NEWS LETTER N° 2

ERTS² 2012: The conference dedicated to Embedded Systems defines its programme

ERTS ² 2012 takes into account latest evolution and needs: its Programme Committee, chaired by Joseph Sifakis (Türing Award 2007 for his work on Model Checking) has just selected the 90 presentations which will be part of its 2012 programme. An interview of Joseph Sifakis in second part of this letter will tell us more on trends which had steered the works of this Committee.

ERTS ² 2012, will also be an opportunity for B2B meetings and will feature an exhibition: several booths are still available!

ERTS ² 2012, the event that you must attend! More information on: www.erts2012.org

Interview of Joseph Sifakis, Chairman of Programme committee

ERTS² will celebrate 2012 its tenth anniversary, what does it represents in this second decade of 21st century compared to the other events of the same domain?

There are a lot of scientific events on embedded systems but ERTS² is unique. It focuses on applied and integrative research. It is the only meeting gathering academics and engineers involved in applications and scientific issues directly related with their implementation. Initially, ERTS was a national conference but ERTS² has reached a European renown and I will even say international. In the coming years, it still needs to increase its visibility and its impact by opening to other continents, particularly Asia; some Asian countries have become leading actors in embedded technologies.

Why can embedded software still be seen in 2012 as a key area for the future? What are the main trends in embedded software which will be featured during ERTSS 2012?

Embedded systems revolutionized digital technologies. They are paramount to achieve the vision of Ubiquitous IT and Pervasive Smartness. Convergence between embedded systems and Internet technologies has paved the way towards the Internet of Things which will allow the coordination of embedded applications through the Internet in order to offer all kind of global services: "Smart Grids" for energy efficiency, smart transport systems, improvement of health, administrative and educational services. The development of these services raises many new scientific and technological challenges. How systems of different criticality can cooperate harmoniously? Commanding and monitoring critical equipments via Internet essentially requires improving the safety and security of its infrastructure. Solutions to protect the critical functions are also mandatory to prevent them from interfering with less critical features.

ERTSS 2012 must widen its topics in order to take into account this evolution and these needs. Its focus must move from monolithic critical systems to distributed systems with different criticality levels. Networks of embedded systems, in particular wireless sensor networks, Internet technologies, Web services and their composition are some of the new topics which will enrich its basic set of themes.

ERTS ² 2012 is the 6th edition of this congress, how do you foresee that it will be different from past ones?

This 6th edition is outstanding thanks to a larger European and international participation. We noticed especially an increased attendance of German participants from car industry. In addition, we opened the programme towards new topics such as the energy efficiency with invited conferences and a round table.

You succeed in this position to late JC Laprie, can you tell us some words on your predecessor who has marked the previous editions?

I have known Jean-Claude Laprie since 1974. He was not only a top level scientist but also a man of action, a visionary, with an acute sense of duty. I wanted to show my friendship and gratefulness to him by agreeing to take over the chairmanship of the ERTS² Programme Committee.