

**Speech of Pr Alexandre Dolgui, General Scientific Chair at the Opening Ceremony  
May 17, 2006**

Ladies and Gentlemen, Mesdames, Messieurs,  
Dear and Chers Colleagues,  
Contributors and Sponsors,

Before we really begin, I would like to take the opportunity to summarize some of the amazing figures and principles associated with the organization of INCOM.

INCOM philosophy has been to put industrial problems in the forefront and invite all possible players in Automatic Control, Computer Science, Management Science, Operational Research and Industrial Engineering, to explore and offer new solutions. This has made INCOM the major scientific and industrial event for Manufacturing Systems and Logistics this year and the proof is that you are here in front of me.

I don't want to bore you with numbers. But our symposium has been two years in the making and we are very proud of the results.

We received **603** submissions of complete papers from **57** countries. There were **731** international experts involved in the peer review process, about **2000** reviews were made (at least 3 reviews per paper). Finally **375** papers have been selected for the final program (a **62** percent rate), from approximately **950** authors. An exceptional International Program Committee (IPC) worked hard to insure that the process was highly selective and professional, a big thanks to all members of IPC, especially the IPC chair Professor Gérard Morel.

If you are here today, it's because you have passed a rigorous selection process based on the quality and scope of work presented.

We have done all that was possible to insure an excellent quality control. So, can I say that you are the best?

We have also **61** invited industrial papers, and **7** academic keynote speeches given by leading scientists.

**442** papers are in the final program... if you want to read them all, that is more than one paper per day for an entire year.

INCOM is sponsored by prestigious international scientific associations: IFAC, IFIP, IFORS, IEEE, IMS, EURO, etc.

Twelve international journals are associated with INCOM for post symposium publications. Several special Issues will be published.

Three workshops organized by Industry are also included in INCOM06.

I am sure I have forgotten some details; the program of INCOM06 is too rich.

Bienvenu – Welkomen – Bienvenuto - Dobro pojalovatj - Siardechna zaprachaiu - ... Welcome  
to INCOM.

I used all these languages to remind you that your symposium consists of many countries, cultures and disciplines. The grand objective is communication across barriers.

Now I have the pleasure to introduce Dr. Xavier Boucher National Organizing Committee chair, who has worked so hard for INCOM that he has had no sleep nor seen his wife and children for weeks. Yet he is still capable to explain how our symposium will function. Could you give a big hand to Xavier?