

Preface

DEXA 2001, the 12th International Conference on Database and Expert Systems Applications was held on September 3–5, 2001, at the Technical University of Munich, Germany. The rapidly growing spectrum of database applications has led to the establishment of more specialized discussion platforms (DaWaK conference, EC-Web conference, and DEXA workshop), which were all held in parallel with the DEXA conference in Munich.

In your hands are the results of much effort, beginning with the preparation of the submitted papers. The papers then passed through the reviewing process, and the we accepted papers are revised to final versions by their authors and arranged width to the conference program. All this culminated in the conference itself. A total of 175 papers were submitted too this conference, and I would like to thank all the authors. They are the real base of the conference. The program committee and the supporting reviewers produced altogether 497 referee reports, on average of 2.84 reports per paper, and selected 93 papers for presentation.

Comparing the weight or more precisely the number of papers devoted to particular topics at several recent DEXA conferences, an increase can be recognized in the areas of XMS databases, active databases, and multi- and hypermedia efforts. The space devoted to the more classical topics such as information retrieval, distribution and Web aspects, and transaction, indexing and query aspects has remained more or less unchanged. Some decrease is visible for object orientation.

At this point we would like to say many thanks to all the institutions which actively supported this conference and made it possible. These are:

- The Technical University of Munich
- FAW
- DEXA Association
- Austrian Computer Society

A conference like DEXA would not be possible without the enthusiastic of several people in the background. First we would like to thank to the whole program committee for the thorough referee process. Many thanks also to Maria Schweikert (Technical University of Vienna) and Monika Neubauer and Gabriela Wagner (FAW, University of Linz).

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