**EOS/ESD Symposium Will Present Best Practices, Emerging Technology And Hands-on Experiences**

by Christina Earl, Business Operations Manager, EOS/ESD Symposium & Exhibits

The EOS/ESD Symposium is well known as the premier international event for ESD professionals in industry and academia to network while immersed in the latest technical findings and innovative designs. This status is a result of three key factors: 1) outstanding technical papers from both industry and academia, 2) top-level-expert invited speakers from industry, and 3) close interaction and enduring support from industry exhibitors. This year’s symposium will be held September 30 through October 5, 2023 at the Riverside Convention Center in Riverside Calif. This article presents highlights of the upcoming program and discusses changes to the program that are the result of attendee feedback.

**What To Expect**

A dedicated team of experts, in all areas of EOS and ESD, have been working diligently all year to prepare the tutorial program offered on Saturday and Sunday. This year, in addition to manufacturing- and device-focused tutorials, we will be offering the ESD Compliance Verification Technician to TR53 certification. Attendees who successfully complete this certification will understand fundamentals of electrical theory and electrostatics and the applicability to an ESD Control Program, what compliance verification is and how it fits within an ESD Control Program, and the requirements of ESD TR53-01-22 and how it can be used to meet the requirements of compliance verification.

Over 50 exhibitors will attend our symposium. Our industry exhibits display a wide variety of ESD solutions from established products to leading-edge innovations. Representatives from many different companies will welcome you in the exhibit hall to demonstrate their products and services, starting with the welcome reception on Monday evening and continuing until the exhibits close on Wednesday afternoon.

The exhibits offer a unique opportunity to meet professionals with hands-on experience on static control methods, evaluation techniques, ESD testing hardware, and many other ESD solutions. This year we’ll be offering guided introduction tours to meet the exhibitors, scheduled in-booth demonstrations, and showcase presentations to give attendees multiple opportunities to interact with our valued exhibitors. The brand new Standards Corner will also be in the exhibit hall this year to allow attendees to learn more about EOS/ESD Association standards.

Presented as the highlight of the Awards Breakfast, this year’s keynote will be “James Webb Space Telescope System Architecture and Science Performance: Sensitive Devices in Complex Space Systems” by Julie Van Campen of NASA’s Goddard Space Flight Center.

Twenty nine peer-reviewed, four conference exchange, and three invited technical papers as well as ten invited talks will be presented Monday through Wednesday in eleven sessions covering hot topics in the areas of automotive, GaN, communications, device testing, emerging technologies, and manufacturing. The papers and invited talks will be presented by industry experts driving leading-edge research and development. Three hands-on sessions will give attendees first-hand experience making surface and volume resistance, hand tool, and process assessment measurements.

Symposium workshops, which will take place Monday through Wednesday, will offer an interactive forum for sharing experiences, exchanging knowledge, and defining possible solutions. All workshops will be centered on relevant and timely technical topics. Furthermore, each workshop will afford participants the opportunity to learn different perspectives from other colleagues in the field and allow the discussion of sometimes controversial topics in an informal environment.

The popular world café style workshop will return this year, with the topic “ESD EDA—What Can be Done Now and in the Future?” New this year are two focused presentations followed by workshop discussions on automotive strategy and the EOS/ESD Association technology roadmap.

This year’s face-to-face-only event will bring more than 300 attendees from small consulting businesses to large international corporations together in person to network with and learn from exhibitors, industry experts, professionals, and colleagues. Companies sending attendees will include Amazon, amd, Analog, Apple, BAE Systems, Boeing, Bosch, Dell, GLOBALFOUNDRIES, Google, imec, Infineon, Intel, Micron, NASA, Nexperia,
Northrup Grumman, NXP, OnSemi, Qorvo, Qualcomm, Samsung, Samtec, Sandia, Seagate, STMicroelectronics, Sofics, Teledyne, Tesla, TI, Teradyne, TSMC, and many, many more!

