Preface

This book features papers first presented at the 8th International Workshop on Field-Programmable Logic and Applications (FPL'98), held in Tallinn, Estonia, August 31 to September 3, 1998.

The FPL'98 workshop was organized by the Tallinn Technical University and the University of Kaiserslautern, in co-operation with the University of Oxford, as a continuation of seven already held workshops in Oxford (1991, 1993, and 1995), in Vienna, Austria (1992), in Prague, Czech Republic (1994), in Darmstadt, Germany (1996), and in London, UK (1997).

Field-programmable logic is no longer merely a niche technology being limited to logic synthesis mainly. An increasing number of papers go toward coarse grain field-programmable platforms. More and more authors view this area as an emerging new computing paradigm. In the future the universities should teach both, procedural programming and structural programming (programming in space vs. programming in time).

The growing importance of field-programmable devices is demonstrated by the wide variety of applications described in the submitted papers for FPL'98. This time, we had 86 submissions, the second largest number in the history of FPL workshops (also see http://xputers.informatik.uni-kl.de/FPL/index_fpl.html). The highest number of submissions was received for FPL'94 in Prague, Czech Republic: 116 submissions (Springer LNCS Vol. 849, also see http://link.springer.de/series/lncs/).

The list below shows the distribution of origins of the papers submitted to FPL'98 (some papers were written by an international team):

Australia	2	Latvia	1
Belarus	1	Philippines	1
Belgium	1	Portugal	1
CzechRepublik	1	Russia	1
Estonia	1	Slovenia	1
Finland	2	Spain	4
France	4	Switzerland	1
Germany	20	Tunisie	1
HongKong	2	USA	14
Hungary	3	United Kingdom	17
Israel	1	Yugoslavia	1
Japan	5		

The FPL'98 Technical Program offers an exciting collection of regular presentations and posters covering a wide range of topics. From the 86 submitted papers the very best 39 regular papers and 30 high quality posters were selected. All selected papers are included in this book.

We would like to thank the reviewers and the members of the Technical Program Committee for reviewing the papers submitted to the workshop. Our thanks go also to the keynote speaker and to the authors who wrote the final papers for this issue.

We also gratefully acknowledge all the work done at Springer-Verlag in publishing this book.

June 1998   Reiner W. Hartenstein, Program Chair
                                                Andres Keevallik, General Chair

Program Committee

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