

Goodbye to Another Eventful Year!

A new year has passed for the magazine. When this issue will be in press, many of us would have likely met in Nice for the International Conference on Intelligent Robots and Systems (IROS). The magazine is doing really well! Submissions are increasing. The citations have increased steadily, more than 40% a year for the last two years.



The impact factor has doubled in the last two years, and it is now 0.892, which brings the magazine from the seventh to the fifth journal on robotics worldwide. I am really proud of these results, and I have to thank all authors and readers for making this possible.

This issue on applications and new challenges of telerobotics has been guest edited by Nikhil Chopra, Manuel Ferre, and Angelika Peer as contribution from the Technical Committee on Telerobotics.

It is unfortunate to realize that the idea of position papers is not really flying: not many reactions have been posted on the Wiki at <http://wiki.ieee-ras.org>. We know that many of you have strong opinions on technical, social, and economic issues relating to robotics. The Wiki is still open, and we would like to see a lively forum on robotics and automation issues, with comments by people who know something about the field (that is you!), on the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society (RAS) Wiki!

As already said, we are working on the redesign of the magazine, and if you have suggestions or complaints about the current structure and layout, I would be very pleased to know your opinion about it.

In this issue, we have the last part of the tutorial on medical robotics contributed by Gregory D. Hager, Allison M. Okamura, Peter Kazanzides, Louis L. Whitcomb, Gabor Fichtinger, and Russell H. Taylor.

As usual, if you have any comment, suggestions, or criticism, do not hesitate to contact us; all RAS officers are always there for our members.

I hope you will enjoy the issue!

Stefano Stramigioli
S.Stramigioli@ieee.org

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Prof. Stefano Stramigioli
IMPACT Institute
University of Twente
P.O. Box 217
7500AE Enschede
The Netherlands
Phone: +31 53 4892794
Fax: +31 53 4892223
Email: S.Stramigioli@ieee.org
<http://www.ce.utwente.nl/smi/>

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Business Development Manager
Tel: +1 732 562 3946 Fax: +1 732 981 1855
ss.ieeemedia@ieee.org

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