

Welcome Note by Stephan Weiss
(on behalf of the IEEE ISPLC 2014 Organising Committee)



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Welcome to the 18th IEEE International Symposium on Power Line Communications and Its Applications (ISPLC 2014)! After sunny South Africa in 2013, ISPLC will be celebrating its 18th “birthday” in a somewhat more temperate climate. However, Glasgow and Scotland are known for their hospitality and friendliness, and I am sure that you will discover the warmth of the local people if not of the weather.

I would like to extend a very cordial thank-you to the organising committee, in particular the technical co-chairs Riccardo Raheli, José Antonio Cortés Arrabal, and Sangarapillai Lambotharan, who have worked hard and dedicatedly to make ISPLC 2014 a success. The encouragement and support by the IEEE Technical Committee on Power Line Communications with Lutz Lampe and Andrea Tonello at its helm, and the assistance by IEEE Comsoc, with excellent support from Bridget Erlich and Bruce Worthman, have been invaluable.

ISPLC would have been impossible without the enthusiasm of contributing authors and the many reviewers who have helped to assess the 95 submitted papers under the guidance of the technical co-chair and the TPC. With their help, an exciting and stimulating programme has been distilled containing 60 presentations. The programme also contains three keynotes on issues such as noise modelling, anomaly detection for network security, and model-based design, and is complemented by a workshop on MIMO PLC channel emulation, an expert panel session, and a session on recent unpublished results.

Financially and in terms of content, Devolo AG have been very kindly supporting ISPLC over the years and are also the main sponsor in 2014, which is very gratefully acknowledged. Devolo this year has been joined by Mathworks and the City of Glasgow Marketing Bureau, who have provided excellent infrastructure support.

For many this may be your first visit to Glasgow and perhaps Scotland. Some quick information on our country — we are part of the United Kingdom (Scotland, England, Wales and Northern Ireland) with a population of around 5 million (the total UK population is almost 61 million). Scotland has its own devolved Parliament which sits in Edinburgh and presides over a number of core social, educational, health and economic issues. Our rich industrial engineering history includes very successful times in heavy engineering, shipbuilding, semiconductors and high technology, besides finance and banking, and of course tourism and whisky! Many famous scientists and engineers were born and worked in Scotland including for example James Clerk Maxwell (electromagnetic equations), James Watt (unit of power), and Lord Kelvin (temperature scale).

Therefore I hope you enjoy the conference and Glasgow, and perhaps pick up a little of the culture. With the conference venue, the University of Strathclyde, located in the heart of the City, you have a number of tourist attractions at your doorstep, providing you the opportunity to discover some of the exciting aspects of this vibrant city. With plenty of original pubs and restaurants nearby, I hope you have the opportunity to renew your ties with the “PLC family” and make new friends.

On behalf of the Organising Committee I wish you a very enjoyable and successful ISPLC 2014 in Glasgow!

Sincerely:
Stephan Weiss
General Chair