



AICA
Associazione Italiana per l'Informatica
ed il Calcolo Automatico



INTRODUCING WORLD COMPUTER CONGRESS 2008 IN MILAN



by *Judith Bishop, Ivo De Lotto and Giulio Occhini*



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The 20th World Computer Congress (WCC 2008), organized by AICA under the advocacy of IFIP, will take place for the first time in Milan, Italy from 7 to 10 September 2008.

Welcome to the city of fashion, business and luxury. Milan can offer masterpieces such as the Duomo, Leonardo da Vinci's "The Last Supper" and the Basilica di Sant'Ambrogio, great hotels and excellent food. The city is all about earthly pleasures. Shopping is of quasi-religious significance, the opera (the lavishly renovated La Scala), theatres and cinemas flourish in this fashionable milieu, as well as the club scene and many, many tempting restaurants. But these are only a few faces of the cosmopolitan city as Milan is also the capital of the Italian ICT industry and business. The tourist attraction of Milan, Lombardy and Italy needs no special introduction and the Congress participants will be offered to benefit from excellent travel packages.

The hosting society AICA (*Associazione Italiana per l'Informatica ed il Calcolo Automatico*) is determined to make WCC one of the best Congresses ever. Milan is easy to reach and the venue of the Congress, the Milan Convention Center, is in the center of the city.

In being awarded to host the Congress, Italy competed with Belgium, Sweden and Singapore and AICA is very proud to organize this International Congress as an important focal point for the international scientific ICT community at large. The Organizing and Program Committees will be doing their best to encourage strong attendance from Europe and America, but are also working hard to have large delegations from other world regions including India, China and other. The Organizers are dedicated to develop an extraordinary program that will be disseminated through massive and continued communication. In addition to the technical conferences, there will be application sessions to address industrial needs and IT exploitation of best practices, related to, among other issues, Cultural Heritage, Tourism, Sport and Fitness, Textile and Fashion, Environment.

The scientific program for the Congress includes a record number of 12 full conferences from IFIP's Technical Committees.

These conferences are:

- Biologically Inspired Cooperative Computing - **BICC** [WG10.2]
- Distributed and Parallel Embedded Systems - **DIPES** [TC10]
- 1st IFIP Entertainment Computing Symposium - **ECS** [TC14]
- Learning to live in the knowledge society - **ED_L2L** [TC3]
- History of Computing and Education - **HCE3** [TC9, WG9.7, TC3]
- Human Computer Interaction - **HCI** [TC13]
- IFIP Artificial Intelligence 2008 - **IFIP AI** [TC12]
- 23rd IFIP International Information Security Conference - **IFIP SEC** [TC11]
- Advances in Information Systems Research, Education, and Practice - **ISREP** [TC8]
- Knowledge Management in Action - **KMIA** [WG12.6]
- Open Source Systems 2008 - **OSS** [TC2, WG2.13]
- 5th IFIP International Conference on Theoretical Computer Science - **TCS** [TC1]

Each conference is managed by its own program team. Interested participants are advised to check the concrete details with respect to paper submissions, deadlines and other requirements which are available from the individual conference pages at <http://www.wcc2008.org/site/news.php?idnews=140>
The proceedings, following a stringent review, will be published by Springer Verlag.

During the four congress days delegates, coming from all world regions, will debate the main questions and perspectives in the ICT domain that are at the heart of the economy and knowledge of the 21st century and in the evolution of our society.

WCC 2008 will provide links between Business and Research. This new Italian approach will give the possibility to match specific subjects of the technical committees with cross subjects of the Italian reality, involving business and industry sectors.

The following cross sessions will convene:

- e-Government
- Development Governance
- R&D for Textile and Fashion
- ICT for Cultural Heritage
- ICT for Environment

- ICT for Sport & Fitness
- ICT for Tourism
- IT Competences
- Service Science

In particular the cross sections on e-Government and Development Governance will present the best practices and results obtained by the Italian Public Administration , both central and local

Further concrete information about the Cross Sections is available at <http://www.wcc2008.org/site/crosssession.php>. The Organizers aim to include presentations on national experiences and best practices from key ICT players and regions world-wide.

Registrations

A Congress registration discount of 25% is provided to all persons registered by **31 January 2008** - the fees for Early Birds are €600,00 for non-members, €487,50 for IFIP/AICA delegates and €210,00 for students. The details and online registration are at <http://www.wcc2008.org/site/registration.php>. Additionally, group registrations are possible and IFIP member societies and other organizations that wish to benefit from such a possibility are welcome to contact AICA for the details.

Another special is the Leonardo da Vinci Game for participants who register before February to play and get a discount, as well as a precious book.

The Congress program and all other related information is posted at www.wcc2008.org