

# Welcome to Date 2002

On behalf of the Executive and Technical Program Committees, we take great pleasure in welcoming you to Paris and to **DATE 02**, the single, most comprehensive European Conference and Exhibition event bringing together academic researchers, industry specialists, users and vendors in the fields of Design, Automation and Test of electronic circuits and systems.

The endless quest for faster, cheaper, smaller electronic products, particularly for the growing consumer and communications markets, dictate that increasingly complex designs be generated in continuously shrinking time scales. But while design time has been reduced by possibly as much as 70 percent over the past few years, the cost of design has significantly increased and continues to grow. This makes design automation a strategic technology for modern electronic systems, from simple ASICs via embedded IP cores to large systems on chip made of heterogeneous processors communicating via on-chip networks.

**DATE** has become the pre-eminent European conference tapping into a large reservoir of research and development activities in the field of design technology. World leading companies in wireless communications and automotive industries have led to the emergence of recognised European specialities in Embedded Systems as well as IP and SoC Technologies, particularly with a strong mixed-signal content. These are three of the most important driving forces behind IT's explosive growth and the main contributors to accelerate the pace of electronic integration allowing complex systems to be built into a single chip. **DATE** is a unique event where the latest scientific and technological developments are brought to public from the leading players in the field. **DATE**, therefore, offers a once-in-a-year occasion to find out more about the technical and architectural trends of circuits and systems, small and large, and the design automation and test challenges they bring to tool vendors and PCB companies as well as semiconductor and IP providers alike.

**DATE 02** has received a total of 476 papers submitted to the regular scientific tracks of the Conference, a very significant 60 percent increase in the number of submissions in comparison to the previous edition. The Program Committee has had the hard and always difficult task of selecting 88 papers for long presentations, 54 papers for short presentations and 68 papers for presentation as posters. An additional 46 papers will be presented in the Designers' Forum which were selected from a record breaking 70 submissions. Last but not least, 14 Special Sessions have been chosen to bring stimulating insights and vibrant discussions in state-of-the-art topics. Due to such a large number of excellent contributions selected by the Technical Program Committee, the Conference Program has been extended from 5 to 6 parallel tracks.

In complement to the main technical and scientific Program, we have designed a number of valuable education activities in the days before and after the conference. These are the Pre-Conference Tutorials on Monday, already a tradition at **DATE**, and two new full day *Master Courses* that will take place just after the conference on Friday and which will address practical design-oriented issues of system-on-chip applications. The organization of many Hands-on-Tutorials, a PCB Symposium, a University Booth, vendor presentations, fringe meetings, and social events offer a wide variety of extra opportunities to meet and exchange information on relevant issues for the design, automation and test communities.

Many volunteers have given their best efforts to make this Conference and Exhibition an outstanding event. We would like to thank all the members of the Sponsors Committee, the Executive Committee, the Program Committee, the Vendors Committee and the Exhibitors, as well as all the Authors, Speakers, Session Organizers, Session Chairs, and Reviewers for their continued interest, energy and support to **DATE**. We hope that you will enjoy the **DATE 02** Conference and Exhibition as much as all of us have enjoyed organising it for you.

***Jose da Franca, General Chairman***  
***Carlos Delgado Kloos, Program Chairman***