

## Call for Applications

# IEEE/IFR Invention & Entrepreneurship Award

for Outstanding Achievements  
in Commercializing Innovative Robot and Automation Technology

*in conjunction with*  
**IEEE/IFR Joint Forum on Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Robotics and Automation**  
May 12, 2009 – 1:00pm–5:00pm  
Kobe International Conference Center, Japan

*co-located with*  
**IEEE International Conference on Robotics & Automation – May 12-16, 2009**  
Kobe International Conference Center, Japan

*Sponsoring Organizations:*  
International Federation of Robotics (<http://www.ifr.org>)  
IEEE Robotics and Automation Society (<http://www.ieee-ras.org>)

**Deadline for applications: ~~February 1, 2009~~ February 20, 2009**

<http://www.ieee-ras.org/industrial>

<p><b>Honorary Chair</b> Sukhan Lee (<i>Sungkyunkwan University</i>)</p> <p><b>General Chairs</b> Alex Zelinsky (<i>CSIRO, IEEE RAS VP Industrial Activities</i>) Åke Lindqvist (<i>ABB, IFR President</i>)</p> <p><b>Organizing Committee</b> Program Chair: Alex Zelinsky (<i>CSIRO</i>) Awards Chair: Klas Nilsson (<i>Lund Univ.</i>) Finance Chair: Erwin Prassler (<i>BRS Univ.</i>) Local Arrangements: Shin'ichi Yuta (<i>Tsukuba Univ</i>)</p> <p><b>Awards Committee</b> IEEE: Klas Nilsson (<i>Lund Univ.</i>) Shin'ichi Yuta (<i>Tsukuba Uni</i>) Alex Zelinsky (<i>CSIRO</i>) IFR: Rolf-Dieter Schraft (<i>IPA</i>) Tokuo Iikura (<i>JARA</i>) Stefan Müller (<i>KUKA, EUnited Robotics</i>)</p>	<p><b>Announcement</b> The purpose of this award is to highlight and honor the achievements of the inventors with value creating ideas and entrepreneurs who propel those ideas into world-class products. This is a key element to the continuing success of robotics and automation today. Active infusion of innovation and entrepreneurship into technological advancement is regarded critical at this juncture to strengthen a healthy balance between research and practice as well as a healthy growth of industrial and commercial sectors in robotics and automation. In a joint event the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society and the International Federation of Robotics will therefore recognize and honor outstanding achievements of entrepreneurs in the commercialization of innovative robotic and automation technology. These achievements will be recognized in a specially organized <b>IEEE/IFR Joint Forum on Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Robotics and Automation</b>, which is being held in conjunction the <b>IEEE International Conference on Robotics &amp; Automation</b>, the world's largest annual robotics conference. The selected finalists will have the opportunity to present their story of the genesis of a successful innovative product in robotics and automation from its very inception to the final state of commercialization in a series of plenary lectures. The ultimate winner will be chosen by an evaluation board, consisting of distinguished individuals from industry and academia. A prestigious plaque will be awarded to each finalist and a US\$ 2,000 prize will be awarded to the winner. Applications should describe the original work that has been translated into a commercial success. The application must include statements regarding:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• description of the innovation/product/application</li> <li>• stages of the product genesis</li> <li>• novelty/uniqueness of the product</li> <li>• market analysis, economic viability and pathway for commercialization</li> <li>• sustained competitive advantage</li> <li>• current and future impact on and relevance to industry</li> </ul> <p>Applications should not exceed a maximum length of 5 pages. Product descriptions and public relation material will not be accepted as an application. References and links to online material are permitted.</p> <p><b>Submission of Applications</b> Please send as PDF document (&lt; 6MB) no later than February 1, 2009 (any time zone) to <a href="mailto:klas@ieee.org">klas@ieee.org</a></p> <p><b>Schedule</b> <del>February 1, 2009</del>–February 20, 2009    Submission of applications February 28, 2009    Evaluation of applications and selection and notification of finalists May 12, 2009    Award Ceremony with plenary lectures of the finalists at the IEEE/IFR Joint Forum on Innovation and Entrepreneurship in Robotics and Automation</p> <p><b>Contact</b>    <b>Klas Nilsson</b> Dept. of Computer Science, Lund University, Box 118, 221 00, Lund, Sweden phone: +46-46-2224304 / fax: +46-46-131021 / skype: klas_nilsson <a href="http://www.cs.lth.se/~klas">http://www.cs.lth.se/~klas</a>    e-mail: <a href="mailto:klas@ieee.org">klas@ieee.org</a></p>
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