

EMC 2006 Symposium Review



Portland, Oregon

By Henry Benitez, Symposium Chair



We enjoyed exploring new EMC frontiers as we celebrated the 200 years since the Lewis and Clark expedition to the West. The 2006 IEEE International Symposium on EMC in Portland, Oregon was an astounding achievement. It was fiscally the most successful IEEE EMC symposium in the 50-year history of the Society! The synergy brought about by the 2,000 plus participants was outstanding. The technical program was as comprehensive as ever.

This year, the addition of the "Close Format Presentations" was a great success. This is a new presentation format that allows for the technical presenters to have more comprehensive discussions with the attendees. The format is such that the presenters have several hours to present their technical material to smaller groups and allow for more audience interaction. Presenters were able to utilize a variety of tools, such as white boards and electronic projection screens. Technical papers submitted for the close format presentations were evaluated for acceptance in the same manner as the regular format presentation papers. This year's Symposium Best Paper Award went to a technical paper presented in the close format method. I would say that this new contribution is one that truly enhances the technical program by allowing greater and more in depth exchange of information. There were several strong proponents for this new contribution that should be acknowledged. These committee proponents included Derick Skouby (Technical Program Chair), Patrick André (Close Format Presentations Chair) and Bill Strauss (EMC-S Technical Activities Committee Chair).

The innovations from each year's individual symposium committees are what have made the EMC symposium as successful as they have been from year to year. I encourage the IEEE EMC Society Board to continue to empower the local committees to make innovative decisions and not place

restraints that could inhibit continued improvements.

I considered commencement of the Symposium to be on Sunday, the day before the technical program. I stayed at the Hilton Headquarters Hotel. That morning the lobby was bustling with people gathering for the Sunday morning companion tours. The EMC symposiums have provided tours for companions for many years. This has been a great way to provide the companions and family of symposium participants with fun and memorable experiences. This year activities were made available starting on Sunday and people signed up. In fact, most of the tours were sold out by the start of the symposium. Prices were kept low to simply break even and provide maximum benefit to attendees. I highly recommend participants to bring family to these events so everyone can have a memorable time and look forward to the next year's symposium. When I saw the lobby filled with people, that is when I realized that the symposium was underway and that it would be a success.

As Chairman of the symposium organizing committee, my job was made easy by the serious commitment and responsibility taken by the individual committee members. The committee was structured to empower members to make decisions in their respective areas of responsibility. Everyone stepped up to the plate in a stellar manner. I was truly able to relax and enjoy the event.

Thanks go to the many exhibitors that came to Portland. We were able exceed our financial goals with over 220 exhibit spaces sold. The EMC Society has many supportive exhibitors year after year. Exhibits are one of my favorite things to see. Seeing the new products and services and talking with the booth personnel can be very enlightening and enjoyable. Many thanks and keep coming back!

Thanks also to the symposium patrons as shown below and on page 56.



Some 1,000 registration bags were filled with various items during the annual symposium "bag stuffing."



Symposium Chair, Henry Benitez (right), thanks Dr. Amadei for opening the technical program at the Plenary Session.

PHOTOS BY KEN WYATT



Dr. Bernard Amadei talks about the role of engineers and poverty reduction.



Pat André (rear) and Derick Skouby clown around after a hard days work.



Derick Skouby, Clayton Paul, Bruce Archambeault, Tom Van Doren, Elya Joffe, Bob Olsen, Don Heirman, and Clark Vitek (from right to left) participated on the "Experts Panel" held during the symposium.



Harry Skinner of Intel was a popular speaker during the Portland Symposium technical sessions.

- Compliance Alliance, LLC
- Cuming Lehman Chambers
- D.L.S Electronic Systems
- ElectroMagnetic Investigations, LLC
- Emscan Corporation
- HV Technologies, Inc.
- International Certification Services
- Jacobs Sverdrup
- Murata Electronics, N/A. Inc.
- Interference Technology
- Spira Manufacturing Corporation
- NEC

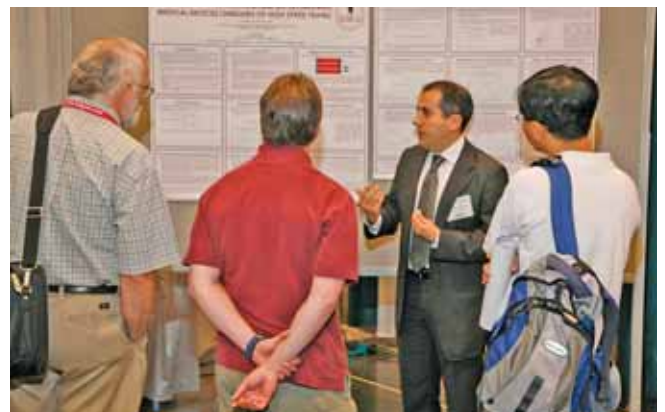
Major symposium activities were divided into the following three areas:

