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Preface

SAFE 2007 conference is the second International Conference on Safety & Security Engineering after the very successful first meeting held in Rome, in 2005. The purpose of this 2nd International Conference on Safety and Security Engineering (SAFE 2007) is to continue to provide a forum for the presentation and discussion of the most recent developments in the theoretical and practical aspects of Safety and Security Engineering.

Safety & Security Engineering, due to its special nature, represents an interdisciplinary area of research and applications that brings together, in a systemic view, many disciplines of engineering, from the most traditional to the most advanced and novel.

Modern Safety & Security Engineering is characterized by a totally new approach since it first analyzes hazards not only by means of traditional tools but also by means of risk analysis techniques and then manage the hazards through technical solutions, installations, systems, human resources and procedures to prevent and face incidental events, natural and voluntary, that could damage people or goods.

This means that Safety & Security Engineering uses a systemic and multidisciplinary approach to the problems to be solved, decomposing them into elementary problems, studying their reciprocal relations and interactions and finding a final optimal solution that takes into consideration all the multiple aspects in their singularity and in their belonging to a complex system.

Nowadays, every process or situation needs to undergo a safety study and the results must be, from the beginning, integrated in them, to ensure the desired safety and security standards within given costs.

The Editors are grateful to the members of the International Scientific Advisory Committee and other colleagues who helped to review the papers included in this book. They are also indebted to all authors for their contributions.

The Editors
Malta, 2007

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