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IMS2012—It's Just Around the Corner

Scott L. Spencer
Publisher



Montréal provides an intriguing background for this year's Microwave Week. Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (MTT-S) and featuring the theme Micro-ondes sans Frontières (Microwaves Without Borders), IMS2012 will be the centerpiece of Microwave Week. With a record number of papers accepted, conference delegates will be challenged to pick from technical sessions, interactive forums, plenary and panel sessions, workshops, short courses, application seminars, and a vast array of other activities. Keeping with the international theme, event paper submissions were nearly equally distributed among North America, Europe and Asia.

You will not want to miss Monday's invited plenary talk delivered by Steve Mollenkopf, President and Chief Operating Officer of Qualcomm. His talk will address "3G/4G chipsets and the mobile data explosion." He will provide a perspective from the point of view of a large, worldwide manufacturer of semiconductors and technology.

Immediately following the plenary, at approximately 6 p.m., the Opening Reception will be held in Viger Hall at the Palais des Congrès. This year's reception is sponsored by *High Frequency Electronics*. The gathering is open to everyone associated with Microwave Week and you are encouraged to make plans for both the plenary and the reception on Monday.

As is always the case with Microwave Week the exhibit halls will be bustling with activity. The IMS Exhibition provides the perfect venue for introducing new products, reaching prospective customers, and staying abreast of industry developments. Nearly 600 companies exhibiting their products and services make a real statement about the anticipated attendance.

Montréal is always an exciting place to meet. It is very easy to get around the city. In addition to safe and friendly streets Montréal has an extended underground pedestrian network of passageways known to the locals as the Réseau Piétonnier Intérieur. It is possible to walk from the Palais des Congrès to Place Ville-Marie and beyond without stepping outside. It is a useful feature during periods of inclement weather. If you don't feel like walking, taxis are everywhere and the Montréal Metro is clean and efficient.

Montréal normally offers up mild and comfortable temperatures during mid-June. Although nighttime temperatures can still dip below 40 degrees Fahrenheit, daytime temperatures average in the mid-60's or higher. The warmer weather invites visitors to explore all that the city offers.

The Basilique Notre-Dame de Montréal is located just two blocks from the Palais des Congrès; it faces Place d'Armes square. The church's Gothic Revival architecture is among the most dramatic in the world. The stained glass windows along the walls depict scenes from the religious history of Montréal. A taxi ride away stands Saint Joseph's Oratory. Started in 1904 by Brother André Bessette, the building was not completed until 1967. It is the third largest basilica dome in the world and the largest church in Canada.

For a commanding view of the Montréal skyline journey to one of the Mount Royal's three peaks; Colline de la Croix is the tallest. Imagine how different the island of Montréal must have appeared in 1535 when Jacques Cartier first scaled the mountain and gave it its name.

Montréal has over forty museums dedicated to the arts, science and history. Restaurants of every variety flourish in the city. Whether you choose deli fare at Schwartz's, indulge in poutine at Maamm Bolducors, or experience one of Canada's best tables at The Beaver Club, you will know the cuisine—and its Quebecois influences—make Montréal an ideal city for food lovers.

Microwave Week is the world's largest gathering of Radio Frequency and microwave professionals and the most important event for learning about the latest and most advanced technological developments in the field. Those of you who have already made plans to attend, please make time to stop by the exhibit hall and say hello to the staff at *High Frequency Electronics* in Booth 1906.

For those undecided, consider the value and insight gained by attending IMS2012, RFIC2012, and the 79th ARFTG Conference all in a single week. Consider the

positive effects it can have on your own professional career. Consider the record-setting technical program; the value of interacting directly with potential suppliers of hardware, software and equipment in the exhibit hall; the colleagues and fellow cognoscenti you will encounter. Throw in the IMS 60th anniversary celebration and a

beautiful and vibrant French-speaking city with lots of Old World charm. The decision should be an easy one.

See you in Montréal!

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