

Industry Context

The area of IoT has been witnessing a large explosion in the last year.

From the industry side, we see large players entering in the market, often with specific naming, and in some cases - and in some cases different directions. That is the case of the hyped Internet of Everything, the new rebranding of Ambient Intelligence for a "cloudy IoT", and the industrial approaches AllSeen Alliance or Open Interconnect Consortium, without touching other specific application areas, like the efforts in the C2C Consortium.

The overall trend is nevertheless clear: IoT is a hot topic, with promising returns of investment.

Academia Outlook

This outside pressure felt itself in academia. IEEE has launched the IEEE Internet of Things Journal in 2014, a joint effort between ComSoc, Computer Society and the IEEE Sensors Council, and technically co-sponsored by the Signal Processing Society. The number of conferences and fora events associate to the area has exploded, creating a fragmented landscape.

ComSoc Outlook and Recommendations

ComSoc has not been supporting globally many of these events, and has limited itself to the support of tracks in flagship conferences, and the support of the IEEE World Forum on Internet of Things and the partially related IEEE International Conference on Smart Grid Communications. A larger effort of the community will be required if we aim to have ComSoc to be a key driver in the IoT event arena, as the competition is fierce. WF-IoT may have the potential to become such a leading event, but its close proximity to Globecom is certainly a problem from the Comsoc point of view. Nevertheless, internal formal involvement of the SI-IoT should be increased in these initiatives.