A Brief Report on 2006 ANNUAL INDIA CONFERENCE (IEEE Indicon 2006)

A journey of over 13 months came to conclusion with the start of IEEE Indicon 2006 conference on 15/09/2006. The venue was AMALTAS, India Habitat Centre, Lodhi Road, New Delhi 110003, India. The conference opened with on the spot registration. A guitar performance continued before start of the program with Saraswati Vandana.



Saraswati Vandana

Day 1 (15/09) of the conference had four workshops covering some of the current topics i.e. RFID (speaker from industry), IT Security (speaker from industry), Machine Learning (Dr. Jayadeva and Prof. S Chandra of IIT Delhi) and Network Modeling (Dr. S Dharmaraja of IIT Delhi). All the workshops were well attended and appreciated.



Conference Convener Opening the Conference

The formal inauguration of the conference took place in the evening. Mr. Rajeeva Ratna Shah, Member Secretary, Planning Commission, Government of India, was the chief guest. In his inaugural speech, Mr. Shah gave an excellent view of the technology and its adoption by India - setting the correct tone for the conference that had theme of 'Emerging Trends in Information and Communications Technology (ICT)'. He also took the audience through India's plan for the next decade, where India would lead China (the closest competitor) not in terms of a higher ratio of young workforce but would have also advanced technologically. The India of 10 years from today would be a fully digital India!



Chief Guest, Mr. Rajeeva Ratna Shah, Member Secretary, Planning Commission, Govt. of India Delivering Inaugural Speech



Chief Guest with some of the Organising Committee Members

Earlier, Mr. R K Asthana, Chair IEEE India Council, Mr. P V Ekande, Chair IEEE Delhi Section, and Dr. Shankar Prakriya had delivered Welcome and Thanks Giving speeches, and the Technical Snap Shot of the conference respectively.



A View of the Audience

Day 2 (16/09) of the conference began with two Invited Talks on topics 'Professional Ethics and Managing Risk to Reputation' (Anthony Lobo, Tata Consultancy Services) and 'Information LifeCycle Management (Daman Dev Sood, Xansa). This was followed by 9 sessions of paper presentations. Day 2 achieved over 76% success rate with respect to number of papers scheduled and presented.

Day 3 (17/09) of the conference started with presentations of the first, second and third prize winners of the MV Chauhan Student Paper Contest. This contest was run by the IEEE India Council on All India Basis. This was followed by 9 sessions of paper presentations. Day 3 achieved over 67% success rate with respect to number of papers scheduled and presented. The conference, thus achieved over 72% success rate.

In all 172 people attended the conference out of which 49 were IEEE members and 123 were non-members.

The conference concluded with the 'Convener's Experiences' shared by Daman Dev Sood, Convener of the Conference. He elaborated on certain best practices, lessons learned, and improvements noted. Delhi Section handed the baton to Bangalore Section sharing all knowledge with them. IEEE Indicon 2007 is to be held by IEEE Bangalore Section. Mr. K Ramakrsihna, Vice Chair of Bangalore Section then presented a view of the Bangalore city, IEEE Bangalore Section and made 'first call for papers' for the next year's conference.

Mr. R K Asthana gave vote of thanks and Mr. P V Ekande announced the former conclusion of the conference.

Earlier, three committees (Organising Committee, Technical Program Committee, Publication, Publicity and Public Relations Committee) met approximately 20 times over a period of over one year for the planning. The call for papers fetched 320 extended abstracts by authors from various industries, universities and institutions from India and

abroad (various IITs - Delhi, Guwahati, Rurkee, Kharagpur, Kanpur; Tata Consultancy Services; Madras Institute of Technology; IICT Bangladesh; DRDO Hyderabad; Chectronix India Pvt. Ltd.; Biomedical Engineering College, Iran; Ferdowsi University, Iran; ISI Calcutta; Multimedia University, Melaka Campus, Malaysia; Aligarh Muslim University; Accenture Pvt. Ltd.; Columbia University, USA etc.). These were reviewed by a panel constituting the Technical Program Committee, and 151 abstracts were approved for full paper submission. The conference received 134 full paper submissions and 100% pre-registration of the authors.

These 134 papers were scheduled in 18 sessions over 2 days. The sessions were classified as Signal Processing, Networks, Communications, Applied Signal Processing, Information Technology, Security & Encryption, Speech Processing, Biomedical Applications, and Image Processing, Electronics.



Student Volunteers with Some of the Organising Committee Members