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Report on XV Euro Summer Institute

The 15th EURO Summer Institute (ESI XV) on Production Scheduling – Deterministic, Stochastic and Fuzzy Approaches has been organised by the Italian OR Society, the Politecnico of Turin and the Aosta Valley Region from 12 to 26 September 1997, at the Hotel Elena in Saint Vincent, 30 km from Aosta.

ESI XV has been a fruitful, enjoyable and rich experience for all those who participated, due to a very successful scientific part and a very attractive social activities.

During the Summer Institute, each of the fifteen young researchers presented a research paper on a specific topic within the theme while lectures were given by thirteen invited experts. Topics covered single and multi machine scheduling, lotsizing, inventory management, cutting stock, complexity theory, approximate reasoning, stochastic and fuzzy scheduling etc.

During ESI XV was held at the Conference Centre of Saint Vincent the Annual Conference of the Italian OR Society. The ESI participants had the possibility to attend the Conference, in particular the sessions devoted to Scheduling and Combinatorial Optimisation in Industry, the invited lectures given by Prof. Lucio Bianco (CNR President), Prof. Giorgio Gallo (OR President), Prof. Gideon Weiss from Israel and Prof. Costas Pappis from Greece. An interesting Round Table on "O.R. and Production Management of Goods and Services" and a video conference in connection with Université Libre de Bruxelles were also attended by the ESI participants.

During the two weeks, a relaxed and very friendly atmosphere was always present, thanks also to a rich and varied social programme, which included visits to the well known Aostan Castles, hiking in the most important Italian Natural Park, Gran Paradiso Park, rich of wild animals and typical mountain flowers, excursion up to Mont Blanc (the highest mountain in Western Europe) with a marvellous view all over the Alps mountains, dinners in typical regional restaurants, night parties with food, wine and folk, sport

matches, free entrance at the Casino etc.

I would like to express my gratitude to all those who helped to organise the Summer Institute. In particular, I am indebted to EURO for giving all of us the opportunity to participate in what will remain in our memories among our most creative and

speakers of the 15th EURO Summer Institute have been invited to attend the EURO XVI Conference in Brussels, 12-15 July, 1998, where special sessions devoted to ESI XV have been already scheduled.



*Roberto Tadei
Chairman of the
Organising Committee*

beautiful experiences. I am also indebted to the coorganisers of the events, the Italian OR Society, the Politecnico of Turin and the Aosta Valley Region for their valuable help and to those who supported financially the event: EURO, Aosta Valley Region, Progetto Finalizzato Trasporti 2-CNR, Istituto di Analisi dei Sistemi ed Informatica-CNR and Comitati Nazionali of CNR.

I would like to warmly thank the members of the Scientific Committee Professors L. Bianco, M.A.H. Dempster, D. Dubois, G. Gallo, M. Lucertini, C. Pappis, C.N. Potts, P. Serafini, M.G. Speranza, P. Toth, S. van de Velde, G. Weiss, H.J. Zimmermann (most of them also helped, by acting as referees, to prepare the special issue of EJOR on Production Scheduling devoted to the Summer Institute).

Finally, my sincere thanks to the friends of the Organising Committee P. Asioli, F. Della Croce, M. Dellasette, A. Grosso, S. Monasterolo, G. Perboli, A. Tsoukiàs who helped me to cope with the extensive organisational work involved in preparing and carrying out the Summer Institute.

All the participants and the invited

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