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Hans-Jörg Bullinger is Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Prof. e.h. mult. Dr. h. c. mult., President of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft, Corporate Management and Research. He obtained MSc and PhD in Manufacturing at University of Stuttgart and joined the Stuttgart Fraunhofer-Institute of Production Technology and Automation, and became a full-time lecturer at the University of Stuttgart. He served there as Chairman of the University, Head of the Institute for Human Factors and Technology Management (IAT) and of Fraunhofer-Institute for Industrial Engineering (IAO). In 2002 he became the President of the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft. Among his honors are the Kienzle-Medal, the Gold Ring-of-Honour from the German Society of Engineers (VDI), the Distinguished Foreign Colleague Award from the Human Factor Society, the Arthur Burckhardt Award; Honorary Doctorates (DHC) from the Universities of Novi Sad and Timisouara. He has also received the Cross of Order of Merit and the Officer’s Cross of Order of Merit of the Federal Republic of Germany, and the Great Cross of the Order of Merit from the Federal President of Germany. Dr. Bullinger is a member of the German Chancellor’s “Council on Innovation and Economic Growth”.

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Rick J. Echevarria is Vice President of the Sales and Marketing Group and General Manager of the Enterprise Solution Sales division at Intel Corporation. Before assuming his current position, Rick spent seven years leading Intel Solution Services, Intel’s worldwide professional services organization. Earlier, he spent two years as Director of Product Marketing for Intel’s Communication Products Group and as Director of Internet Marketing for the Enterprise Server Group. Before joining Intel in 1994, Rick was a software developer for IBM Corporation in Austin, TX. Rick holds a BS degree in industrial engineering from Purdue University and an MS degree in computer systems management from Union College.

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Yael Edan is a Professor in the Department of Industrial Engineering and Management. She holds a BSc in Computer Engineering and MSc in Agricultural Engineering, both from the Technion-Israel Institute of Technology, and a PhD in Engineering from Purdue University. Her research is robotic and sensor performance analysis, systems engineering of robotic systems; sensor fusion, multi-robot and telerobotics control methodologies, and human-robot collaboration methods with major contributions in intelligent automation systems in agriculture.

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Yukio Hasegawa is Professor Emeritus of the System Science Institute at Waseda University, Tokyo, Japan. He has been enjoying construction robotics research since 1983 as Director of Waseda Construction Robot Research Project (WASCOR) which has impacted automation in construction and in other fields of automation. He received the prestigious first Engelberger Award in 1977 from the American Robot association for his distinguished pioneering work in robotics and in Robot Ergonomics since the infancy of Japanese robotics. Among his numerous international contributions to robotics and automation, Professor Hasegawa assisted, as a visiting professor, to build the Robotics Institute at EPFL (Ecole Polytechnic Federal de Lausanne) in Switzerland.
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Steve Holland is a Research Fellow at General Motors R&D, where he pioneered early applications of robotics, vision and computer-based manufacturing. Later, he led GM’s robotics development group and then the robotics and welding support operations for GM North American plants. He served as Director of GM’s global manufacturing systems research. He is a Fellow of IEEE and received the Joseph F. Engelberger Award for his contributions to robotics. Mr. Holland has a bachelor’s degree in Electrical Engineering from GMI and a Master in Computer Science from Stanford.

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