
Preface

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Biographical notes: Giuseppe Aiello has more than 20 years research experience in industrial engineering. He is currently an Associate Professor at the University of Palermo, where he teaches supply chain management at the Department of Engineering. He is the author of more than 100 papers published in top-ranked scientific journals, and his research interests include industrial engineering, supply chain management, sustainability and decision sciences. He leads the activity of several international research groups and he is currently responsible for several research projects granted by relevant national and international institutions.

This special issue of the *International Journal of Simulation and Process Modelling* hosts an extended version of the best papers presented at the 2020 International Multidisciplinary Modelling and Simulation Multi-conference (I3M 2020) and at the 2020 International Conference on Industry 4.0 and Smart Manufacturing (ISM2020). Over the past few years, The International Conference on Industry 4.0 and Smart Manufacturing (ISM) has provided the perfect setting and a unique opportunity for exchanging knowledge, and discussing theoretical advances, research results, and industrial experiences, among scientists, researchers, decision makers, practitioners and students.

The organisers of ICMP-2008 decided to bring out papers presented at the conference to provide the readers with the latest simulation and process modelling theories, methodologies, applications, trends, challenges and tools in the context of the 4th industrial revolution and in several other sectors. Professor Giuseppe Aiello served as guest editor, selecting the best papers based on the relevance to the journal and the reviews of the conference. The authors were asked to revise their conference papers for journal publication and, in accordance with customary practice, to add new materials. The revised papers went through the normal journal-style review process and are now presented to the readers. We are grateful to the authors and reviewers for their help in organising this special issue.