

REPORT ON THE FIRST INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON ADVANCED NETWORKS AND TELECOMMUNICATION SYSTEMS, ANTS 2007

The First International Symposium on Advanced Networks and Telecommunication Systems (ANTS) was held in Mumbai (formerly Bombay), India, during 17–18 December, 2007, at the Indian Institute of Technology (IIT) Bombay campus. The theme of ANTS '07 was broadband access and telecommunication networks. ANTS '07 focused on issues pertaining to problems at the optical (physical), data link (SONET/SDH/Ethernet/RPR), and network (MPLS, IP) layers. ANTS was designed to foster interaction between industry and academia, Indian technologists and those overseas, and service providers and network equipment vendors. ANTS '07 drew 235 registrations during its inaugural year.

ANTS '07 received 59 submissions from the open call for papers, and a 25-member Technical Program Committee selected 20 papers for oral presentation and another 10 for poster presentation. In addition, nine invited papers were presented by leading researchers in the field, and seven other industry leaders gave talks on the latest telecom developments. Three keynote addresses — by Dr. Krish Prabhu (CEO of Tellabs), Dr. Steve Vandris (VP at LSI), and G. Ravishankar (VP at Wipro), all of whom spoke on various aspects of the future of telecommunication — provided significant technical stimulation.

Distinguished invited speakers from the industry included Sameer Padhye (VP, Cisco Systems) who spoke on Carrier Ethernet, Jonathan Casey (Marketing Director, JDSU) who spoke on Triple Play in the Access Area, Jin-Yi Pan (CTO Transmission, Nokia Siemens Networks) who spoke on Packet Transport, Tushar Saxena (Director, Verizon, USA) who spoke on Home Gateways, Sanjeev Jorapur (VP, Tech-

nology, NetXen) who spoke on Next-Generation Data Centers, and Deepak Kataria (LSI) who spoke on Network Convergence. ANTS 2007 also featured invited talks by leading networking researchers from North America and Europe, including Maurice Gagnaire (Telecom Paris, France), Dominic Schupke (Nokia Siemens Networks, Germany), Admela Jukan (Technical University, Braunschweig, Germany), George Rouskas (North Carolina State University, United States), and Suresh Subramaniam (George Washington University, United States). An exhibit also gave opportunity for demonstration of new technology and showcasing new products.

ANTS 2007 was technically co-sponsored by the IEEE Communications Society. ANTS 2007 sponsors include Cisco Systems Inc., LSI Inc., JDSU, NetXen Inc., and Wipro Ltd.

ANTS '07 was a single-track event whose technical sessions focused on networking technologies and telecommunication design principles in access, metro, and core areas. From the technical sessions, the TPC co-chairs selected the top two papers for Best Paper Awards, which went to Kishor Kulkarni and G. Kalimani Venkatsan from Wipro Ltd., India, for their paper “Carrier Ethernet — State of the Art and Challenges Ahead,” and Aysegul Gencata-Yayimili from Istanbul Technical University, Turkey, for her paper “Selective Survivability with Disjoint Nodes and Disjoint Lightpaths for Layer 1 VPN.” In addition, Elsevier's *Optical Switching and Networking Journal* will publish the top seven papers from ANTS 2007 in a revised longer format.

Two panels — “Telecom Opportunities in India” and “Service Provider Networks” — were also organized, and

were well received by the audience. The panels were moderated by Lakshman Tamil of the University of Texas, Dallas, United States, and Girish Saraf of IIT Bombay, respectively. The first panel featured speakers from leading Indian IT companies: Manoj Dighe (Wipro Ltd.), Shahul Hamid (Tata Consultancy Services), K. Raghuvveer (Infosys), K. Sasidhar (Hindustan Computers Ltd.), and Chris Buchanan (Nortel Networks). The panel outlined opportunities India presented to the telecom community and highlighted the telecom expertise in India. The Service Provider Panel had speakers from leading Indian and U.S. providers: Tushar Saxena (Verizon, USA), Vijay Jain (Ericsson), Arvind Mathur (SIFY), Neeraj Sonker (Tata-VSNL), Mohammed Atiquzzaman (Oklahoma University), and T. V. Sriram (Bharti-Airtel). The provider panel discussed business models of providers as well as emerging technologies.

A poster session was organized and posters were adjudicated by the ANTS '07 International Advisory Committee for the best poster award, which was won by Ben Zhao, Arun Vishwanath, and Vijay Sivaraman from the University of New South Wales, Australia, for their poster entitled “Performance of High-Speed TCP Applications in Networks with Very Small Buffers.”

ANTS 2008 will be held at IIT Bombay during 15–17 December, 2008 with a wider focus on wired and wireless telecom technologies. For more information, please contact Steering Committee members Biswanath Mukherjee (mukherje@cs.ucdavis.edu) (Chair), Ashwin Gumaste (ashwing@ieee.org), or Nasir Ghani (nghani@ece.unm.edu). Please visit the Web site at <http://www.antsconference.org> for details on submissions and participation.