

# PLANNING MORE FEATURE TOPICS

Welcome to the June 2020 edition of *IEEE Communications Standards Magazine*. With the wide spread of Covid-19 around the world, the academic world and the standards development community strive to continue their work by means of virtual meetings and conferences. Although people are not able to mingle with one another, they may enjoy silent message discussions and plenty of online resources, e.g. vivid keynotes, talks, and panels, while saving the trouble of travelling.

In order to extend the current coverage and potential impact of the Magazine, we have increased the number of feature topics for our future editions. The following series or special issues have been introduced, i.e., Optical Communication, Ultra-Low Latency and Reliable Communications for 6G Networks, and Security and Privacy. Stay tuned, we will continue to solicit and bring more interesting and timely topics on board.

As a reminder, the current feature topic line-up is: Vehicular Networking, Cloud and Edge Computing, Management and Orchestration, Kaleidoscope, Wireless and Radio Communication, IoT and Machine-Type Communication, Patents and Policy. It is noted that the series on Access and Home Networking has been sunset. I would like to take this opportunity to thank the retiring editors, Hassan Kaywan Afkhamie, Denis Khotimsky, and Fabrice Bourgart, for their significant contributions in the past three years.

In this edition, six full articles are included from two feature topics, with three articles each: Cloud and Edge Computing, and IoT and Machine Type Communications. An editorial from each team of the editors is presented, together with a summary of the articles. In addition, a article from the open call is also included, titled "Connecting the Unconnected: Toward Frugal 5G Network Architecture and Standardization." This



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article addresses the poor broadband connectivity problem in rural areas and suggests a new wireless network architecture called "Frugal 5G Network." This proposal could potentially be a solution for the IEEE P2061 standard.

In June 2020, 3GPP achieved a significant milestone in the 5G standardization where Release 16 work has been finalized and Release 17 studies have been initiated. A commentary article is included in this edition to give a brief overview on work in the three Technical Specification Groups (TSGs), i.e. Radio Access Networks (RAN), Services & Systems Aspects (SA), and Core Network & Terminals (CT). Furthermore, working group level updates for SA (from SA1 to SA6 covering all Services & Systems Aspects) are provided in the column "News Updates." In addition, we have been working closely with IETF and OneM2M standard development bodies and have brought in their latest updates as well.

I would like to thank all the authors for submitting their articles to *IEEE Communications Standards Magazine*, and peer reviewers who spent their valuable time in the review work. Joseph Milizzo and Jennifer Porcello on the Communications Society staff have been limitless in their support of this publication. Glenn Parsons (the Founding EIC) has continued to render help in pulling together the Commentary section.

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