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BIOGRAPHY

Taiba Zahid is working since 2013 as a research associate in the working group of facility planning at chair of logistics engineering which is a part of department of mechanical engineering of Technische Universität in Dresden. She received her Master's in Mechanical Engineering with specialization in manufacturing area early in 2013. Her master's thesis was about optimizing machine scheduling with meta-heuristic algorithms. She is recently working in a group which focuses on providing practical solutions for industries concerning production management, logistics and supply chain management. Her main research aim is to find robust schedules; insensitive to disruptions and can tolerate uncertainties by remaining close to their optimal solutions.

Prof. Dr. Michael Völker, born in 1956, studied mechanical engineering at Technische Universität Dresden. He received his doctorate in 1988. His doctoral thesis analyses the use of industrial robots for automated machine charging. In the context of various industrial projects he gained experience as a senior project manager in the planning and commissioning of more than 20 factories in different countries. In addition, he gave guest lectures at various universities. He is currently working as head of the factory planning department at Technische Universität Dresden, Faculty of Mechanical Engineering, Chair of Logistics Engineering. His expertise in teaching and research lies in particular in the planning and design of production systems and factories. Core issues are Digital Factory concepts and the organization and optimization of production processes.

Dr. Thorsten Schmidt is full professor at the Technische Universität Dresden and heads the Chair of Logistics Engineering in the Mechanical Engineering faculty since 2008. He holds a diploma degree in mechanical engineering from the Technische Universität Dortmund and a Master's degree in industrial engineering from the Georgia Institute of Technology. He received his Ph.D. from the Technische Universität Dortmund in 2001. His research areas are the design and optimization of facility logistics and production systems including a focus on the machinery and components involved. He currently works on energy efficient control strategies in material flow, fast approximation in early planning stages by means of standard design modules, on-line data analysis, formal verification of control logic, performance analysis of de-central and self-controlled systems, lightweight structures in material handling and stress analysis on wire ropes and toothed belts, respectively.