

# **FOCAPO 2003**

**(Foundations of Computer-Aided Process Operations)**

**January 12-15, 2003**  
**Coral Springs, Florida**

## **A View to the Future Integration of R&D Manufacturing and the Global Supply Chain**

Over the last decade the scope of the area of process operations has expanded from operational issues in manufacturing plants to the management and optimization of entire supply chains. Furthermore, its scope has also been expanded towards R&D activities on the one hand, and on the other hand towards distribution and logistics of products. The new expanded scope of process operations offers exciting possibilities at the practical and at the research level. At the practical level it has promoted the integration of computer and information technologies with large-scale modeling and optimization tools that are being translated into large economic savings by improved coordination of operations, decreased inventories and higher levels of service. At the research level process operations has given rise to a number of modeling, algorithmic, and integration challenges in order to effectively tackle large and complex systems that are characterized by frequent dynamic changes and uncertainties.

In an efficient Sunday-Wednesday format, FOCAPO 2003, will be convening a group of international experts from industry, academia, vendors, and consulting companies to discuss the new directions and challenges in process operations. Participants will discuss needs for process oriented industries such as chemicals, energy, food and beverage, pharmaceutical, and metals.

A preliminary announcement can be found in:

<http://www.cheme.cmu.edu/focapo>