

## Introduction

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# Concurrent engineering

The first four manuscripts included in this focus issue grew out of the 13<sup>th</sup> ISPE International Conference on Concurrent Engineering, held in Antibes, France, 18-21 September 2006. The conference General Chair, Local Chair, and Program Chairs were Parisa Ghodous, University of Lyon I, France, Rose Dieng, INRIA-The French National Institute for Research in Computer Science and Control, France, and Geilson Loureiro, Brazilian Institute for Space Research, Brazil, respectively. The conference consisted of 9 Keynote and Invited Papers and 91 contributed papers. The authors of the 23 papers considered to be the most innovative

and original in terms of computing and information technologies were invited to submit “*substantially extended and updated manuscripts with additional original computational materials based on their most recent research*” for possible publication in this issue. Each submitted extended manuscript was reviewed by 3 to 11 reviewers rigorously using the journal review form. The first four manuscripts included in this issue are those that passed through the journal’s rigorous review process successfully.

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