many scientists and engineers in many countries worldwide. One of the missions of DAAAM International is organization of international conferences and symposiums.

The ideology of DAAAM International has been developed also on national level. Estonia is an active member of DAAAM International and Estonian scientists have participated in many conferences organized by this body. In Estonia the 1st National DAAAM Conference was organized in 1995 as a conference for young scientists. Due to great interest in this conference, the 2nd National DAAAM Conference was organized in 1996 for all interested scientists and engineers. Now international DAAAM conferences are organized in Estonia every second year.

The 4th International DAAAM Conference took place in Tallinn under the motto “Industrial Engineering – Innovation as Competitive Edge for SME”. Globalization opens new opportunities and evokes new challenges in industrial engineering, particularly in distributed engineering and manufacturing. This is especially important for small and middle-size enterprises.

This volume contains texts of nine selected papers, presented at the Conference.

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