

Welcome Message from the General Co-Chairs

IEEE ISSPIT 2013, Athens, Greece, Dec. 12-15, 2013

Welcome to the 13th IEEE International Symposium on Signal Processing and Information Technology (ISSPIT) in Athens, Greece. Welcome to Athens, the city which defined Democracy and the home of the famous Acropolis.

IEEE ISSPIT 2013 is the thirteenth international symposium in a series that enables and promotes the interaction of the signal processing and computer communities. ISSPIT addresses the significantly increasing need for collaboration of the two communities, considering the strong requirements for systems that combine and integrate technologies from both fields, signal processing and information technology.

This series of conferences is managed by a very active and future thinking group of researchers who form the Steering Committee. We thank them for trusting us to have the conference in Athens for the second time (the first ISSPIT in Athens was held in 2005). The conference has received the generous approval by the IEEE Computer Society and the IEEE Signal Processing Society and the warm support from our institutions: the University of Piraeus and the University of Piraeus Research Center, and the University of Patras and the Industrial Systems Institute.

The undertaking of a conference is a major job that takes around a year of concentrated efforts of many individuals. The Technical Program Committee Chairs (Kostas Berberidis and Ioannis Krikidis for the SP Track and Sartaj Sahni and Begonya Garcia Zaiparan for the IT track) have managed to put together a very strong program, which includes regular sessions, invited sessions and keynote speakers. John Gialelis has spread the word of the conference to the widest possible audience as Publicity Chair. Reda Ammar, as always, has been pivotal in keeping the financial obligations of the conference under control. Adel Elmaghraby has managed the submission site and the web site of the conference. Aggelos Pikrakis has led a very industrious team of local people to manage to make the stay in Athens of everyone memorable. His team comprises of many volunteers, many of whom you will meet personally at the conference, who have worked diligently to make sure that all the needs and requests of the participants are met. They will be happy to welcome you in the light welcome reception to listen to Greek music and socialize, and to the gala dinner to experience a cozy atmosphere of a traditional Greek tavern, taste Greek cuisine, and let your self free to dance traditional and folk Greek dances. We thank them all for their commitment and perseverance and congratulate them for a job well done!

Athens, the venue of ISSPIT'2013, provides several opportunities for sightseeing and cultural events. The symposium takes place at the center of Athens, enabling participants to access significant ancient sites, churches, museums, theaters, etc., easily and quickly. Visitors can easily enjoy, even taking a simple walk, ancient and Byzantine as well as more recent monuments and historical sites. Several museums, public and private, in the center of Athens provide also exhibitions of artifacts from the prehistoric times till today. Make sure you visit as many as your schedule permits.

We are looking forward to meeting you in Athens, enjoying ISSPIT'2013!

Prof. Christos Douligeris, University of Piraeus
and Prof. Dimitrios Serpanos, University of Patras
General Co-Chairs of ISSPIT 2013