
FOREWORD

Special Section on Electronic Displays

As a natural consequence of maturity of the flat-panel display industry, both the volume and the amount of the world sales of flat-panel television sets have already exceeded those of cathode-ray tube television sets and hence the cathode-ray tubes, the legacy from the last century, are destined to be driven out from the display market very shortly. Along with the industry maturation, there have emerged new movements; One is for 3D (three-dimensional) displays and another is for flexible displays. Though those technologies have repeatedly caught eyes from the last century, the recent rush is convincing us that their day is finally coming.

The International Display Workshop, that reached its 15th anniversary last year, has been preserving its academic point of view but is always changing its practice in concert with the evolution of the display industry. In spite of the severe economic circumstances of the world, the conference IDW'08 held in Niigata, Japan from December 3 through 5, 2008 gathered more than thirteen hundred persons from twenty-one countries/regions. It provided the place for presentation and discussion of the current and the future of the display technologies, with closely catching up the emerging movements by trying a special formation of sessions especially on the flexible displays.

For this special edition on Electronic Displays, we collected ten papers from the IDW'08 conference: six invited papers, four contributed papers, and a brief paper. We are sure that readers can touch the vivid on-going changes of the whole display technology fields in those papers.

The guest editor of this special edition would like to present his deepest thanks to the all authors of the papers and also appreciate the contribution from the editorial committee listed below:

Hideo Fujikake (NHK), Reiji Hattori (Kyushu Univ.), Tomokazu Shiga (The Univ. of Electro-Comms.), Hiroko Kominami (Shizuoka Univ.), Tatsuhiko Matsumoto (The University of Tokyo), Munekazu Date (NTT).

Haruhiko Okumura, Guest Editor

Haruhiko Okumura (*Member*) received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. degrees in electrical engineering from Waseda University, in 1981, 1983 and 1995. He joined Toshiba R&D Center in 1983. He has been engaged in developing flat panel displays, especially LCDs. He received the Special Recognition Award of SID in 2004, the Ichimura Industrial Award in 2007 and the Imperial Invention Prize in 2009. He is a secretary of SID Japan chapter, workshop chairman on Display Electronic Systems of IDW and chairman on the Electronic Information Display committee of IEICE.

