

Welcome from the Technical Program Committee

On behalf of the Technical Program Committee (TPC), it is our pleasure to welcome you to the 69th IEEE Vehicular Technology Conference to take place in the beautiful Mediterranean city of Barcelona in Spain. Barcelona has established itself over the years as a European technological capital, and in fact as the world's mobile and wireless communications capital with the yearly celebration of the Mobile World Congress. This year's conference theme, 'Defining the Future Wireless Landscape', captures very well the current global situation and desire to boost the mobile and wireless communications industry through the development of innovative concepts and technologies addressing the current world challenges.

To contribute to such development, the conference committee has set up an impressive program that reflects the current technical and research trends, consisting of 82 oral sessions and 11 poster sessions. In total, the conference Track Chairs, with the help of 381 Technical Program Committee members and 2445 reviewers, have selected 405 oral papers and 231 poster papers, from a total of 1140 submissions. In addition to the regular sessions, the program features 20 invited papers, and offers seven tutorials addressing some of the main mobile and wireless technological challenges, three worldwide renown industry and academic plenary speakers (Prof. Michael Walker, Vodafone, Prof. Arogyaswami Paulraj, Stanford University and Beceem Communications, and Prof. Ian F. Akyildiz, Georgia Institute of Technology), and two industry-focused panels discussing the technical challenges in the Beyond 3G and Future Internet definition. The technical and organising committees are also pleased to announce that the 69th IEEE VTC2009 Spring conference will also host the European Commission concertation cluster "Radio Access & Spectrum" (RAS) workshop.

Creating this impressive program is not possible without the voluntary support from an outstanding team of colleagues that we would like to strongly thank. Special thanks go to our conference Track Chairs that organised a very efficient and smooth reviewing process: Sergio Palazzo and Roberto Verdone (Ad-hoc and Sensor Networks), José M. Hernando and Rafael Torres (Antennas and Propagation), Mehmet Can Vuran and Friedrich Jondral (Cognitive Radio), Sastri Kota and José I. Herrero (Mobile Satellite and Positioning Systems), Mischa Dohler and Luis Correia (Multiple Antenna Systems and Space-Time Processing), Javier R. Fonollosa and Jad Nasreddine (Transmission Technologies), Bih-Yuan Ku (Transportation), Carolina Pinart and Wai Chen (Vehicular Communications), Antonio Valdovinos and Lorenza Giupponi (Wireless Access), Narcís Cardona and Hiroshi Harada (Wireless Networks), and Josep Paradells (Wireless Services and Applications).

We would also like to thank the great job of our dedicated TPC members and reviewers, who understood that as members of the technical community, cooperative participation in the reviewing process is required to provide the professional and timely review of our technical contributions that we all expect and demand. We are also very grateful to our tutorials (Silvano Pupolin), invited papers (Reinaldo Valenzuela and Angel Lozano), panel (Didier Bourse and Jaime Bustillo) and publications (Guillem Femenias) chairs for their great job and contribution. Finally, we would like to thank the constant support from Sherri Walcheski and James Irvine in the technical program preparation process. Of course, making a successful technical conference is not possible without the participation from authors, to whom we would like to express our gratitude for having decided to present and share their ideas and contributions at the 69th IEEE VTC2009 Spring Conference.

Once again, we welcome you all to the 69th IEEE VTC2009-Spring Conference and hope you will appreciate and enjoy both the technical program and social opportunities that a city like Barcelona can offer you.

Oriol Sallent and Javier Gozalvez, Technical Program Co-Chairs
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