

Foreword

The 1st Latin American Symposium on Dependable Computing (LADC 2003) is the sole event in Latin America dedicated to discussing the many issues related to computer system dependability. This symposium succeeded the well established Brazilian Symposium on Fault Tolerant Computers (SCTF), which for almost two decades was the main Brazilian forum for exchanging state-of-the-art research and development in dependable computing. The objective of LADC 2003 was to provide a forum for international and Latin American researchers and practitioners to present their latest results and experiences in this very dynamic field.

The LADC 2003 program presented keynote talks from top international experts in the area, technical sessions, a panel, tutorials, and two workshops: an industrial-oriented workshop for discussing the application of computers in critical systems, and a students' forum for discussing their latest research.

LADC 2003 was sponsored by the Brazilian Computing Society (SBC), and organized in co-operation with the Argentine Society for Informatics and Operations Research (SADIO), Chilean Computer Science Society (SCCC), IEEE TC on Fault-Tolerant Computing, IFIP Working Group 10.4 "Dependable Computing and Fault-Tolerance," and the European Workshop on Industrial Computer Systems – Reliability, Safety and Security (EWICS).

I would like to acknowledge the financial support received from the following LADC 2003 partners: FAPESP, CNPq, CAPES, FINEP, FDTE, Banco Real ABN AMRO, Scopus Tecnologia S.A., and Microsoft Corporation.

I would like also to thank the LADC 2003 Organizing Committee for their support in helping me with the symposium organization, especially Jorge Rady de Almeida Jr., Paulo Sérgio Cugnasca, Lúcio Flávio Vismari, Ricardo Alexandre Veiga Gimenes, Alan Cleber Borim and Lisandro Zambenedetti Granville. Another special thanks goes to Rogério de Lemos and Taisy Silva Weber, the Program Co-chairs, who exhaustively worked for a successful LADC 2003.

LADC 2003 was held in São Paulo, the major financial and business center of Latin America, responsible for half of Brazil's GDP. São Paulo is the capital of fine cuisine, leisure and culture and is also the financial and commercial center of Brazil, offering visitors a great variety of attractions. I am sure that all participants appreciated and enjoyed LADC 2003 in São Paulo.

Preface

This is the first edition of the Latin American Symposium on Dependable Computing (proceedings of the LADC). LADC is the sole Latin American event dedicated to discussing the many issues related to computer system dependability. This symposium succeeded the well established Brazilian Symposium on Fault Tolerant Computers, which was a biennial event that lasted for 20 years.

Although the symposium was based in Latin America, the intention was to attract researchers from all over the world. There were 46 paper submissions from Europe, and South and North America. The selection process was rigorous, with each manuscript being sent out for review to four Program Committee members. A total of 19 papers were selected to be included in the proceedings, of which two were experience reports and three were short papers. In addition to these papers, we also invited Henrique Madeira and Eliane Martins to contribute with two papers, and we were very grateful that they accepted our invitation.

LADC 2003 was privileged to have a very prestigious and dedicated Program Committee, that embraced an electronic reviewing process that was demanding and time consuming. We would like to thank its members for their dedication and effort in helping to put together the final program. The electronic submission and reviewing process was only possible due to the efforts of Alan Cleber Borim and Lisandro Zambenedetti Granville in installing and maintaining the EDAS conference manager. As part of the technical program, we also included three invited talks and a panel. Again, we are very grateful to Karama Kanoun, Eno Siewerdt, and Aad van Moorsel for agreeing to deliver invited talks at the symposium, and to João Gabriel Silva for organizing and chairing the panel on dependability benchmarking.

We would also like to thank the LADC Steering Committee for their advice and support. Our special thanks goes to João Batista Camargo Jr., our enthusiastic and supportive General Chair who put so much effort into the organization of a successful LADC 2003. We are also thankful to Springer-Verlag for publishing the symposium proceedings in the prestigious series Lecture Notes in Computer Science.

Finally, we hope that these LADC 2003 proceedings will enlighten and deepen the knowledge of the symposium participants and future readers.

August 2003

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