Preface

Intelligent systems, applications and environments for the industry of the future

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1. This Thematic Issue

This issue of JAISE is focused on the theme of *Intelligent systems, applications and environments for the industry of the future*. The industry has been evolving in different directions in the drive for optimizing the intelligent system processes. Sensing technologies have been increasingly adopted to support industrial processes at all stages: before, during and after the production line. This Thematic Issue provides a snapshot of the state-of-the-art in this area and offers insight into the next steps of innovation with new challenges and directions for grow.

As it is expected from a Thematic Issue there is a specific focus on a well-defined area. However, this focus also invites the community to think of the connections and synergies it may have with other areas. For example, it seems appealing at this time of the AmI history to study the potential connections between the intra factory activities and the wider concept of Smart Cities. Can environmental information inform production? Can transportation information improve product distribution planning? Perhaps, technology can now offer renewed opportunities for real-time education, decision making, and optimization. These potentials can each very well serve as topics for future Thematic Issues of JAISE.

This Thematic Issue has been organized by our Guest Editors Davy Preuveneers (imec-DistriNet, Department of Computer Science, KU Leuven, Belgium) and Elisabeth Ilie-Zudor (MTA SZTAKI, Hungarian Academy of Sciences, Budapest, Hungary) and our editorial team is grateful for their professional work.

2. Upcoming issues

As it is a tradition in our journal to alternate between regular and thematic issues, the issue to be published in July will be a regular issue and the issue to be published in September will be a Thematic Issue focused on *Human-centred AmI: Cognitive approaches, reasoning and learning*.