

SPECIAL ISSUE ON MANAGEMENT ENGINEERING

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The management engineering was renamed from Industrial Engineering where the strength is placed on management as well as production in the industrial engineering. Originally, industrial engineering was a research area where the effective and efficient production was to be realized in factories or production. Therefore, human factors, scheduling and human studies were included in the area. Recently, the effectiveness and efficiency of management are more required in the strongly competitive world. The Management Engineering is also strengthened on new methodologies including artificial intelligence, soft-computing as well as management science and operations researches.

This special issue of IJICIC is edited from some of the selected papers presented in the Fourth International Symposium on Management Engineering (ISME2007), March 10 - 12, 2007, Kitakyushu, Japan. The objective of the special issue is to present updated achievements on *Management Engineering*, such as fuzzy optimization, fuzzy regression, fuzzy decision making techniques, and fuzzy modeling techniques and their applications. As guest editors of this special issue, we feel great honor to provide researchers a useful reference in their works.

We would like to thank all the contributors who submitted their high quality papers to this special issue. We are also very grateful to the reviewers who devoted their valuable time to the evaluation of all the papers. Finally, we express our sincere gratitude to Professor Yan Shi, the Executive Editor of IJICIC, for offering us the opportunity to work on this project, and supervised all the publication issues very professionally and efficiently, which ensured the success of this special issue.