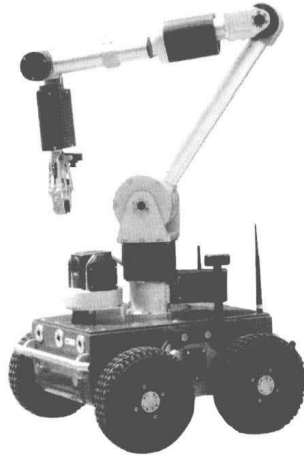


MOBILE SERVICE ROBOTICS



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NEW JERSEY • LONDON • SINGAPORE • BEIJING • SHANGHAI • HONG KONG • TAIPEI • CHENNAI

Published by

World Scientific Publishing Co. Pte. Ltd.

5 Toh Tuck Link, Singapore 596224

USA office: 27 Warren Street, Suite 401-402, Hackensack, NJ 07601

UK office: 57 Shelton Street, Covent Garden, London WC2H 9HE

British Library Cataloguing-in-Publication Data

A catalogue record for this book is available from the British Library.

The front cover image has been provided by: Professor Anton Vitko, Slovak University of Technology, Slovakia.

MOBILE SERVICE ROBOTICS

**Proceedings of the 17th International Conference on Climbing and Walking Robots
and the Support Technologies for Mobile Machines**

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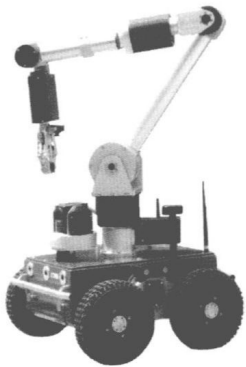
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ISBN 978-981-4623-34-6

In-house Editor: Rhaimie Wahap

Printed in Singapore



**MOBILE
SERVICE ROBOTICS**

PREFACE

It is our pleasure to introduce you to the Technical Program of the 17th edition of the International Conference on Climbing and Walking Robots (CLAWAR 2014), Poznań, Poland, July 21-23, 2014.

This conference is the seventeenth edition in the series of CLAWAR annual conferences. It is an internationally recognized event, technically co-sponsored by the IEEE Robotics and Automation Society, International Federation of the Promotion of Mechanism and Machine Science, and Advancing Society in Medical Technology. The Conference is organized within the premises of the Chair of Control and Systems Engineering, Poznań University of Technology, Poland.

Interest in control of climbing and walking robots has remarkably increased over recent years. Novel solutions of complex mechanical systems such as climbing, walking, flying and running robots with different kinds of locomotion and the technologies that support them and their applications are the evidence of significant progress in the area of robotics. Supporting technologies include the means that robots use to sense, model, and navigate through their environments and, of course, actuation and control technologies. Human interaction including exoskeletons, prostheses and orthoses as well as service robots, are increasingly active and important pertinent areas of research. In addition, legged machines and tracked platforms with software architecture seem to be a research area of great interest to the robotics community. We strongly believe that the CLAWAR conference brings new ideas in control technologies and path planning algorithms that are currently used in research laboratories and in industrial applications. The main objective of the CLAWAR conference is to present the most recent results concerning design, control, and development of mobile robots to serve and provide help at various sectors of the society.

The CLAWAR 2014 conference includes a total of 82 articles including four plenary lectures from 19 countries. This number has been arrived at following rigorous review of initial submissions, where each paper initially submitted has received on average three reviews.

The editors would like to thank members of the International Program Committee, International Advisory Committee and National Organising

Committee for their efforts in reviewing the submitted articles, and the authors in addressing the comments and suggestions of the reviewers in their final submissions. It is believed that the CLAWAR 2014 proceedings will be a valuable source of reference for research and development in the rapidly growing area of mobile service robotics.

K. Kozłowski, M. O. Tokhi, G. S. Virk

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