

Call for Proposals to Organize the 24th International Conference on Information Fusion (FUSION 2021)

The Twenty Fourth International Conference on Information Fusion (Fusion 2021) of ISIF will be held in year 2021 during June, July, or August, preferably beginning of July.

In order to avoid unnecessary effort on the part of the submission teams, the ISIF Board of Directors (BoD) uses a two-stage submission process comprising

1. short *whitepapers* as an initial statement of interest,
2. followed by a subsequent submission of *formal proposals*.

The ISIF BoD now solicits proposals for organizing this conference from potential hosts worldwide.

General Procedures:

Any person or group can apply to ISIF for hosting Fusion 2021. The ISIF BoD requires that

1. all *whitepapers* be received by *May 01, 2018*
2. and, after acceptance of the whitepapers, all *formal proposals* be received by *June 24, 2018*.

All proposals must be presented at the ISIF BoD meeting in Cambridge, UK on *July 14, 2018*.

All *whitepapers* will be reviewed by the ISIF BoD and a decision will be issued prior to *May 15, 2018*. All *formal proposals* will be reviewed by the ISIF BoD and a decision will be issued prior to *September 1, 2018*.

Whitepaper Content:

Whitepapers should be less than two pages in length and must address the following items.

1. Organizing team comprising the key members (chair, co-chair, and technical chair)
2. Host city/country
3. Probable conference facility
4. Probable dates
5. Local activities potential (why this location would support an excellent conference)

Formal Proposal Content:

Prospective organizers must prepare a written proposal and complete a budget for the proposed conference. The items to be addressed in the written proposal are discussed further below. The winning proposals and the guidance to the organizing committee from the ISIF BoD for recent conferences are available on the ISIF web page for reference. Additional questions should be directed to ISIF's VP Conferences, Lance M. Kaplan at lkaplan@ieee.org and to 2018 ISIF President, Lyudmila Mihaylova at l.s.mihaylova@sheffield.ac.uk.

Formal proposals must address the following items.

1. **Organization Team:** The general chair, the technical program chair, and other key members must be identified with brief descriptions of their technical background, involvement with prior FUSION Conferences, ISIF activities, and prior experience in organizing conferences.
2. **Financial Arrangement:** A discussion of potential sponsors, hotel room rates, registration fees, etc. must be included. ISIF annual membership fee for each attendee is to be included in the registration fees. A conference budget spreadsheet must be completed and submitted with each proposal.
3. **Risk and Surplus:** A discussion of financial risk associated with the conference along with a preliminary budget must be included. The formula for loss/surplus sharing between ISIF and other sponsors must be included.
4. **Conference Size Estimate:** An estimate of attendance with justification and potential sources of attendees must be provided based on statistics from prior Fusion Conferences

Year	Location	Attendees	Year	Location	Attendees
1998	Las Vegas, USA	161	2010	Edinburgh, Scotland	402
1999	Sunnyvale, USA	211	2011	Chicago, USA	364
2000	Paris, France	253	2012	Singapore	450
2001	Montréal, Canada	261	2013	Istanbul, Turkey	362
2002	Annapolis, USA	289	2014	Salamanca, Spain	386
2003	Cairns, Australia	256	2015	Washington, DC, USA	389
2004	Stockholm, Sweden	300	2016	Heidelberg, Germany	429
2005	Philadelphia, USA	249	2017	Xi'an, China	399
2006	Florence, Italy	397	2018	Cambridge, UK	TBD
2007	Quebec, Canada	377	2019	Ottawa, Canada	TBD
2008	Cologne, Germany	429	2020	Sun City, South Africa	TBD
2009	Seattle, USA	432			

5. **Transportation:** The ease of access to the conference site and the associated cost of that transportation must be addressed.
6. **Conference Programs:** Technical themes, regular sessions, plenary sessions, special sessions, tutorials, exhibits, student program, poster sessions, etc. should be addressed.
7. **Conference Facilities:** The hotel and conference room conditions, audio/video equipment, food, other services that will be part of the proposed conference should be addressed.
8. **Publicity Plans:** A plan for publicity of the conference and drawing attendees from a wide audience is required.
9. **Conference Dates:** The dates for the conference must be identified and justifications (e.g., no conflict with relevant major conferences, climate) should be given.

10. **Local Activities:** The local attractions, social programs, local tours, gifts, etc. should be addressed.
11. **Proceedings:** Publications and distribution of the proceedings are to be addressed. ISIF must own copyrights to all papers.
12. **Liability:** The proposal must address the purchase of liability insurance.
13. **Others:** Additional items that are deemed important or beneficial to the reviewers should be included.

Submission Deadlines:

Send a whitepaper in Microsoft Word or PDF format via email to ISIF's VP Conferences, Lance M. Kaplan at lkaplan@ieee.org and to 2018 ISIF President, Lyudmila Mihaylova at l.s.mihaylova@sheffield.ac.uk prior to 12:00 p.m. GMT on *May 01, 2018*. The whitepaper is limited to two pages!

Send a formal proposal (complete proposal in Microsoft Word or PDF format and a conference budget form in Excel format) prior to 12:00 p.m. GMT on *June 24, 2018*.

Proposal Evaluation:

Proposals are evaluated by the ISIF board according to the following criteria. Proposers should review the decision letters to the organizing committee of recent conferences ([click here](#)) to gain an appreciation for the items that are important to the ISIF BoD.

1. **Financial Viability:** Expected attendance and the risk of a financial loss are important to the ISIF BoD.
2. **Organization Team:** The breadth of expertise, balance of academia/industry/government, technical and geographical diversity, involvement with prior Fusion Conferences and ISIF activities, organization skills, and experience with past conferences are all important to the ISIF BoD.
3. **Technical Programs:** Plans and policies that will ensure quality, inclusion of papers from the broad list of technical areas of interest to the ISIF membership, and a balanced program.
4. **Conference Site:** Attractiveness, accessibility, and affordability of the venue.
5. **Promotion Plans:** Promotion plans for the conference, ISIF, and the information fusion community as a whole.

Announcement of ISIF board decisions:

Whitepapers: May 15, 2018.

Formal proposals: September 01, 2018.

Contact:

If you have any questions regarding this tender, please contact ISIF's VP Conferences, Lance M. Kaplan at lkaplan@ieee.org and 2018 ISIF President Lyudmila Mihaylova at l.s.mihaylova@sheffield.ac.uk.