Message from the General Chairs

It is a great pleasure to welcome you to the 8th edition of the IEEE International Conference on Advanced Video and Signal-based Surveillance (AVSS) in Klagenfurt!

AVSS is the prominent IEEE conference series on video and signal-based surveillance. AVSS provides a forum bringing together participants from the worlds of research, industry and government agencies sharing interest in various forms of surveillance. Starting in Genoa in 1998, it has continued to take place in exciting cities all over the world.

Thanks to the dedicated work of many people—in particular Andrea Cavallaro as Technical Program Chair, Roman Pflugfelder as Industrial Chair and Massimo Piccardi as Workshop Chair—we have prepared an outstanding conference program which includes keynote talks, oral and poster sessions as well as three co-located workshops. For the first time, AVSS hosts an Industrial Surveillance Day with the aim to offer an international forum of discussion between the scientific community and industry. The IEEE/ICE Summer School on Networked Embedded Systems is co-located as a side event.

We received 134 submissions that underwent a double-blind review process. During this process, 407 review reports had been generated by 143 reviewers. No papers had been submitted by the Technical Program Chair of the conference. The 65 papers that made it to the final program are organized in 16 sessions: 6 oral sessions—Pose, gait and faces, Object detection, Object tracking and re-identification, Activity monitoring, Background subtraction I and II—and 10 poster sessions—Crowd analysis, Audio surveillance, Activity monitoring, Tracking, Active and multiple camera systems, Object detection, Person re-identification, Evaluation and datasets, Visualization and attention, and Object recognition. The program of the main conference is completed by two keynote presentations on photo forensics by Nasir Memon and on novel communication architectures for wireless multimedia sensor networks by Ian F. Akyildiz.

AVSS 2011 is also the host of a number of co-located workshops. The main aim of these workshops is to timely gather submissions around themes of emerging interest for the AVSS community. The workshop on Multimedia Systems for Surveillance (MMSS)—organized by Mohan S Kankanhalli, Danny Crookes and Anthony TS Ho—focuses on surveillance systems exploiting multimodal information. The workshop on Resources AWare Sensor and surveillance NETworkS (RAWSNETS)—organized by Christian Micheloni and Amit K. Roy-Chowdhury—places emphasis on surveillance systems with resource constraints. The workshop on Activity monitoring by multi-camera surveillance systems (AMMCSS)—organized by Paolo Spagnolo, Pier Luigi Mazzeo and Arcangelo Distante—focuses on detection and recognition of activities from multi-camera systems. Given the emerging nature of such themes, the workshops have used a combination of regular and invited submissions: all papers in MMSS and AMMCSS have been peer reviewed, while most of RAWSNETS’s papers have been solicited from the respective authors (with the exception of O. Lanz, “Dynamic Resource Allocation for Probabilistic Tracking via Attentive Sensing and Sampling”, and A. Lanza, “Energy-Aware Objects Abandon/Removal Detection”, which were received as regular, peer-reviewed submissions). The workshop programs are completed by three keynote talks on surveillance camera identification using noise patterns by Chang-Tsun Li, on vision of the crowds by Laszlo Böszörmenyi and on design issues in multi-camera systems by Mohan S. Kankanhalli.

The Industrial Surveillance Day features an oral session on traffic monitoring, a panel discussion on industry vs. user perspective in surveillance, and teaser presentations and life demonstrations of 15 projects from various companies and research centers. Two keynote talks by Michele Genisio on new concepts in airborne and ground surveillance systems and Josef Birchbauer on active video analytics complement the ISD program.
AVSS 2011 has been made possible only through the hard work of many people. In particular, we are grateful to Heidelies Aschbacher, Markus Quaritsch, Laszlo Bőszörmenyi, Sandrina Sinko, Claudio Piciarelli, Rita Cucchiara, Mohan Kankanhalli, Dan Schonfeld and many others for doing a superb job for local arrangements and web management, finance, registrations, publications, publicity and liaison. We warmly acknowledge the support of our sponsors: Sony, GE, Lakeside Labs, Universita degli Studi di Udine and Alpen-Adria Universität Klagenfurt. We are grateful to the IEEE Computer Society and IEEE Signal Processing staff in helping us in organizing this conference.

We hope you will find this year’s program an enriching experience!

Gian Luca Foresti and Bernhard Rinner
AVSS-2011 Conference Co-chairs