Letter from the Guest Editors

About forty years ago, Doug McIlroy started the software reuse ideas as a possible way to solve the software crisis. Since then, software reuse is an important and constant topic being discussed by companies and research groups interested in productivity and quality gains, and cost reductions. In addition, the field is becoming mature - the 10th International Conference on Software Reuse will be held this year in China - and the results can be seen in the practical world, where companies are increasingly introducing reuse in their research-development-innovation agendas, combining technical and non-technical aspects.

The call for this special issue attracted 15 submissions and the papers were reviewed by at least three reviewers. Based on the reviewers' recommendations, 4 papers were finally accepted, which corresponds to a relevant acceptance rate that reflects the high quality of the papers in this special issue.

The first paper entitled "*A method for model based test harness generation for component testing*" by Camila Rocha and Eliane Martins discusses an imminent issue related to reusable assets: their quality. The paper presents a model-based testing method in order to allow the automatic generation of test assets for component testing.

The second paper entitled "*Automatically Composing Reusable Software Components for Mobile Devices*" by Jules White, Douglas C. Schmidt, Egon Wuchner and Andrey Nechypurenko approaches software product lines in the mobile devices domain. This domain is growing in importance and has been often explored with software product lines ideas. In this paper, the authors discuss the Scatter tool and how it supports variant selection, in conjunction with product line architecture issues in this domain. At the end, the authors discuss an empirical study based on tests with Scatter in real and emulated mobile devices.

The third paper by Liguo Yu entitled "*Common Coupling as a Measure of Reuse Effort in Kernel-Based Software with Case Studies on the Creation of MkLinux and Darwin*" presents a practical topic related to the software reuse world: the dependencies and evolution in component-based systems. Yu discusses common coupling as a measure of the dependencies among software components and analyzes a case study comparing it in the operating systems domain.

The last paper by Leire Etxeberria, Goiuria Sagardui and Lorea Belategi is entitled "*Quality aware Software Product Line Engineering*". In this paper, Etxeberria et al. present a review involving the main topic approached currently in software reuse: software product lines. The authors review the available approaches, and discuss some requirements and guidelines to deal with quality issues in software product lines.

We would like to thank all reviewers for their valuable evaluation of the papers, the previous Chief Editor of the JBCS, Professor Jaelson Castro, from Federal University of Pernambuco, by receiving and discussing our proposal and Liana Barachisio Lisboa from C.E.S.A.R/ RiSE for all the feedback and support to aid in this special issue. Finally, but certainly not least, we thank you for your interest in this special issue.

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