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Deepening and extending strategic cooperation between Bilkent University and Fraunhofer IIS

Ankara, Turkey, June 4, 2014 – Professors from Bilkent University and scientists from the Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits IIS are co-hosting a symposium on a wide range of current research topics in the fields of communications technology, image processing and medical engineering. The aim of the Bilkent-Fraunhofer IIS symposium is to further develop the collaborative relationship that has already existed for several years and to work together in common fields of research through bilateral or EU projects.



Signing of framework cooperation agreement between Fraunhofer IIS and Bilkent University, June 3, 2014 (from the left): Prof. Adnan Akay, Provost of Bilkent University and Prof. Albert Heuberger, Executive Director of Fraunhofer IIS. © Bilkent University | Picture in color and print quality: www.iis.fraunhofer.de/en/pr.

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Cooperation agreement inked

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During the symposium Professor Adnan Akay, Provost of Bilkent University, and Prof. Albert Heuberger, Director of Fraunhofer IIS, signed a cooperation agreement between the two organizations. This framework agreement foresees exchanges of academic staff involving Bilkent graduate students and professors, as well as Fraunhofer IIS scientists and German students from universities affiliated with the institute.

Prof. Heuberger is excited about the joint effort: "For several years, we have made very good experiences with students from Bilkent University coming for internships or thesis work to Fraunhofer IIS. Recently, we also started our first joint research project in computer-assisted microscopy for medical applications. This framework agreement is another step towards deepening and widening our relationship with an extremely open and reputable university."

With the outcome of the joint symposium, hosted at Bilkent University, Provost Akay is entirely satisfied: "Several project ideas with common research interest have been discussed. We're excited about the opportunity to collaborate with Fraunhofer IIS on these projects that have both practical and theoretical impact. We are hopeful that successful completion of these projects will fuel collaboration on broader scale projects."

The joint symposium is designed to facilitate a more intensive exchange of research information and results and allows the parties to co-develop concrete project proposals. Day one is set aside for presentations, while day two involves meetings between various project teams to discuss and develop ideas. Fraunhofer IIS is represented by a team of ten scientists who are interacting with professors, post-doc students, PhD students and graduate students from Bilkent University.

The Bilkent-Fraunhofer IIS symposium is funded by TÜBİTAK (the Scientific and Technological Research Council of Turkey) as part of the German-Turkish Year of Research, Education and Innovation 2014.

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The **Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft** is the leading organization for applied research in Europe. Its research activities are conducted by 67 institutes and research units at locations throughout Germany. The Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft employs a staff of more than 23,000, who work with an annual research budget totaling 2 billion euros.

Founded in 1985, **Fraunhofer Institute for Integrated Circuits IIS** in Erlangen, Germany, ranks first among the Fraunhofer Institutes concerning headcount and revenues. As the main inventor of mp3 and universally credited with the co-development of AAC audio coding standard, Fraunhofer IIS has reached worldwide recognition. In close cooperation with partners and clients the Institute provides research and development services in the following areas: Audio & Multimedia, Communications Systems, Energy Management, IC Design and Design Automation, Imaging System, Medical Technology, Non-destructive Testing, Positioning, Safety and Security Technology, Sensor Systems plus Supply Chain Management.

More than 830 employees conduct contract research for industry, the service sector and public authorities. Fraunhofer IIS with its headquarters in Erlangen, Germany, has further branches in Nuremberg, Fuerth, Wuerzburg, Ilmenau, Dresden, Bamberg, Deggendorf und Coburg. The budget of 108 million euros is mainly financed by projects. Less than 25 percent of the budget is subsidized by federal and state funds.

Detailed information on www.iis.fraunhofer.de.