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Dependability of networked systems

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As part of the preparation for a Dependability Initiative within the Information Society Technologies programme under the upcoming Fifth Framework Programme, two one-day workshops were organised on behalf of the European Commission. Held in March 1998, reports on the proceedings of both these workshops are now available.

The first workshop addressed "Dependability of extensively deployed and networked embedded systems", and heard ten participants representing diverse European organisations present their dependability concerns from an embedded systems perspective. The second workshop addressed "Dependability of large-scale infrastructures and services in the Information Society", and involved 16 invited participants from European industry and public authorities who discussed dependability issues related to the deployment of applications and services using large-scale infrastructures.

The two workshops adopted the same format and discussed the driving forces in the embedded systems landscape from five perspectives:

- Business context;
- Industrial specific application domains;
- Technologies;
- Legal and regulatory framework;
- Societal framework.

The challenges for dependable embedded systems as well as the need for a European dependability initiative and resulting benefits were also discussed. The reports provide an overview of the results and conclusions of the workshops as well as lists of participants and workshop agendas.

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