

# Welcome to the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INDUSTRIAL INFORMATICS, a New Journal of the Industrial Electronics Society

**T**HE IEEE Industrial Electronics Society is one of the oldest societies in IEEE. Three years ago we celebrated our 50th Anniversary. As a Society, we introduced microprocessors into industrial practice. Later, we expanded our interest into mechatronics and robotics. We created The IEEE/ASME TRANSACTIONS ON MECHATRONICS and we were actively involved in the creation of Neural Networks Council, which recently was converted into the Computational Intelligence Society. A large group of our volunteers are focusing on software written for industrial computer systems. It was sometimes difficult to convince this group of software engineers to publish their papers in our TRANSACTIONS ON INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS. Therefore, we had to provide a journal with a more adequate title for software engineers.

Even though we are not the largest IEEE society, we have completed 2003 with the highest net financial gain among all IEEE Societies and it seems that we will keep our leading position also in 2005. Having financial resources we decided to expand our activity and create the new journal, IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INDUSTRIAL INFORMATICS. This was an effort of many IES volunteers and finally our journal was approved in June 2004. Now, I have the great pleasure to present to you this first issue.

Over the last several years, a large research community in industrial informatics was associated with our Society. This group of researchers meets at our conferences such as INDIN — Industrial Informatics, EFTA — Emerging Technologies in Factory Automation, WFCS — Factory Communication Systems, IROS — Intelligent Robotics Systems, AIM — Advance Intelligent Mechatronics, ROMAN — Robot and Human Interactive Communication, AMC — Advance Motion Control, ICM — International Conference on Mechatronics, and Mech-Rob — Mechatronics & Robotics. Also, some people from this community are attending our general scope conferences like IECON, ISIE, and ICIT.

We do hope that this large group of industrial engineers working in factory automation, which is now driven by information technologies, will find a home in our new journal. I am sure that the size of the new journal will rapidly grow with time without any compromise of the quality.

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**Bogdan M. Wilamowski** received the M.S. degree in computer engineering in 1966, the Ph.D. degree in neural computing in 1970, and the Dr. Habil. degree in integrated circuit design in 1977.

He received the title of Full Professor from the President of Poland in 1987. He was the Director of the Institute of Electronics (1979–1981) and the Chair the Solid State Electronics Department (1987–1989) at the Technical University of Gdansk. He was Professor with the University of Wyoming, Laramie, from 1989- to 2000. From 2000 to 2003, he was Associate Director of Microelectronics Research and Telecommunication Institute at University of Idaho, Moscow, and was Professor in the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department and in Computer Science Department, University of Idaho. Currently he is Director of AMSTC — Alabama Microelectronics Science and Technology Center and Professor of the Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, Auburn University. Earlier, he was with the Communication Institute at Tohoku University, Sendai, Japan (1968–1970) and spent one year at the Semiconductor Research Institute, Sendai, as a JSPS Fellow (1975–1976). He was a Visiting Scholar at Auburn University

(1981–1982 and 1995–1996), and a Visiting Professor at the University of Arizona, Tucson (1982–1984). He is the author of four textbooks, more than 250 refereed publications, and 27 patents. He was the major Professor for about 120 graduate students. His main areas of interest are computational intelligence and soft computing, CAD development, solid-state electronics, mixed signal and analog signal processing, and network programming.

Dr. Wilamowski is currently the President of the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society and the Vice President of the IEEE Computational Intelligence Society (formerly the IEEE Neural Networks Council). He is also associate editor of the IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON NEURAL NETWORKS, IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON EDUCATION, IEEE TRANSACTIONS ON INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS, *Journal of Intelligent and Fuzzy Systems*, and *Journal of Computing*. Dr. Wilamowski was one of the organizers of many IEEE Conferences such as: ICIPS'98 (Australia), ISIE'98 (South Africa), ISIE'99 (Slovenia), IECON'99 (USA), ICRAM'99 (Turkey), ICIT'00 (India), IECON'00 (Japan), ICMNFBS'00 (France), IIZUKA'00 (Japan), ITM'01 (Turkey), IECON'01 (USA), ISIE'01 (Korea), IECON'02 (Spain), ISIE'02 (Italy), IECON'03 (USA), and ICIT'03 (Slovenia).