



Celebrating 75 Years of the IEEE VTS

As 2024 comes to an end, I would like to take this opportunity to reflect on the celebratory activities that the IEEE Vehicular Technology Society (VTS) hosted in commemoration of the 75th anniversary of the VTS and the 100th edition of the Vehicular Technology Conference (VCT). The Society began in 1949 and had 383 members by the end of 1950. As of this writing, the VTS has more than 8,200 members globally.

First, I would like to thank the members of the VTS 75th Anniversary Ad Hoc Committee for their contribution and support in creating this year's special events: Gerhard Bauch, Lin Cai, J. R. Cruz, Javier Gozalvez, Lajos Hanzo, James Irvine, Abbas Jamalipour, Fabrice Labeau, Jae Hong Lee, and Shui Yu.

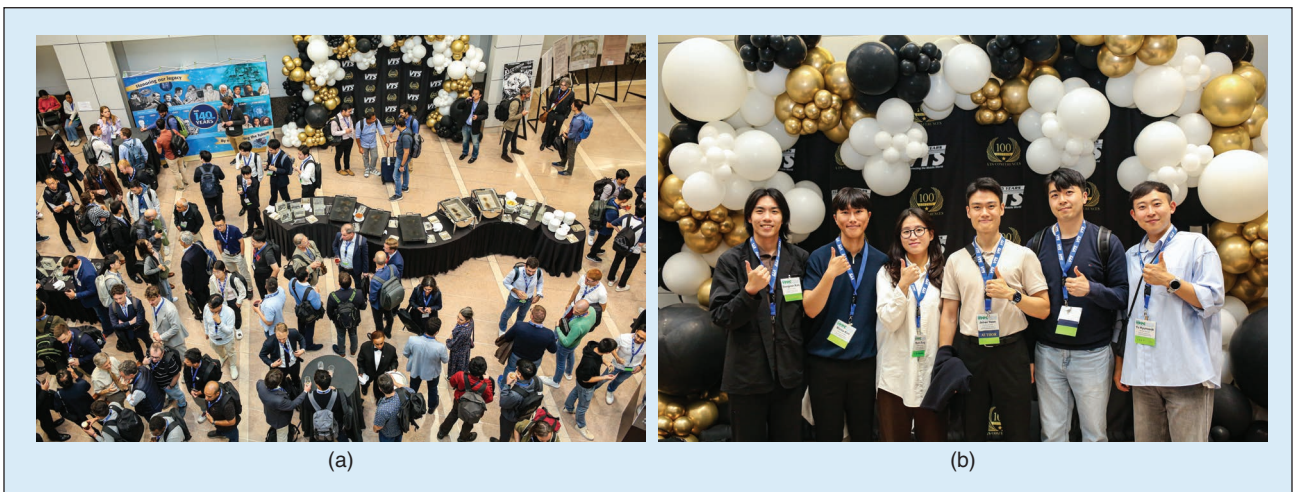
Digital Object Identifier 10.1109/MVT.2024.3484090
Date of current version: 16 December 2024

IF YOU HAVE NOT ALREADY ENGAGED IN VTS PROGRAMS OR EVENTS, I HOPE YOU WILL CONSIDER DOING SO IN 2025.

The VTS commissioned the IEEE History Center to curate a museum-style exhibit that commemorated the historical milestones of the Society and the field of vehicular technology. The exhibit was displayed at VTC2024-Fall and VPPC 2024 jointly held at the Ronald Reagan Building and International Trade Center in Washington, DC. The centerpiece of the exhibit was an interactive timeline game where conference delegates could test their knowledge of the history of vehicular technology and mobile communications. We plan to host the facts and photos shared in the exhibit as well as an online version of the timeline game on the VTS website

for all members to enjoy. Please look for the game on the website sometime in early 2025. Many thanks to Daniel Mitchell and the IEEE History Center for partnering with the Society on this historical initiative.

It was important to the Society to acknowledge the commitment and energy of many key volunteers who have contributed to our longevity and success. At VTC2024-Fall and VPPC 2024, the VTS hosted a VIP Recognition and Awards Luncheon. It was an honor to recognize past Society presidents, editors-in-chief of VTS publications, and general chairs and technical program chairs of VTS conferences at the luncheon. Those who traveled to



(a) and (b) At the Reception of VTC2024-Fall and VPPC 2024.

Washington, DC, received a token of appreciation from the Society.

