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## Preface

Users of signal processing systems are never satisfied with the system they currently use. They are constantly asking for higher quality, faster performance, more comfort and lower prices. Researchers and developers should be appreciative for this attitude. It justifies their constant effort for improved systems. Better knowledge about biological and physical interrelations coming along with more powerful technologies are their engines on the endless road to perfect systems.

This book is an impressive image of this process. After “Acoustic Echo and Noise Control” published in 2004<sup>1</sup> many new results lead to “Topics in Acoustic Echo and Noise Control” edited in 2006<sup>2</sup>. Today – in 2008 – even more new findings and systems could be collected in this book. Comparing the contributions in both edited volumes progress in knowledge and technology becomes clearly visible: Blind methods and multi input systems replace “humble” low complexity systems. The functionality of new systems is less and less limited by the processing power available under economic constraints.

The editors have to thank all the authors for their contributions. They cooperated readily in our effort to unify the layout of the chapters, the terminology, and the symbols used. It was a pleasure to work with all of them.

Furthermore, it is the editors concern to thank Christoph Baumann and the Springer Publishing Company for the encouragement and help in publishing this book.

Darmstadt and Ulm, Germany

*Eberhard Hänsler  
Gerhard Schmidt*

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<sup>1</sup> Eberhard Hänsler and Gerhard Schmidt: *Acoustic Echo and Noise Control*, New York, NY: Wiley, 2004

<sup>2</sup> Eberhard Hänsler and Gerhard Schmidt (Eds.): *Topics in Acoustic Echo and Noise Control*, Berlin: Springer, 2006

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