

Message from the General Chair

I would like to take this great opportunity to welcome you all to the **First** International Conference on Sensing Technology, ICST 2005, November 21-23, 2005 at Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand. You might have noted that we have used the word "**First**" for the first time. It is more than a year and half now since we started thinking of organizing this conference. We started from the **ZERO** level with lots of doubts. Thanks to all of you, the paper contributors, for all your help and support. For a first time conference attracting a total number of 147 papers is a great success. I would like to congratulate you and share this happiness with you all.

The area of Sensing Technology is a huge one by its nature. The applications range from medical diagnostic to industrial manufacturing and to defence, national security, prevention of natural disaster and terrorism. The proper detection of events by high performance sensors and appropriate analysis of sensor signals can lead to early warning of phenomena like Tsunami and help to prevent terrorist activities using highly explosive chemicals. There is a need for interaction between researchers across technologically advanced and developing countries working on design, fabrication and development of different sensors. The ICST 2005 provides a forum for that.

On behalf of the organizer I would like to extend my sincere thanks to many organizations and individuals. My first thank goes to all authors as they are the key people for any conference to succeed. The Technical Programme committee led by the Technical Programme Chair, Mr. G. Sen Gupta have done a tremendous and wonderful job. I am very much indebted to everybody in the Technical Programme committee for accepting the invitation and for lending their help, support, time and effort to make this conference a great success. My special thanks to our keynote speakers, Prof. Mel Siegel, Director, Sensor, Measurement, and Control Laboratory, The Robotics Institute, School of Computer Science, Carnegie Mellon University, USA and Prof. Shoogo Ueno, Chairman, Department of Biomedical Engineering, Graduate School of Medicine, The University of Tokyo, Japan for their valuable contribution.

The conference is being organized by the Institute of Information Sciences and Technology, Massey University, Palmerston North, New Zealand. I thank the Institute's management for extending the support. Christine Allport and Ri Weal have worked tirelessly behind the scene to manage the whole show. Sincere thanks go to them.

I greatly acknowledge the financial support from our sponsors Royal Society of New Zealand, Technic Pty Ltd, Australia, Keam Holdem Industrial RF and Microwave Technology, New Zealand, Knowledge Solution Group, Japan, Hoare Research Software Ltd, New Zealand, IEEE New Zealand North Section and Asian Technology Information Program.

I do sincerely believe that the conference will provide a platform for discussion on the advancement of technical and scientific issues of different sensing technological problems and interaction among the participants will be stimulating, productive and encouraging.

I wish you all a pleasant stay during the conference at Palmerston North and enjoy your time while you are in New Zealand.

Subhas C. Mukhopadhyay
General Chair, ICST 2005.
Massey University, Palmerston North,
S.C.Mukhopadhyay@massey.ac.nz