

Thematic Session: Travel Support Apps and Mobile Technologies

In Conjunction with the 4th International Conference on Information and Communication Technology & Accessibility (ICTA 2013) www.icta.rnu.tn

Abstract

Mobility is increasingly important in modern society (despite frequently having environmental costs). This includes both travel within the local area, for instance to work, leisure activities and medical appointments; and long distance travel for instance abroad for both work and leisure. People with disabilities may require technological support and/or personal assistance for both these types of travel, whereas non-disabled people generally require additional information or support only in the second case. Developments in mobile computing, apps and context aware information are now providing a range of exciting possibilities, but need to be designed to be compatible with assistive technologies and otherwise take into account the needs to disabled travellers. There are also systems designed specifically for particular groups of disabled people, such as GPS, environmental information systems and audio traffic lights for blind people. However, there needs to be compatibility and standardisation between facilities in different countries to facilitate travellers with disabilities moving between different countries. Currently, for instance, there is no standardisation of the signals given by audio traffic lights and, where devices are used to initiate the audio signal, they are not mutually compatible. In addition, device design may raise ethical issues related to privacy of user user data.

List of Topics

Topics covered include, but are not limited to the following:

- The use of mobile apps to provide contextual information
- Design for all
- Travel support for particular groups of people with disabilities and older travellers
- Compatibility of assistive and other travel support technologies
- Travel information systems
- Personalisation and contextual features
- Shared control systems
- Navigation and way finding
- Disabled and non-disabled end-user requirements and involvement
- Robotic systems
- Ethical and privacy issues

Important Dates

July 31, 2013: Submission of papers

August 14, 2013: Notification of acceptance

September 10: Submission of camera-ready papers and registration

October 24-26: Conference

Instructions for Authors

Papers should be written in English in IEEE two-column format. Manuscripts should be submitted in doc (WORD 1997–2003) or PDF format. Full papers are required for the purposes of review. If you are in the process of finalising results, you need to provide sufficient information for reviewers to evaluate the paper and to make clear that full results will be available by the camera-ready submission date.

The paper should include authors' names and contact details, abstract (of up to 200 words), a full reference list and be structured logically. The maximum page limits, which include abstracts, references, tables and figures are:

- Full research paper: 6 pages
- Short paper: 3 pages

Formatting information can be found at: <http://www.icta.rnu.tn/index.php?picta=19>

Electronic versions of papers should be submitted to marion.hersh@glasgow.ac.uk and Christophe.Jouffrais@irit.fr

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