

# **AUTO-ID LABS**

Identify Any Object Anywhere Automatically

## **Seventh Auto-ID Lab appointed.**

April 1<sup>st</sup>, Sydney.

During the bi-annual Research Directors meeting, held March 31<sup>st</sup> to April 1<sup>st</sup>, in Sydney, Australia, the Board of Directors announced that they have appointed a new Auto-ID Lab in Korea, to be hosted by ICU (Information and Communications University).

Prof Elgar Fleisch, Auto-ID Labs co-chair stated “The programs that ICU has developed and those proposed for Radio Frequency Identification (RFID), stand to generate tremendous advances in RFID technology. Their appointment is a win-win situation, for both Korea and the Auto-ID Labs. ICU will now be poised to accelerate RFID adoption in Korea. In turn the Auto-ID Labs will now have easier access to the Korean marketplace.”

The Auto-ID Labs were founded by the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (Boston, USA) which was expanded into a network of six Auto-ID Labs, the other laboratories located in prestigious universities; Cambridge (England), Adelaide (Australia), Keio (Japan), Fudan (China), and St. Gallen (Swiss). Partially funded by EPCglobal, the Auto-ID Labs coordinate and conduct advanced research on RFID technology.

The director of the Auto-ID Lab Korea, Prof. Sang-Gug Lee, will join with the other six directors, to coordinate and manage research at the seven facilities. With the establishment of the laboratory at ICU, Korea became the third Asian country to be a member of Auto-ID Labs. It was recognized that ICU could develop RFID technology and was well supported by the Korean Government. RFID societies in Korea welcomed the announcement of the Auto-ID Lab Korea expecting to accelerate the collaboration with overseas research institutes and participate in international standardization activity.

ICU plan to build up the laboratory with allies from both domestic RFID industry and Academia, and will actively promote the international collaboration with the overseas Auto-ID Labs. Through the collaboration, ICU expect to eliminate the technology gap between Korea and developed countries and produce high quality graduates to lead the RFID/Ubiquitous Sensor Network (USN) industry, in the future.

To support its RFID program, Auto-ID Lab Korea executed agreements with Government-run institutes such as Telematics-USN Division in Electronics & Telecommunications Research Institute (ETRI), National Computerization Agency, National Internet Development Agency of Korea, Korea Information Security Agency, and EPC Global Korea. Additionally, many companies, such as Samsung Advanced Institute of Technology, LG Electronics, SK Telecom, OCATACOMM, Metabiz, and Hanmac ENG, etc. have also executed agreements, pledging collaboration with Auto-ID Lab Korea.

Prof. Sang-Gug Lee said "The Auto-ID Lab Korea will establish Special Interest Groups and a consortium of industry, academia and research institutes". Their research will concentrate on the mobile RFID technology (cell phones with an inbuilt RFID reader), USN and their applications to connect with mobile communication service. They also expect collaboration with the military. The Auto-ID Lab Korea will run a worldwide RFID/USN academy which will develop and distribute various long- and short- term lecture programs for producing the RFID human resources and in-service training for company CEOs". The Auto-ID Lab Korea has eight participating members of ICU Professors specializing in antenna, RF transceiver, modem, sensor network, mobile communication, security, and IT business.