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(eds.)

Invest on visualization

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FOREWORD

After being held at several locations in USA and Europe, we originally planned for the 2011 DSM Conference to be in Asia for the first time. Our Japanese colleagues had made all the arrangements to host this conference in Kyoto, and the organization activities had been underway one year already when the tsunami catastrophe happened in March 2011. In light of the difficulty travel and business conditions in Japan this year, we decided together with the Japanese organizers to shift the Japan event into the future. Thus, the first Asian DSM conference is not cancelled – it is postponed by a year. On fairly short notice, we then decided for 2011 to bring the conference home to it place of initiation – back to MIT in Cambridge, Massachusetts. We want to thank all members of the DSM community who supported us with the arrangements necessary to plan the 2011 DSM Conference on such short notice.

It has become a tradition that the local host chooses the theme line of the DSM conference. Invest in Visualization was originally selected by the Japanese organizers and has been retained as the conference theme for 2011. This is because of the importance of visualization in DSM research and practice. Indeed many important contributions at this year's conference focus on powerful visualization examples and new methods. We hope this will enable additional steps to better embed DSM techniques in the engineering management practice.

The term structural complexity has been widely used in the context of DSM application. We are glad to see this expression appearing more often now in discussions of engineering design. The Managing Structural Complexity special interest group (SIG) of the Design Society includes several members of the DSM community, and everybody is invited to contribute to the important conversation and events of the SIG.

We are very pleased to welcome you to the 13th International DSM Conference.

Steven Eppinger
Maik Maurer
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The Organizing Committee

ORGANIZING COMMITTEE

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