Dear Colleague,

It is our pleasure to invite you to participate in the 10th IEEE International Conference on Emerging Technologies and Factory Automation (ETFA'05), which will be held in at Catania, Italy, September 19-22, 2005.

As you probably know, the ETFA conference series is the prime, and largest, IEEE event dedicated to factory automation and emerging technologies in industrial automation.

Since 1992, the ETFA conference have been hosted by some of the leading academic and research establishments including University of Tokyo (Tokyo, Japan), INRIA (Paris, France), University of Hawaii (Hawaii), University of California at Los Angeles, Polytechnic University of Catalunia (Barcelona, Spain), Universiti de Nice Sophia-Antipolis (Nice, France) and Universidade Nova de Lisboa-FCT-DEE (Lisbon, Portugal). This time, the ETFA conference is hosted by University of Catania.

The aim of the conference is to bring together researchers and practitioners from the industry and academia and provide them with a platform to report on recent advances and developments in the newly emerging areas of technology, as well as actual and potential applications to industrial and factory automation.

Especially the Track on the AUTOMATED MANUFACTURING SYSTEMS AND ENTERPRISE INTEGRATION focuses on the following topics:

- Enterprise Process Modelling and Simulation
- Performance/Stochastic modeling of Automated Manufacturing Systems (AMS)
- Flexibility assessment of Automated Manufacturing Systems (AMS)
- Horizontal / Vertical integration issues, ERP/MES/Control level integration
- Integrating Production Planning within Supply Chain Management (SCM)
- Virtual Enterprise, Enterprise Application Integration, XML Web Services-based EAI
- Middleware Technologies
- Industrial application of internet technologies
- Collaborative manufacturing, Continuous Replenishment
- Workflow Management Systems
- Industrial resource management, Industrial GRID applications, Semantic Grid Services for Business Integration
- Autonomy concepts in the industrial environment
- Scheduling, Reliability
- Concurrent Engineering
- Database and knowledge management technologies
- Decision Support Systems (DSS)
- Data Warehouses
- Data mining
- Rapid Prototyping

We would like to encourage you to consider submitting paper presenting your work as well as the work of your colleagues. We would like to inform you that it is a tradition of the ETFA conference that best papers are selected for publication in the IES journals, as regular papers and in special sections.

Submission of Papers and Important Deadlines are as follows:

March 31, 2005: Deadline for submission of long papers
May 25, 2005: Notification of acceptance of long papers
June 1, 2005: Deadline for submission of work-in-progress papers and Industry practice
July 1, 2005: Notification of acceptance of work-in-progress papers and Industry practice
July 1, 2005: Deadline for submission of final manuscripts

For more information about the conference please visit the website shown below:

http://www.diit.unict.it/etfa2005
We are looking forward to a successful technical event, and meeting you at the conference.

Yours sincerely,

Prof. S. Koubias
ETFA'2005 Automated Manufacturing Systems and Enterprise Integration Track Co-Chair