Preface

This book contains the papers presented at the 9th International Workshop on Field Programmable Logic and Applications (FPL'99), hosted by the University of Strathclyde in Glasgow, Scotland, August 30 – September 1, 1999. FPL'99 is the ninth in the series of annual FPL workshops.

The FPL'99 programme committee has been fortunate to have received a large number of high-quality papers addressing a wide range of topics. From these, 33 papers have been selected for presentation at the workshop and a further 32 papers have been accepted for the poster sessions. A total of 65 papers from 20 countries are included in this volume.

FPL is a subject area that attracts researchers from both electronic engineering and computer science. Whether we are engaged in research into soft hardware or hard software seems to be primarily a question of perspective. What is unquestionable is that the interaction of groups of researchers from different backgrounds results in stimulating and productive research.

As we prepare for the new millennium, the premier European forum for researchers in field programmable logic remains the FPL workshop. Next year the FPL series of workshops will celebrate its tenth anniversary. The contribution of so many overseas researchers has been a particularly attractive feature of these events, giving them a truly international perspective, while the informal and convivial atmosphere that pervades the workshops have been their hallmark. We look forward to preserving these features in the future while continuing to expand the size and quality of the events.

A great many people have contributed to making FPL'99 a success and we wish to thank all of them for their efforts. These include the many authors who submitted their work to the workshop, the keynote speakers, and the members of the steering group and the programme committee. In addition to the many staff members at the University of Strathclyde who have contributed to FPL'99, we would like to recognise the assistance of the teams at the University of Kaiserslautern and Imperial College who are veteran organisers of previous FPL workshops. We thank the members of the local organising committee, especially Aaron Ferguson, David Robinson, John MacBeth, and David Downey, and also Tariq Durrani, Morag Aitken, Elaine Black, and Bob Stewart.

Finally we gratefully acknowledge the contribution of Thomas Hoffman at Springer-Verlag in publishing this book, and those companies who have made generous grants to the workshop to ensure its continued success. We are pleased to record our gratitude (alphabetically) to Altera Ltd., Nallatech Ltd., System Level Integration Ltd., and Xilinx Inc.

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