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## FOREWORD

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### Special Section on Information and Communication System Security

The special section on information and communication system security of the IEICE (Institute of Electronics, Information and Communication Engineers) Transactions on Information and Systems is the third one published by the technical group on Information and Communication System Security (ICSS) in Information and System Society. The special section aims to promote the studies on system securities including internet, intrusion detection, digital contents security, privacy protection, secure operating system, and security evaluations. The technical group ICSS had held the fourth Joint Workshop on Information Security (JWIS 2009) in Kaohsiung, Taiwan on August 6-7, 2009. The participants to JWIS 2009 are invited to submit their latest results to the special section.

We have 26 submissions from Japan, Korea, China, and Taiwan et al. According to two reviewer's comments for each paper, we accept 8 best quality papers. In order for making the reviewing process fairly, we assigned reviewers to not papers submitted from their home countries. We believe that reviewers' comments would be useful to authors whose submission was not selected in this special section.

The special section has three disfigured invited papers for providing useful information such as the current issues and the open problems in some hot topics; an image authentication using image hashing, a privacy-preserving DNS query protocols, and a time-bound hierarchical key assignment. We would like to thank the authors to make comprehensive survey in the area within the very tight schedule.

On behalf of the editorial committee, I would like to express our sincere thank to all reviewers for their works of reviewing many submissions. Finally, we thank all authors who submitted the works to this special section.

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Hiroaki Kikuchi, Guest Editor-in-Chief

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**Hiroaki Kikuchi** (*Member*) was born in Japan. He received B. E., M. E. and Ph. D. degrees from Meiji University in 1988, 1990 and 1994. After he working in Fujitsu Laboratories Ltd. from 1990 through 1993, he joined Tokai University in 1994. He is currently a Professor in the department of communication and network Engineering, School of information and telecommunication Engineering, Tokai University. He was a visiting researcher of the school of computer science, Carnegie Mellon University in 1997. His main research interests are fuzzy logic, cryptographical protocol, and network security. He is a member of the Information Processing Society of Japan (IPSJ), the Japan Society for Fuzzy Theory and Systems (SOFT), IEEE and ACM.

