

PREFACE

This book represents part of the improved research output from the International Conference of Information Management (ICITM2007) organized in January 2007 Hong Kong by the Hong Kong Polytechnic University, in conjunction with its own Institute of Systems Management (ISM); the Department of Computing, Taiwan Chung Cheng University; and supported by the Jiangyin Municipal Government of China. The aim of the conference, and so of the book, in this era of rapid development and the proliferation of information, is to stimulate the further application of IT in industry and management. We all know that IT has multiple and growing roles in modern society: it is present at the core of the software and outsourcing industries; it provides vital infrastructure for the service sector, including finance, in cities such as Hong Kong. And in Jiangyin IT is now a primary driver of a fast-developing, technology-based economy. The continued development of this process relies on synergistic co-operation between universities, government, and industry. This conference and this volume have sought to contribute to and encourage this ongoing cooperation.

Our fellow researchers and professionals, from more than 20 countries and 50 universities and institutions, submitted a total of 175 papers to this conference. From these, the reviewers were limited to selecting just 66 regular papers and 10 poster papers and then, for this post conference publication, further papers were invited in addition to the selection of about 50% of the extended conference papers. Further review finally confirmed 30 papers in the following three categories:

- (1)Development of Enabling Technologies;
- (2)Electronic & Management;
- (3)IT Systems & Applications.

These papers feature the results of the latest research in the areas of information systems, enabling technologies, business management, as well as potential applications in industries including education, finance, logistics, medical, tourism, and IT services.

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