The VTS Awards Committee chair, Gordon Stuber, recognized this year's award recipients during the VIP Recognition and Awards Luncheon. Prof. Theodore (Ted) Rappaport received the prestigious VTS Hall of Fame Award, and he shared with the luncheon audience how influential his involvement in the Society has been in his life and professional journey. You can learn more about the award recipients and see photos from the event in this month's issue of the magazine.

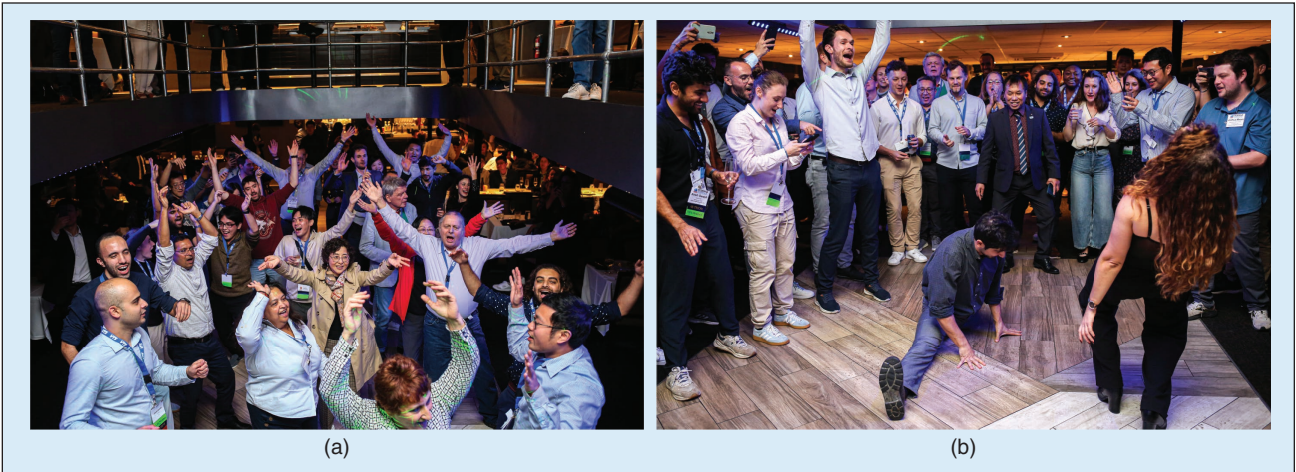
The 100th edition of the VTC featured dynamic keynote speakers and several panels, including a panel focusing on diversity, equity, and inclusion (DEI), which was a joint effort between the VTS Young Professionals Committee, the VTS



(a) and (b) Conference exhibit of historical milestones of the VTS and vehicular technology.



(a)-(c) At the VIP Recognition and Awards Luncheon held at VTC2024-Fall and VPPC 2024.



(a) and (b) At the conference banquet in a Potomac River cruise.

Committee on Women and Diversity, and the VTS Education Committee. This year, we also revived the “Pizza and Soda” panel on Tuesday evening. The conference was made extra special by many giveaways for conference attendees, including VTS-branded promotional items,

US\$25 digital gift cards, and a commemorative T-shirt and conference bag. A highlight of the week was the banquet, held on a Potomac River cruise with beautiful scenery and a very active dance floor!

The end of 2024 brings with it the close of my term as your VTS presi-

dent. It has been an honor to serve the Society in this position and a pleasure to meet many of you and hear your thoughts and feedback.

Please join me in welcoming the 2025 VTS officers into their positions.

- *President:* Gerhard Bauch
- *Executive VP:* Javier Gozalvez
- *VP Membership Development:* Neeli Prasad
- *VP Conferences:* J. R. Cruz
- *VP Publications:* James Irvine
- *VP Finance:* Nicholas Kirsch
- *VP Standards:* Oliver Holland
- *VP Mobile Radio:* Lin Cai
- *VP Motor Vehicles:* Ricardo de Castro
- *VP Land Transportation:* Yousef Kimiagar
- *Treasurer:* Abbas Jamalipour.

You are encouraged to reach out to them through the VTS website and participate in VTS activities. If you have not already engaged in VTS programs or events, I hope you will consider doing so in 2025.

Once more, I would like to thank each one of you for your membership and your continued support to the Society. As we celebrate the great achievements of the VTS in the past 75 years in connecting the mobile world, let us embrace the journey ahead and continue to work hard together toward future innovations, growth, and the success of the VTS in the next 75 years!

Happy Holidays from all of us at the VTS!

VT

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