FOREWORD

Special Section on Satellite Communication Technologies in Conjunction with Main Topics of JC-SAT2008

JC-SAT (Japan-Korea Joint Conference on Satellite Communications) has been held yearly in Japan or in Korea from the year 2000, intending to provide a forum for researchers on satellite communications to discuss current R&D activities, technical challenges, and future satellite services and applications. JC-SAT covers technologies and system implementations of satellite communications related to the areas of fixed, mobile and broadcasting satellite services. In recent years, new vistas of satellite communications, such as satellite-terrestrial integrated services, and sensor networks using satellites, were remarkably presented in JC-SAT.

Taking this opportunity, the Technical Committee on Satellite Telecommunications of IEICE proposed to issue a special section based on the papers presented in the previous JC-SAT, including the most recent conference, JC-SAT2008. After the successful approval of this special section, 20 papers and 8 letters were submitted from Japan and Korea. Through careful reviewing process, the editorial committee finally selected 8 papers and 4 letters for publication. In addition, two papers were invited from Japan and from Korea, respectively, to introduce and review the state-of-the-art R&D activities in each country.

The Guest Editor-in-Chief sincerely expresses his appreciation to all the Japanese and Korean authors for their excellent contributions and to all the Japanese and Korean reviewers for their great efforts during the reviewing process.

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Hideyuki Shinonaga, Guest Editor-in-Chief

Hideyuki Shinonaga *(Fellow)* received the B.E., M.E., and D.E. degrees in Electrical Communications Engineering from Osaka University, Osaka, Japan, in 1979, 1981 and 1995, respectively. In 1981, he joined the Research and Development Laboratories of Kokusai Denshin Denwa (KDD, currently KDDI) Company, Tokyo, Japan, where he was been engaged in research on digital satellite communications, terrestrial radio systems, radio LANs, ITS and digital cellular systems. He was a chairman of the Technical Committee on Satellite Telecommunications of IEICE from 2008 to 2009. Since April 2009, he has been a Professor of Faculty of Science and Engineering, Toyo University, Saitama, Japan.

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