

Preface

Welcome to the proceedings of the 3rd *International Conference of COTS-Based Software Systems*. The conference is still young, but it is vital and growing fast. This year there were a total of 57 submissions on all aspects of COTS, with about 60% of these coming from the United States and the remainder from Europe and Asia. Equally encouraging, we had about equal numbers of submissions coming from academia and industry. This shows that ICCBSS is hitting our target audience-both practitioners and researchers interested in the effective use of COTS.

The specific program statistics are as follows:

- 4 tutorials submitted

- 3 tutorials accepted

- 4 panels submitted

- 3 panels accepted

- 10 experience presentations submitted

- 8 experience presentations accepted

- 39 refereed papers submitted

- 17 refereed papers accepted

- 2 invited workshops

We were uniformly impressed with the high quality and broad scope of these submissions. There were about an equal number of technically focused and managerially oriented submissions whose topics generally fell into three tracks: COTS Product Evaluation and Selection, COTS-Based System Definition and Development, and COTS-Based System Evolution and Management.

The superb quality of the submissions and the invited workshops continues to indicate the importance and interest in COTS-Based system development and issues. With this trend, ICCBSS 2005 will prove to be even more exciting!

Dan Port, Rick Kazman

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ICCBSS 2004 Conference Committee

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