

**THE 14TH INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCE ON
HARBOR, MARITIME & MULTIMODAL
LOGISTICS MODELLING AND SIMULATION**

SEPTEMBER 19-21 2012

VIENNA, AUSTRIA



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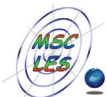
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INSTICC - INSTITUTE FOR SYSTEMS AND TECHNOLOGIES OF INFORMATION, CONTROL AND COMMUNICATION



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WELCOME TO HMS 2012!

Welcome to the 14th International Conference on Harbor, Maritime & Multimodal Logistics Modelling and Simulation, that is a great opportunity for worldwide scientists and experts to share experiences, researches, studies and applications related to maritime environment, logistics and supply chain management issues.

HMS is a traditional event and it has been held successfully worldwide, usually in the surroundings of major international ports such as Genoa (1999) or Marseille (2001), Gioia Tauro (2008), etc.

The tracks, special sessions and workshops, which are part of HMS, provide a great overview of the recent activities in this field, which is increasingly important for the whole society above considering the recent financial crisis (still on going in many countries); in fact in each country Logistics and Supply Chains operations may positively or negatively affect the richness of the country and therefore its economy.

Within this framework, simulation has proved to be very effective to support decision making and training. The HMS 2012 conference is an ideal framework for authors that present innovative technologies and advanced solutions based on Modeling and Simulation that could represent a valid support for experts, authorities and operators in maritime sector to plan effective actions, to optimize supply chain, to improve transportation systems and services or simply to train people.

The success of HMS 2012 is related to the strong efforts of the international Program Committee that, also this year, has worked hardly to review and select high quality papers and scientific works. Therefore we appreciate reviewers' work and thank them for their useful cooperation. Last but not least, a special thank goes to the authors that are the main contributors of HMS success.

Lastly, we would like to wish all the conference attendees to enjoy Vienna, the "city of music", and to have a fruitful and memorable time during the HMS 2012 Conference



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The HMS 2012 International Program Committee (IPC) has selected the papers for the Conference among many submissions; therefore, based on this effort, a very successful event is expected. The HMS 2012 IPC would like to thank all the authors as well as the reviewers for their invaluable work.

A special thank goes to all the organizations, institutions and societies that have supported and technically sponsored the event.

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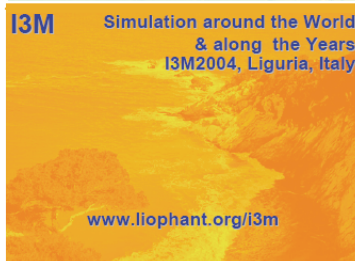
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