


**September 20-22, 2006; Prague, Czech Republic**
**Honorary Co-Chairs**

David J. Irwin, Auburn University, USA  
Jean-Marie Proth, INRIA, France

**General Co-Chairs**

Vladimir Marik  
Czech Technical University in Prague,  
Czech Republic

Richard Zurawski, ISA Group., USA

**Organizing Co-Chairs**

Luis Gomes  
Uninova Institute, Portugal  
Christer Norström  
Mälardalen University, Sweden

**Program Committee Chairs**

Josep Fustes,  
Technical University of Catalonia, Spain

Hans-Michael Hanisch,  
University of Halle, Germany

Jiri Lazansky  
Czech Technical University in Prague  
Czech Republic

**Work in Progress Sessions**

Lucia LoBello, University of Catania, Italy  
Eduardo Tovar  
Politechnic Institute of Porto, Portugal  
Andreas Willig  
Technical University of Berlin, Germany

**Panel and Public Sessions  
Chairs**

Armando Colombo  
Schneider-Electric, Germany  
Luis Gomes, Uninova Institute, Portugal  
Martin Wollschläger  
Technical University of Dresden, Germany

**Publicity Committee Chair**

Pavel Jisl, Czech Technical University in  
Prague, Czech Republic

**Local Organizing Committee Chair**

Milena Zeithamlova, Czech Republic

**ETFA Series Steering Committee**

E. Dekenuev, Univ. of Nice, France  
J. Fustes, Univ. Politecnica de Catalunya,  
Spain  
L. Gomes, UNINOVA, Portugal  
H. Fujita, Univ. of Tokyo, Japan  
F. Harashima, Univ. of Tokyo, Japan  
C. J. Kim, UCLA, USA  
K. Lee, Univ. of Hawaii at Manoa, USA  
O. Mirabella, University of Catania, Italy  
J.-M. Proth, INRIA Lorraine, France  
A. Weaver, Univ. of Virginia, USA  
R. Zurawski, ISA Group, USA (Chair)

**International Advisory Committee**

D. Dietrich, Vienna University of Technology,  
Austria  
P. Drews, E. C. for Mechatronics, Germany  
C. Enolf, IEEE IES, USA  
J. Feld, Siemens AG, Germany  
G. Hancke, Univ. of Pretoria, South Africa  
J. Hung, Univ. of Tennessee, USA (Chair)  
D. Irwin, Auburn University, USA  
N. Komoda, Osaka Univ., Japan  
J. Lee, Univ. of Cincinnati, USA  
K.W. Lim, SIMT, Singapore  
C. Rameback, ABB, Sweden  
V. Schiffer, Rockwell Automation, Germany  
R. Schoop, Schneider Electric, France  
B. Wilamowski, Auburn University, USA  
A. Wolisz, Tech. Univ. Of Berlin, Germany

**Special Session on**

## The IEC 61499 Function Block Model in Factory Automation

Today's rapidly changing market requirements impose the need of improving the agility of manufacturing systems. The International Electro-technical Commission (IEC) in order to improve productivity in terms of re-use, reliability, flexibility and interoperability has defined the IEC 61499 function block (FB) model. The proposed model attempts to reduce engineering cost and system implementation time as well as to increase the reliability and maintainability of the whole system through the simplified migration from existing systems and adoption of current software engineering technologies.

The interest from academia and industry for this model that has recently been accepted as IEC 61499 standard, is growing last years and a lot of approaches that utilize the model are in evolution. The focus of this special session is on the FB model and its use in factory automation. Theoretical issues related to the specification as well as its use in practice will be presented and discussed.

**Aim:** This special session aims to provide a significant insight into the FB model's specification and its ability to support the whole development process of distributed control applications. Papers covering theoretical issues regarding the FB model as well as its application in control and automation are welcome.

**Special Session Papers:** More specifically topics include but are not limited to the following:

- System architectures, development methodologies, design alternatives
- Verification of FB models
- FB allocation & execution scheduling
- Extensions and modifications to the IEC model
- Integration of FB with UML
- Support for reconfigurability and real time constraints
- Engineering support Systems
- FB implementation environments
- Experimental developments, real-world examples, experience reports.

**Submission of Papers:** The working language of the conference is English. Papers should be limited to 8 double column pages in a font no smaller than 10-points. Manuscripts must be submitted electronically in PDF format, according to the instructions contained in the Conference web site. Prospective authors are invited to contact session organizer.

**SESSION ORGANIZER**

**Prof. Kleanthis Thramboulidis**  
Electrical & Computer Engineering  
University of Patras, Greece  
[thrambo@ee.upatras.gr](mailto:thrambo@ee.upatras.gr)

**Further Information:** ETFA'06 Conference Secretariat: Czech Technical University in Prague, Zikova 4, 166 36 Prague 6, Czech Republic,  
Tel: +420-221500201, Email: [etfa@labe.felk.cvut.cz](mailto:etfa@labe.felk.cvut.cz), or Ms. Milena Zeithamlova Email: [milena@action-m.com](mailto:milena@action-m.com)

**[www.action-m.com/etfa2006](http://www.action-m.com/etfa2006)**

**Paper Acceptance:** Each accepted paper must be presented at the conference by one of the authors. The final manuscript must be accompanied by a registration form and a registration fee payment proof. All conference attendees, including authors and session chairpersons, must pay the conference registration fee, and their travel expenses.

**Author's Schedule:**

*Deadline for submission of Special Session papers:*  
*Notification of acceptance of Special Session papers:*  
*Deadline for submission of final manuscripts:*

**April 30, 2006**  
**May 25, 2006**  
**July 1, 2006**