

About Us

The ANNIE (Artificial Neural Networks in Engineering) Conferences was found by Cihan H. Dagli, Phd in 1991.

Engineering Systems of this century need to be intelligent to meet the challenge of flexibility and customized design requirements imposed by the global economy. The focus of the ANNIE Conferences is to build "smart" components for engineering systems currently available today. The term "smart" in this context indicates physical systems that can interact with their environment and adapt to changes both in space and time by their ability to manipulate the environment through self-awareness and perceived models of the world based on both quantitative and qualitative information. The fields of artificial neural networks, fuzzy logic, evolutionary computation, chaos, wavelets, fractals, complex systems, and virtual reality provide essential tools for designing such systems. These conferences have been held in the same location in St. Louis, Missouri, USA since 1991 under the direction of founder Dr. Cihan H. Dagli.



ABOUT THE ANNIE WATERMARK EMBLEM

From its rise in 1900 B.C., through its 800 years of existence, the Hittite civilization flourished as an empire and a culture in Mid-Anatolia (Present-day Turkey). This was the first civilization to incorporate hieroglyphics with "picture tablets" as a form of written communication. It is appropriate that the ANNIE emblem expresses this innovative form of communication as neural networks are a similar first step in the dialog between human and computers in the concept of learning. Behind the ANNIE tablet is a simple neural network. The "nodes" of the network are adorned with designs found in contemporary Mid-Anatolian ceramic pottery. The figures to the left of the network are Hittite hieroglyphics. These figures pass through the neural network and are translated into letters of the present-day phonetic alphabet: the linkage of old innovations to the new.

Charlie K. Dagli