

2nd New Generation of Circuits and Systems Conference



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L-Università
ta' Malta



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Keynote Presentation

Closing the Gap between Engineering Research Efforts and the Industrial R&D needs

Abstract - It is very encouraging to see the energy and efforts to create the research activities and development work necessary for the results presented in this conference. It is however becoming a cause of concern that these efforts are decreasing and the future might not be so interesting. There is a worldwide concern that STEM subjects are losing their popularity and this is resulting in an increasing skill gap in meeting present and future industrial R&D needs. It is therefore becoming more important to carry our research activities with industry to reduce this problem and integrate researchers earlier with the world of work. This should create a better link between Universities and industry, resulting in an increase in research financing due to better use of resources. I will be presenting some examples from my twenty years industrial collaboration experience and the creation of a company which has grown on the financial returns of its successful research work. The presentation will include the measures and efforts that the University of Malta is taking to enhance its industrial links through its research activities and the knowledge transfer office.

Bio-note

Professor JOSEPH CILIA B. Elec. Eng. MSc. PhD.

Professor Joseph Cilia obtained his first degree in electrical engineering in 1989 from the University of Malta, under the worker student scheme. After 3 years work experience at the local power station he won a scholarship to read a master degree on the same subject at the University of Nottingham. Based on his experience and performance during his master degree, Nottingham University awarded him a scholarship to proceed with his Phd studies. His studies were sponsored by a consortium of 5 UK companies to carry out industrial research on sensorless vector control of induction motors. His work was presented in international conferences and patented. Professor Cilia is a lecturer at the University of Malta on the theory and design of electric drive systems. In 2003 he was appointed as C.E.O and Research Director of Abertax Group and in 2010 the Chairman of Abertax executive board. He has also served as Deputy Chairman of the Malta Resources Authority and currently the Chairman of the National Skill Council. In 2009 he was also appointed a Member of Eurobat where he has been involved in a number of white papers published on his field of expertise. Professor Cilia has 16 international patents and has published over 100 papers in international conferences and his research interests are on high speed drive systems, electrical transport, energy storage systems, efficient use of energy and renewables. His main goal is to educate, help and guide, students and employees, to create added value manufacturing through innovation.