Registered attendees for the 45th annual EOS/ESD Symposium and Exhibits will have access to technical sessions, exhibit hall, workshops, hands-on sessions, and more! To view the program and find more information, visit esda.events.

You Asked, We Heard You

The 2022 EOS/ESD Symposium was a great success. We loved seeing so many people in-person after a couple of difficult years, strongly impacted by pandemic-related travel restrictions. More than 200 people traveled to the Peppermill in Reno, Nevada and another 50+ attendees joined virtually. The exhibits were back to near capacity, with 36 exhibitors occupying 47 spaces, interacting face-to-face with current and new customers while sharing their latest products and technology.

At the conclusion of the event, we asked you for your feedback. What did you like about this year’s event? What do you want to see more of next year? What changes are needed? We received a record number of responses and are working hard to address your concerns and implement your suggestions for 2023. Read on for the biggest changes coming so far.

Most importantly, the feedback from attendees about quality has been heard loud and clear. The overall level of the symposium is a fundamental element of our proposal, and no compromise can be accepted in the organization of this event. With this in mind, the 2023 EOS/ESD Symposium motto is “Quality over Quantity”. The Symposium Steering team has been actively working on new ideas to promote quality: paper selection guidelines are under review, submission management platforms are being evaluated, and a new dedicated task team is focused on soliciting high-quality submissions from industry and academia.

With the focus on “Quality over Quantity,” the symposium strategy team heard your schedule concerns and suggestions. In an effort to not dilute the quality of the event and address the lower attendance in Thursday sessions, we must restructure and streamline the previous 3.5-day, three-parallel track event schedule. The 2023 EOS/ESD Symposium in Riverside, California will be condensed to three full days—Monday morning, October 2 through Wednesday evening, October 4.

Additionally, the parallel sessions will be reduced to two tracks for the entire duration of the event. We will continue to offer a selection of tutorials and the program manager certification exam before and/or after the symposium. This redesigned schedule reduces the number of sessions required to fill the program, thus, allowing the team to focus on the quality of the event rather than the quantity.

Another key point is that interactivity is truly valued by attendees. Attendees widely appreciated the live experience in Reno: comments like “It was great to see everyone in person” and “the connections to share topics and best practice is priceless” were quite common in the collected feedback. The face-to-face and networking opportunities the symposium offered are perceived as the key added value of the event after two years of virtual interaction.

In 2023, we are dedicated to establishing new opportunities for attendee interaction. This includes enhancing already established interactive sessions, such as workshops, discussion groups, and hands-on demonstrations, and adding some new initiatives. One focus is revamping the format of workshops with a task team evaluating innovative solutions, such as interactive polling. We will also be introducing a brand new interactive session to introduce attendees to the association’s standards working group activities. Changes to the customary Author’s Corners are also under evaluation.

The modular approach introduced in 2020 continues to be very well received by the audience. Mixing up different types of events (technical papers, seminars, discussion groups, topics in reviews, etc.) that are all connected by a common theme is considered valuable. Therefore, the same architecture will be maintained in 2023 with some of the same focus areas, such as automotive, communications (with a dedicated focus on photonics), and manufacturing—one of the pillars of the EOS/ESD Symposium.

A new focus for 2023 is GaN technology and applications. This area will consider all the possible new fields (including power, RF, and SiC) that are going to be addressed in the next few years using this new material. See the figure for the complete list of 2023 focus areas.
We want to thank everyone who took the time to complete the questionnaire and provide their honest feedback and suggestions for improvements. The EOS/ESD Symposium will continue to be the premier industry event with your support. The 2023 Symposium Strategy and Steering Teams are excited about what’s to come, and we hope you are as well.

Stay tuned for more exciting updates to be announced over the next months, and we hope to see you in person at the 2023 EOS/ESD Symposium at the Riverside Convention Center in Riverside, Calif.

For more information about the 2023 EOS/ESD Symposium, see the conference website.