

## WIC Introduction

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Web Intelligence (WI) has been recognized as a new direction for scientific research and development to explore the fundamental roles as well as practical impacts of Artificial Intelligence (AI) (e.g., knowledge representation, planning, knowledge discovery and data mining, intelligent agents, and social network intelligence) and advanced Information Technology (IT) (e.g., wireless networks, ubiquitous devices, social networks, wisdom Web, and data/knowledge grids) on *the next generation of Web-empowered products, systems, services, and activities*. It is one of the most important as well as promising IT research fields in the era of Web and agent intelligence.

The Web Intelligence Consortium (WIC) (<http://wi-consortium.org/>) is an international, non-profit organization dedicated to advancing world-wide scientific research and industrial development in the field of Web Intelligence (WI). It promotes collaborations among world-wide WI research centres and organizational members, technology showcases at WI related conferences and workshops, WIC official book and journal publications, WIC newsletters, and WIC official releases of new industrial solutions and standards.

The major activities of WIC include:

- Organizing international and regional Web and agent intelligence related conferences/workshops.

The IEEE/WIC/ACM WI-IAT joint conference series (i.e., The IEEE/WIC International Conference on Web Intelligence and The IEEE/WIC International Conference on Intelligent Agent Technology) are jointly sponsored by the IEEE Computer Society and the WIC.

The 2003 IEEE/WIC International Joint Conference on Web Intelligence and Intelligent Agent Technology (WI-IAT 2003) was held on October 13–16, 2003, in Halifax, Canada. (For more information, please visit <http://www.comp.hkbu.edu.hk/WI03/> or <http://www.comp.hkbu.edu.hk/IAT03/>)

The 2004 IEEE/WIC/ACM International Joint Conference on Web Intelligence and Intelligent Agent Technology (WI-IAT 2004) will be

held on September 20–24, 2004, in Beijing, China. (For more information, please visit <http://www.maebashi-it.org/WI04/> or <http://www.maebashi-it.org/IAT04/>)

- Publishing Web and agent intelligence related journal and special issues of journals, books, and newsletter.

Web Intelligence and Agent Systems: An International Journal (IOS Press) is an official journal of the Web Intelligence Consortium (WIC). Annual Review of Intelligent Informatics (World Scientific) is an official publication series of the Web Intelligence Consortium (WIC). Several special issues on WI-IAT have been published, or will be published, in international journals, including IEEE Computer, Computational Intelligence (Blackwell), International Journal of Pattern Recognition and Artificial Intelligence (World Scientific), Journal of Intelligent Information Systems (Kluwer), Cognitive Systems Research journal (Elsevier), and Knowledge Based Systems (Elsevier).

Several WI-IAT related books have been published, or will be published, by Springer, World Scientific, and IOS Press.

- Promoting Web and agent intelligence related tools, systems, and standards.

WIC related information and news will be released from the WIC portal.

- Establishing and supporting world-wide WIC Research Centres and WI-IAT related companies:

WIC-Australia Research Centre  
WIC-Beijing Research Centre  
WIC-Canada Research Centre  
WIC-France Research Centre  
WIC-Hong Kong Research Centre  
WIC-India Research Centre  
WIC-Japan Research Centre  
WIC-Korea Research Centre  
WIC-Mexico Research Centre

WIC-Poland Research Centre  
WIC-Spain Research Centre  
WIC-UK Research Centre  
WIC-US Research Centre

among others, have been set up.

For more information on the WIC, please visit the  
WIC homepage at <http://wi-consortium.org/>