

# Preface

On behalf of the SPICE 2016 Conference Organizing Committee we are proud to present the proceedings of the 16th International Conference on Software Process Improvement and Capability dEtermination (SPICE 2016), held in Dublin, Ireland, during June 9–10, 2016.

The SPICE Project was formed in 1993 to support the development of an international standard for software process assessment. The work of the project eventually led to the finalization of ISO/IEC 15504 – Process Assessment, and its complete publication represented a climax for the work of the project. The standardization effort continues, with the publication of the first documents in the new ISO/IEC 330xx family of standards on process assessment.

As part of its charter to provide ongoing publicity and transition support for the emerging standard, the project organized a number of SPICE workshops and seminars, with invited speakers drawn from project participants. These have now evolved to a sustaining set of international conferences with broad participation from academia and industry with a common interest in model-based process improvement. This was the 16th in the series of conferences organized by the SPICE User Group to increase knowledge and understanding of the International Standard and of the technique of process assessment.

The conference program featured invited keynote talks, research papers, and industry experience reports on the most relevant topics related to software process assessment and improvement; a significant focus this year were detailed studies of aspects of process implementation, assessment, and improvement, and the expansion in the range and variety of relevant process models. Members of the Program Committee selected the papers for presentation following a peer-review process.

SPICE conferences have a long history of attracting attendees from industry and academia. This confirms that the conference covers topics that are up to date, important, and interesting. SPICE 2016 offered a unique forum for industry and academic professionals to discuss their needs and ideas in the area of process assessment and improvement and in related aspects of quality management.

On behalf of the SPICE 2016 Conference Organizing Committee, we would like to thank all participants. Firstly all the authors, whose quality work is the essence of the conference, and the members of the Program Committee, who helped us with their expertise and diligence in reviewing all of the submissions. As we all know, organizing a conference requires the effort of many individuals. We wish to thank also all the members of our Organizing Committee, whose work and commitment were invaluable.

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