Letter from the Guest Editor

This issue of the Journal of the Brazilian Computer Society aims primarily at preserving the memory of the effort conducted in the last three years by several research groups of Brazilian Universities and Institutes to help defining a Brazilian Digital TV (BDTV) system. It aims also at making public to the scientific community the part of this work that is more relevant for the academic and research community. We strongly believe that the set of papers that comprise this issue can become a reference for future developments of the BDTV system.

This issue is composed by eight invited papers of leading Brazilian research groups that had an active role in the development of the BDTV system. The first two papers come from the Pontificia Universidade Católica of Rio Grande do Sul and present a proposal for channel compensation and equalization for the BDTV system, respectively. The third paper comes from the Universidade Federal do Rio Grande do Sul and presents the design and prototyping of a H.264/A VC main profile decoder. The following two papers come from Pontifícia Universidade Católica do Rio de Janeiro and the Universidade Federal da Paraíba and deal with the Digital TV infrastructure for declarative and procedural applications, respectively. They present a middleware environment called Ginga from those two points of views. The sixth paper is from the Instituto Nacional de Telecomunicações and presents a general overview of the modulation system proposed to the BDTV system. The seventh paper comes from Universidade Estadual de Campinas and presents the WiMAX-700 technology and simulations done to demonstrate its suitability for the return channel of the BDTV. Finally, the eighth paper comes from the Universidade de São Paulo and discusses the architecture of the BDTV system access device.

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