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## Invitation – Preface

Welcome to XIII Quantitative InfraRed Thermography Conference – **QIRT'2016** – organized by the QIRT Committee and held on 4 – 8 July at the Faculty of Electronics, Telecommunications and Informatics Gdansk University of Technology (GUT), in Gdansk, Poland. We are proud to host you in our old hanzeatic city. Please enjoy the friendly atmosphere of high summer season, scientific discussions, famous Polish food and tradition of our golden amber art.

This is the third time the Conference is visiting Poland; before it was organized in Łódź (1998) and in Krakow (2008). Other hosting countries were: France, where all started in 1992 in Paris, then in Reims (2000) and recently in Bordeaux (2014); in Italy the Conference visited Sorrento (1994), Padua (2006) and Naples (2012); Germany - Stuttgart (1996); Croatia – Dubrovnik (2002); Belgium – Brussels (2004) and Canada – Quebec City (2010). The QIRT is expanding what is evidenced by formation of the QIRTAsia Committee, responsible for organization of the first QIRTAsia Conference in India, Mamallapuram (2015).

All concerning QIRT Organization may be found in Internet, at the homepages: <http://qirt.gel.ulaval.ca/index.php> . Conferences are very important, but other activities as the **QIRT Journal** edited by Taylor and Francis or **Open Archives**, mentioning only most important promotional tools are of no lower value for society active in this modern science and technology field.

Scope of the Quantitative InfraRed Thermography Conference:

- State-of-the-art and evolution in the field of infrared scanners and imaging systems allowing quantitative measurements, and related data acquisition and storing systems.
- Calibration and characterization of infrared cameras and related problems like certification, standardization, emissivity determination, absorption in media, spurious radiations, three dimensionality of observed objects.
- Data reduction and image processing related to infrared thermography.
- Applications of infrared thermography to radiometry, thermometry, and physical parameters identification, in all fields: fluid mechanics, solid mechanics, structures and material sciences, non-destructive evaluations, electromagnetism, medicine and biomedical sciences, remote sensing, environment monitoring, industrial processes and other.

The number of initially accepted abstracts was around 170. The final program contains almost 110 oral and 40 poster presentations. There are four keynote lectures.

Important are pre-conference courses organized as always before the main event. This year we are hosting also XX Meeting of Polish Society of Medical Thermography combined with The European Association of Thermology, additional 18 presentations. Both events are organized on 4 July.

All participants of the conference are welcome to join the Welcome Party, on Monday 4 July at the Hevelius Hall, Main Building GUT, where Mietek Band will accompany the meal. On Tuesday, 5 July we will meet at the medieval Artus Court, to enjoy the string quartet 4One concert before the meal. Finally, on Thursday 7 July we will meet in famous Grand Hotel in Sopot for the conference banquet, where winners of the Grinzato and Student Awards will be presented. We will have the chance to dance there with Detko Band. We hope, all will enjoy and remember the **QIRT'2016** Conference.