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Preface

This volume contains the best papers presented at the 12th East-European Conference on Advances in Databases and Information Systems (ADBIS 2008) held during September 5–9, 2008, in Pori, Finland. The series of ADBIS conferences is the successor of the annual international workshops with the same title that during 1993-1996 were organized in Russia by the Moscow ACM SIGMOD Chapter. ADBIS 2008 continues the series of ADBIS conferences held in St. Petersburg, Russia (1997), Poznan, Poland (1998), Maribor, Slovenia (1999), Prague, Czech Republic (2000), Vilnius, Lithuania (2001), Bratislava, Slovakia (2002), Dresden, Germany (2003), Budapest, Hungary (2004), Tallinn, Estonia (2005), Thessaloniki, Greece (2006), and Varna, Bulgaria (2007). The conferences are initiated and supervised by an international Steering Committee chaired by professor Leonid Kalinichenko.

The ADBIS conferences established an outstanding reputation as a scientific event of high quality serving as an internationally highly visible showcase for research achievements in the field of databases and information systems. ADBIS 2008 aimed to create conditions for experienced researchers to impart their knowledge and experience to the young researchers at pre- or post-doctoral level, and to promote interaction and collaboration between European research communities (especially from Central and East Europe) and the rest of the world. The conference encourages contacts between the participants who are nationals of, but active outside, the Member States and Associated States and their colleagues in Member States and Associated States. Special attention is paid to collaboration of researchers in Central and East Europe.

The call for papers attracted 66 submissions from 21 countries. In a rigorous reviewing process the international Program Committee selected 22 papers for publishing in this volume. These papers were reviewed by three reviewers who evaluated their originality, significance, relevance as well as presentation and found their quality suitable for international publication. Topically, the accepted research papers span a wide spectrum of the database and information systems field: from query optimization and transaction processing via design methods to application oriented topics like XML and data on the Web.

We would like to express our thanks to all the people who contributed to making ADBIS 2008 a success. We thank the organizers of the previous ADBIS conferences, who made ADBIS a valuable trademark and we are proud to continue their work. We also thank the authors, who submitted papers to the conference, the international Program Committee and the external reviewers who made this conference possible by voluntarily spending their time to ensure the quality of submitted papers, the good spirit of the local organizing team in Pori (Finland) and the conference system administration team in Vilnius (Lithuania) for voluntarily giving their time and expertise to ensure the success of the conference. Special thanks to all sponsors whose significant

financial support made the conference possible. And last but not least we thank the Steering Committee and, in particular, its chairman, Leonid Kalinichenko, for their advice and guidance.

September 2008

Paolo Atzeni
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