

# Preface

The 22nd edition of the International Conference on Reliable Software Technologies (Ada-Europe 2017) took place in Vienna, returning to Austria 15 years after 2002. The previous editions of the conference were held in Spain (Santander, 1999, Palma de Mallorca, 2004, Valencia, 2010, Madrid, 2015), France (Toulouse, 2003, Brest, 2009, Paris, 2014), the UK (London, 1997, York, 2005, Edinburgh, 2011), Switzerland (Montreux, 1996, Geneva, 2007), Sweden (Uppsala, 1998, Stockholm, 2012), Germany (Potsdam, 2000, Berlin, 2013), Italy (Venice, 2008, Pisa, 2016), Belgium (Leuven, 2001), and Portugal (Porto, 2006).

TU Wien was the lead organizer for this edition, with aid from an international core team that included members of Ada-Europe, the organization that oversees and sponsors the conference series.

The conference took place in the week of June 12–16, 2017, with a rich program for both technical content and social opportunities. The scientific program featured 15 papers selected among 37 peer-reviewed submissions, grouped into five presentation sessions and one panel discussion, entitled “The Future of Safety-Minded Languages,” scheduled in the central days of the conference week, to address topics ranging from runtimes, safety and security, timing verification, programming models, and mixed criticality. The proceedings contained in this volume reflect these contributions (see the table of contents for details).

The conference program also included nine industrial contributions arranged in three industrial presentation sessions. Vendor presentations with accompanying exhibitions completed the core program. Eight tutorials for the equivalent of nine half-day sessions were offered on Monday and Friday. The Friday program included the fourth edition of the Workshop on Challenges and New Approaches for Dependable and Cyber-Physical Systems Engineering (De-CPS), this year focusing on the theme “Transportation of the Future.” The proceedings from this part of the conference program will be published, in successive installments, in the *Ada User Journal*, the quarterly magazine of Ada-Europe.

The scientific and industrial submissions originated from 24 countries and 124 distinct authors, from Europe, Asia, North and South America, Australia, and Africa. Thanks to that wealth, the final program was an international digest of contributions from Australia, Austria, Denmark, France, Italy, Portugal, South Korea, Spain, Sweden, Switzerland, UK, and USA.

Each central day of the week opened with a keynote talk focusing on topics of interest to the conference scope. The three keynote talks were:

- “The Laws of Robotics and Autonomous Vehicles May Be Much More Than Three, But Don’t Panic... Yet” by Giovanni Battista Gallus, from Array, Italy, who discussed the future European legal framework for the development of autonomous vehicles, especially for programming issues.

- “Behavioral Software Metrics” by Tom Henzinger, from IST, Austria, who showed how the classic satisfaction relation between programs and requirements can be replaced by quantitative preference metrics that measure the “fit” between programs and requirements. Depending on the application, such fitness measures can include aspects of function, performance, resource consumption, and robustness.
- “Dependable Internet of Things” by Kay Römer from TU Graz, Austria, who presented the challenge resulting from the increasing use of wireless networked embedded systems in safety-critical applications, which must be proven to meet strict dependability requirements even under the harshest environmental conditions. The presentation highlighted recent results that improve the dependability of wireless communication and localization, embedded computing, and networked control for the Internet of Things.

The tutorial program covered the following topics:

- “Introduction to SPARK 2014,” Peter Chapin, Vermont Technical College
- “Ada on ARM Cortex-M, A Zero-Run-Time Approach,” Maciej Sobczak, GE Aviation and Inspirel
- “Software Measurement for Dependable Software Systems,” William Bail, The MITRE Corporation
- “Real-Time Parallel Programming with the UpScale SDK,” Luis Miguel Pinho, ISEP, and Eduardo Quinones, BSC
- “Using Gnoga for Desktop/Mobile GUI and Web development in Ada,” Jean-Pierre Rosen, Adalog
- “Frama-C, a Collaborative Framework for C Code Verification,” Julien Signoles, CEA LIST
- “On Beyond ASCII: Characters, Strings, and Ada 2012,” Jean-Pierre Rosen, Adalog
- “Modular Open System Architecture for Critical Systems,” William Bail, The MITRE Corporation

The industrial program featured the following presentations:

- “Astronomical Ada,” Ahlan Marriott, White Elephant GmbH, Switzerland
- “IP Network Stack in Ada 2012 and the Ravenscar Profile,” Stephane Carrez, France
- “Hardware-Based Data Protection/Isolation at Runtime in Ada Code for Micro-controllers,” German Rivera, USA
- “Automated Testing of SPARK Ada Contracts: Progress and Case Study Report,” Simon Daniel, Rolls-Royce plc, UK, and Stuart Matthews, Altran UK, UK
- “Introducing Static Analysis to a Mature Project,” Jacob Sparre Andersen, JSA Research & Innovation, Denmark
- “Challenges and Opportunities for Improvements of the Testing Process for Ada based Safety Critical Systems,” Guillem Bernat, Rapita Systems, UK
- “Experiences with Ada in the Safety-Critical Communication and Ground Control Systems of the nEUROn UCAV,” Luis Pabón, Artemio Jiménez, and José M. Martínez, Airbus Defence & Space, Spain

- “Experience with Use of Model-Driven Code Generation on the ASIM Project,” Steen Palm, Terma A/S, Denmark
- “A Time-Triggered Middleware for Safety-Critical Automotive Applications,” Ayhan Mehmed, Wilfried Steiner, and Maximilian Rosenblattl, TTTech Computertechnik AG, Austria.

We would like to acknowledge the work of all the people who contributed, with various responsibilities and official functions, to the making of the conference program overall. The success of the conference depends in large part on the quality of the program contents. The authors of the selected contributions are to be thanked first and foremost for that. The members of the Program and Industrial Committees had the difficult task of screening the submissions and selecting the contributions to include in this proceedings volume and in the *Ada User Journal*.

The Organizing Committee put it all together: Wolfgang Kastner (Conference Chair); Jacob Sparre Andersen (Industrial Chair); Ben Brosgol (Tutorial and Workshop Chair); Dirk Craeynest (Publicity Chair); Ahlan Marriott (Exhibition Chair). All of them deserve our gratitude for their effort.

We hope that the attendees enjoyed every element of the conference program at least as much as we did in organizing it.

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