1. Technical Program Chaired by Derick Skouby, with ElectroMagnetic Investigations EMC Test Lab
2. Social Activities Chaired by Ed Perkins, Engineering Consultant
3. All other activities chaired by David Britton, Symposium Vice-Chair, with Hewlett Packard

This division of responsibilities helped to focus and empower the respective groups of volunteers to get the tasks done in the most efficient and effective manner possible. The committee was cost conscience knowing that with the next symposium to be held



Cyrus Rostamzadeh (left) of Robert Bosch Corporation presented in the unique "Close Format" forum of papers.



Romeo Rizzi of the University of L'Aquila, Italy enjoyed the personal interaction during his "Close Format" presentation.

in Hawaii, we needed to assure a 20% minimum surplus to help fund the society's year to year activities. We were able to meet this goal and a lot more. There were many positive contributing factors that went our way. Free public transportation from the hotels to the convention center certainly helped. Publication of what used to be the advance program in the IEEE EMC Society newsletter helped. Conversion from paper technical proceedings to CDs helped. The many local company contributions mentioned early helped immensely. The local entertainment venue allowed less transportation and more entertainment. We have heard tremendous accolades for the Wednesday Gala night for the local entertainers that included the Lewis and Clark characters, Neon Man, and the Trail Band. A high caliber technical program is always the core of the symposium, but for me, I tend to remember symposiums year to year by the gala events. The gala events tend to provide good memories of the respective symposium locations and the opportunity to meet with new and long-term friends.

The technical programs are becoming very wide ranging, with



Clayton Paul participated as a speaker in the annual and popular "EMC Fundamentals" tutorial.

technical papers, workshops, special sessions, expert panel forums, product showcases, product forums, close-format presentations, experiments, demonstrations, and technical committee meetings. This year it was very difficult to limit the number of workshops as the program has approached the limits of the five-day symposium. This is a dilemma that future symposium committees may need to address as EMC has expanded to many areas of special interest. I believe this to be good problem to have and address. I look forward to our future EMC symposiums, starting next year as we celebrate our EMC Society's 50th Anniversary in Hawaii.

As Chairman of the EMC 2006 Symposium Committee, I wish to thank once again the many local and non-local volunteers on our organizing committee, local student volunteers, IEEE Conference Management Services, the EMC Society Board of Directors, and the 2000 plus people that attended. Please enjoy the selected photos of the EMC 2006 symposium held in Portland, Oregon.

See you in Hawaii! EMC



An overview of the exhibition area at the Portland Convention Center.



Mitch Phillipi (left) stops by the Product Safety Engineering Society booth to visit with Richard Georgerian, Vice-President for Conferences of the PSES.



IEEE EMC 2007 had a lively booth complete with Hawaiian dancers during the Portland Symposium.



Entertainer Henrik Bothe as the famous Neon Man.



The Trail Band provided an entertaining musical and historical tribute to the Lewis and Clark expedition during the Symposium gala.



Reflecting the Pacific Northwest's rich Indian heritage, a Native American performs a memorable song during the Lewis and Clark tribute.



Entertainer Henrik Bothe shows his talent in a delicate balancing act during the Wednesday night gala.

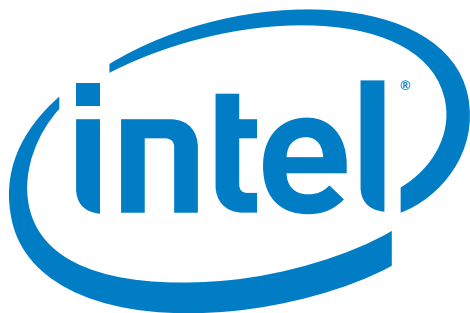


The President's Memorial Award was presented in honor of Jose Perini. His family attended the awards ceremony, including (from left) his grandson David Killmore, daughters Virginia Killmore and Vivian Boudhaouia, and son Patrick Perini. Mrs. Jose Perini (Myrthes) is shown in the center.

Thank you to the following local companies who contributed to the success of EMC 2006!

- In Focus, Inc. – Provided In-Focus LCD projectors for the technical sessions
- Clarity Visual, Inc. – Provided big screen projection systems for the close-format presentations
- Intel Corporation – Provided computers for the exhibition hall Internet cafés
- Logitech, Inc. – Provided Logitech computer sound systems to all the at-large volunteers
- Agilent Technologies – Provided the test equipment for the symposium experiments and demonstration programs

InFocus



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2006 IEEE International Symposium on Electromagnetic Compatibility would like to extend a Special Thank You to:

