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**Aim:** The aim of the conference is to bring together researchers and practitioners from the industry and academia and provide them with a platform to report on recent advances and developments in the newly emerging areas of technology, as well as actual and potential applications to industrial and factory automation.

**Solicited Papers:** Research papers reporting on new developments in technological sciences. Industry and development papers reporting on actual developments of technology, products, systems and solutions. Tutorial and survey papers. Work-in-progress papers. In addition, ETFA 2008 solicits special session proposals to stimulate in-depth discussions in special areas relevant to the conference theme. Please consult the conference web page for more details.

### Topics within the scope of the conference include:

#### Information Technology in Automation

*Track Chairs:* Dactey Dzung, ABB, Switzerland and Juergen. Jasperneite, OWL University of Applied Sciences, Germany

Development Platforms and Frameworks: .NET, J2EE; Programming languages: Java, C#, Software System Security, Tool chains for Software Design and Development, Engineering and commissioning tools, etc.; Operating Systems; Databases and Web Interfaces; Realtime Mobile Computing, Network Computing, Distributed Real-time Systems, Industrial Signal Processing, Sensor fusion.

#### Industrial Communication Systems

*Track Chairs:* Julian Proenza, University of the Balearic Islands, Spain and Stefano Vitturi, University of Padua, Italy

Real-Time Communications and Applications; Fieldbus Networks; Real-Time Ethernet Networks; Wireless and Hybrid (wired/wireless) Networks for Industrial Communications; Dependability Aspects and Fault Tolerance; Middleware for Industrial Communication Systems; Vertical Integration Aspects: Web-based Setup, Maintenance and Configuration; Internetworking; Formal Description Techniques; Intranet and Internet Access; Factory Applications and Case Studies. Performance Analysis of Industrial Communication Systems.

#### Real-Time and (Networked) Embedded Systems

*Track Chairs:* Thomas Nolte, Mälardalen University, Sweden and Roberto Passerone, University of Trento, Italy

Real-Time Computing and Operating Systems; Real-Time Communications; Networked Embedded Systems Technology; Wireless Sensor Networks; Embedded Systems Security; Sensor Technology; Cyber Physical Systems; Design and Implementation; Design Methodologies and Tools; Models of Computation and Formal Methods; Hardware/Software Co-Design; IP Cores and Platforms; System on Chip and Architectures; Languages; Power Supply and Management; Data Integration and Fusion; Communication Modes; Quality of Service control; Case studies (industrial automation, automotive, avionics, communications...)

#### Industrial Automated Systems and Controls

*Track Chairs:* Javier Campos, University of Zaragoza, Spain and Weng Khuen Ho, National University of Singapore

Formal Modeling of Manufacturing and Process Systems; Simulation, Queueing Systems, Petri Nets; Synthesis and Analysis Techniques, Performance Evaluation and Reliability, Scheduling; Programmable Logic Control; Process Control, Intelligent Control, Supervisory Control; Failure Detection, Diagnosis, and Appropriate Control Strategies; Integration of Automation, Control and Supervision; Recent Developments in Standardization; Test Cases, Benchmarks, Tools; Discrete and Continuous Industrial Automation Systems; Automated Manufacturing Systems and Enterprise Integration; Concurrent Engineering, Rapid Prototyping, Data Base Technologies, Data Mining, Data Warehouses; Multimedia, Virtual Reality and Telesensation; Applications and Experiences in Practice.

#### Computational Intelligence and Modern Heuristics in Automation

*Track Chairs:* Milos Manic, University of Idaho, USA and Sam Kwong, City University of Hong Kong

Intelligent Systems and Control, Modern Heuristics, Artificial Intelligence, and Data Mining in automation and industrial applications; Neural/Fuzzy/Evolutionary approaches in automation; Modern heuristics methods in factory automation based on predictive, adaptive control, recognition, navigation, motion control, competitive, self-organizing learning, and clustering; Computational Intelligence in wireless automation protocols such as Bluetooth, WiFi, and ZigBee; Computational Intelligence in security, reliability, and fault-tolerance in automation; Ant colonies optimization and swarm intelligence in automation; Also Petri Nets, Chaos, Markov models, Support Vector Machines, and Expert Systems.

#### Intelligent Robots & Systems

*Track Chairs:* Antoni Grau, Univ. Politecnica de Catalunya (UPC), Spain; J-H Lee, Ritsumeikan University, Japan

Machine Vision and Intelligence, Actuators and Motion Control, Multisensor Fusion and Integration, Intelligent Robots and Systems, Intelligent Space.

**Conference Format:** The conference will comprise multi-track sessions for regular papers, to present significant and novel research results with a prospect for a tangible impact on the research area and potential implementations; work-in-progress (WIP) sessions; panel discussions on the state-of-the-art and emerging trends, involving leading experts from industry and academia; and public discussion sessions moderated by leading experts in the field of industrial automation systems.

**Submission of Papers:** The working language of the conference is English. Two types of submissions are solicited. Long Papers – limited to 8 double column pages in a font no smaller than 10-points. Work-in-Progress and Industry practice – limited to 4 double column pages in a font no smaller than 10-points. Manuscripts must be submitted electronically in PDF format, according to the instructions contained in the Conference web site.

**Best Paper Award:** Best paper awards in Factory Automation and Emerging Technologies will be presented at the conference banquet dinner. Authors of outstanding papers will be invited to submit a revised version of their papers for publication in a special section in IEEE Transactions on Industrial Informatics.

**Further Information:** ETFA'08 Conference Secretariat: Tel: +49 40 6541-2719; Fax: +49 40 65 41 20 04; Email: [etfa2008@hsu-hh.de](mailto:etfa2008@hsu-hh.de)

**Paper Acceptance:** Each accepted paper must be presented at the conference by one of the authors. The final manuscript must be accompanied by a registration form and a registration fee payment proof. All conference attendees, including authors and session chairpersons, must pay the conference registration fee, and their travel expenses.

#### Author's Schedule:

Deadline for submission of long papers	April 30, 2008
Deadline for submission of work-in-progress papers and industry practice	June 15, 2008
Deadline for submission of final manuscripts – regular and special sessions	July 1, 2008
Deadline for submission of final manuscripts – work-in-progress papers and Industry practice	July 14, 2008

Notification of acceptance of long papers	June 1, 2008
Notification of acceptance of work-in-progress papers and Industry practice	July 1, 2008