EDITORIAL: First HOOT from International Journal of Automation and Smart Technology

Chih-Kung Lee

Editor-in-Chief

cklee@ntumems.net

DOI: [10.5875/ausmt.v1i1.105](https://doi.org/10.5875/ausmt.v1i1.105)

Life should be wasted on *Wonderful Things!*

Yes, it's the **Why** of the new International Journal of Automation and Smart Technology (AUSMT). "Life should be wasted on wonderful things" is a simple enough concept. We propose to put into practice this simple concept by **letting automation and smart technology help us in our lives**. By fostering the AUSMT journal, we hope to encourage the academic world in joining us to make this vision come true.

AUSMT is a peer-reviewed, open-access journal devoted to publishing research papers in the fields of automation and smart technology. Related research areas included but not limited to the fields of mechatronics, automation, ambient Intelligence, sensor networks, human-computer interfaces, and robotics. These technologies should be developed with the major purpose to transform everything into **wonderful things**. With built-in smart technology, social interaction, or automation, it is possible to transform a boring job into a fun job thereby increasing the quality of life..

Life should be
wasted on
**Wonderful
Things!**

Five Focused Area

Our AUSMT journal is separated into five (5) areas of interest and each of which represents a pillar for a better future life: **1) Intelligent Automation Technology (IAT), 2) Ambient Intelligence, Context Awareness & Sensor Networks (AICASN), 3) Human-Computer Interface (HCI), 4) Optomechatronic Modules and Systems (OMS), and 5) Robotics, Intelligent Devices & Systems (RIDS)**.

Although the journal is composed of five distinct areas, AUSMT strongly encourages crossing research disciplines, industries and departments. Since we believe very strongly in sharing ideas and cross-cooperations is how sparkle make, one of AUSMT's goals is to provide a worldwide forum for the dynamic exchange of ideas without regard for cultures or borders. AUSMT also actively seeks to encourage interaction and collaboration between academia and industries in the fields of automation and smart technology.

Let
**Automation and
Smart Technology**
help us!

First HOOT

In this very first AUSMT issue, there are 5 sections: **Editorial, Trends, Interview, Spotlight and Original Articles**. In the **Trends** section, articles from organizations such as Industrial Economics & Knowledge Center (IEK), Industrial Technology Research

Institute (ITRI), and Market Intelligence & Consulting Institute (MIC), Institute for Information Industry (III), will be regularly invited to submit articles which can provide insight into their particular Industry and allow readers to learn about their latest projects or developments.

To serve as a forum for dialogue across disciplines, AUSMT will include an interview with a leading industrial figure in every issue. By focusing on a specific leading individual who is or has contributed to the field, we hope to establish a closer relationship between academia and industry. In this very first HOOT issue, the interview is of **Dr. Lai-Sheng Chen**, Deputy General Director of Mechanical & Systems Research Laboratories at Industrial Technology Research Institute (ITRI) who will talk about **2W1H (the What, Why & How)** of Intelligent Automation.

In addition to the **Original Articles** submitted from authors all over the world, AUSMT has incorporated a **Spotlight** section which includes an invited Guest Editor to write about a selected topic which can provide readers with information regarding a new technology, event, latest hot topic, etc. The Guest Editor of the first AUSMT issue is Professor Min-Hsiung Hung from the Chinese Culture University, Taiwan, who will discuss *Intelligent Automation Technology*.

Cover Story

Have you ever dreamed of living in a tree house when you were a child? As a grownup, it is now possible to fulfill this dream. In the cover of AUSMT first issue, there is a real tree house in the woods (Figure 1). Since 2010, Sweden has offered a tree house hotel which is called The Bird's Nest, built by INREDNINGSGRUPPEN (<http://www.treehotel.se>) and designed by Bertil Harström. From outside appearances, it looks like a big nest, differing only in scale from other nearby birds nests in the area. From the complex network of branches, discreet windows can be seen.

Professor **Chih-Kung Lee**, our Editor in Chief, joined the faculty of National Taiwan University, Institute of Applied Mechanics in 1994. His research work on distributed piezoelectric sensors and actuators has made him a well-recognized expert in the areas of flexible structure control, shock sensing, and sensor development. He is an Associate Editor of the Journal of Smart Materials and Structures. He also serves on the Editorial Board of the Journal of Nanobioscience, and The Open Electrical and Electronic Engineering Journal. He has published more than 115 refereed papers and has more than 110 patents, including various technology transfers to industry.

From October 2007 to August 2010, he held an adjunct appointment as Executive Vice-President of ITRI. Since August 2010, he has been appointed as the CEO of Institute for Information Industry (III). He is currently directing his efforts towards finding a paradigm to link Taiwan's research in engineering and applied sciences to the next-generation industrial and societal trends. His objectives, now and for the future, is to determine how he can help Taiwan's industries arrive at the next stage required for transforming Taiwan from a manufacturing-based economy to an innovation-based economy.

Inside the bird's nest, are rooms which are of modern design and can accommodate sleeping space for a family with two children. Access to the interior of the nest is by a retractable staircase. The Treehotel offers unique rooms which are created in harmony with nature in a forest setting.

At AUSMT, we have adopted an owl with gear eyes as our mascot. An owl is well-known for being intelligent, watchful and alert, which is what we hope represents AUSMT and its readers. The gear eyes of our owl reflect AUSMT's emphasis on Automation. Therefore, AUSMT's first issue which shows two gear-eyed owls sitting on the Swedish Bird's Nest Tree House on the cover, reflects AUSMT's desire that we all live in harmony with nature and that we continue to be interested in learning new things and ideas. This is what we hope for in our first AUSMT issue and our first HOOT. AUSMT strives to provide knowledge and work which have good environmental and economic impact as well as healthy social sustainability for our future generations. We hope that our readers of this first AUSMT issue enjoy it and strive to do wonderful things with the knowledge gained from this AUSMT issue. 🦉

Figure 1. THE BIRD'S NEST of Treehotel in Sweden. (Reprinted with permission from Treehotel)

Figure 2. THE BIRD'S NEST in winter. (Reprinted with permission from Treehotel)