

Applied optimization in manufacturing and services (APPOPT-2008)

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This special section is related to selected papers from the “Applications Track” of the Ninth International Conference on Approximation and Optimization in the Caribbean (APPOPT-2008) held in San Andres Islands, Colombia, March 2–7, 2008 (<http://matematicas.univalle.edu.co/~appopt2008/>). The APPOPT conference series aims to bring together mathematicians, engineers, and other specialists from a variety of related disciplines, who are at the forefront of their research fields, to exchange original ideas and present high-quality scientific research related to the development of optimization and approximation theory, models, algorithms, and their applications to both theoretical and complex real-life problems. The numerous research papers presented at APPOPT-2008 included a significant amount of research that addressed both manufacturing-oriented and service-oriented problems. Submission to this special section was open to papers related to the topic but not necessary presented at the conference venue. Eleven papers, selected for the quality of both the abstract and the presentation, participated in the evaluation process for this special volume. Only four papers were finally accepted after completing the rigorous traditional peer-review process of the journal for scientific merit. These papers present applications of optimization techniques to solve realistic optimization problems.

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