First Announcement and Call for Papers

**Workshop on Applications of Jess, the Java Expert System Shell**

**July 6-7, 2001 - Setúbal, Portugal**

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**Aim of the Workshop**
Jess (the Java Expert System Shell) is a portable, extensible, fast reasoning engine written in Sun Microsystem's Java language. It was developed at Sandia National Laboratories (USA) and is distributed free of charge for academic use. Jess has a large, worldwide user community. Jess is commonly used in agent research, as it provides a convenient way to integrate complex reasoning capabilities into Java-based software. Jess users have developed many software extensions, including ones for fuzzy logic, database access, blackboards, and language understanding. Jess has been used to deploy many real systems, including some based on a multiagent paradigm.

The aim of this workshop is to bring together Jess users, researchers, software developers and potential Jess users to 1) facilitate an exchange of ideas and techniques, and 2) share experiences and lessons learned.

**Areas of Interest**
This workshop will bring together researchers involved in designing and building diverse systems with Jess. The scope of the presentations will extend from specific implementation strategies to overall architectural issues; the essential common element will be the use of the Jess software. Papers that describe the design and deployment of enterprise-level applications incorporating Jess are particularly encouraged.

Other topics may include, but are not limited to:
- Case studies of multiagent systems  
  incorporating Jess  
- Jess in servlets  
- Descriptions of Jess extensions  
- Integration of Jess with software for processing agent languages  
- Comparisons of Jess to other Java-based reasoning systems  
- Jess-based agent communities for knowledge synthesis  
- Decision-support systems  
- Natural language understanding with Jess  
- Machine learning in Jess  
- Jess performance measurements or enhancements

**Format of the Workshop**
The workshop will comprise of invited talks and oral presentations. The proceedings of the workshop will be published in the form of a book.

**Submission of Papers**
Prospective authors are invited to submit papers for oral presentation in any of the areas listed above. Only full papers in English will be accepted, and the length of the paper should not exceed 10 pages (5000 words). Instructions for preparing the manuscript (in Word and Latex format) are available at the ICEIS web site (see below). Postscript versions of the manuscript should be sent electronically to the workshop secretariat (see e-mail below).

**Important Dates**
Full Paper Submission: 25th January 2001  
Author Notification: 15th March 2001  
Final Camera-Ready Submission and Registration: 5th April 2001

**Conference Location**
The workshop will be held at the Escola Superior de Tecnologia of the Polytechnic Institute of Setúbal. Setúbal is located at the south bank of Tagus river, about 50 km from Lisbon.

**Secretariat**  
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