
FOREWORD

Special Section on Internet Technologies to Accelerate Smart Society

The Internet is getting increasingly pervasive as our daily life infrastructure. In recent years, not only smart phones and tablet PCs, but also various devices and sensors are connected to the Internet. The Internet applications propose indispensable services for social activities. To realize a smart society, the Internet architectures and protocols for connection between the devices have been changed to new generation like as low delay and high reliability. Platform technologies have appeared such as sensing network and big data analysis to provide high-performance and flexibility. The Internet applications and services should include smart control that supports our activities using sensors and actuators. While many researches tackle such emerging applications, remaining issues should be solved to step forward the Smart Society. This special section aims to share the latest research results of architectures, protocols, and applications to accelerate Smart Society.

In responding to the call for paper of this special section, we have received 13 submissions. Through a rigorous and objective review process performed by our editors and reviewers, seven papers have been selected for publication. These include two invited papers, describing a survey of testbeds for the Smart City research in Europe and a case study of a smart firm. We hope this special section will provide useful views of research and development for Internet technologies towards the Smart Society.

We would like to express our sincere thanks to all the authors for their valuable contributions, and to the anonymous reviewers for their voluntary work. As the Guest Editor-in-Chief of this special section, I would also like to thank the team of Guest Editors and Guest Associate Editors for their participation and efforts to make this special section successful.

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Masahiro Hiji, Guest Editor-in-Chief

Masahiro Hiji (*Senior Member*) received the B.E. degrees of science from Yamagata University in 1986, and Ph.D degree of information sciences from Tohoku University in 1997. He is currently a Professor of Economics and Management at Tohoku University, Japan. He received ISAGA2014 Best Poster Award in 2014, etc. His research expertise includes decision support system, distributed processing, simulation and gaming, and sensing network platform. He is a member of IEICE, IEEE, JSSST and IPSJ.

