Future wireless systems are being built upon the promise of delivering new and different types of high speed multimedia services. In this way, service providers can extend their offerings beyond basic network services to include also value-added services and specialized application services. The service management concept involves the ability to create, supervise, update and remove services on a networking platform so that service providers can deliver the new services adapted to the customer requirements and experiences, meeting the customer demand while fulfilling customer expectations. Policy-based network management systems have been traditionally used in IP networks to control large-scale distributed systems enforcing operational coherency through policy rules, becoming the pillar technology of self-managing and autonomic computing systems. Policy-based management has been recently proposed as a way of achieving an efficient service management in the framework of the new multitude of services enabled by wireless technologies, ensuring that both user and business requirements are met. Policy-based service management encompasses a methodology that identifies the necessary policies, practices, procedures, guidelines, standards and rules to support the business and their process inter-relationship. They enable service providers to know who the customers are, what applications and services users are allowed to access, when users have access to the network and how the service is offered, ensuring the desired Quality of Service (QoS) requirements. Furthermore, services can be customized based on individual user preferences, i.e. when, where and how the users want the services, thus improving customers’ experience.

Topics
This special issue looks for tutorial-nature papers that reflect the state-of-the-art and recent advances in the application of policy-based management techniques to service management for wireless systems. We solicit papers covering a variety of topics that include, but not limited to, the following subjects:

- Policy-based service management in wireless systems
- Policy representation, monitoring, prioritization and enforcement schemes in wireless systems
- Policy-based self-management strategies in wireless systems
- Policy languages
- Reconfiguration management in wireless systems
- Self-configuring wireless networks
- Cognitive service provision in wireless systems
- Policy-based pricing and billing schemes in wireless systems
- Service Level Agreements
- Bundling and aggregation of wireless services
- Business cases
- New service models and architectures in wireless systems
- QoS control through policy-based mechanisms in wireless systems
- Next generation wireless services
- Web-based management in wireless systems
- Controllable Computer services
- Application management
- Case studies and field experience
- Autonomic Wireless Concepts

Papers should be of tutorial nature and contain state-of-the-art research and development materials. Authors must follow the IEEE Vehicular Technology Magazine guidelines regarding the manuscript format. Articles should be about 3000 words long, with 5 to 10 figures and 10 to 15 references. The use of mathematical equations should be limited to 2 or 3. For further information, please refer to IEEE Vehicular Technology Magazine website at http://www.ieeevtc.org/vtmagazine/. All papers should be submitted online using Trackchair: http://vtmagazine.trackchair.com

Important Dates
Manuscript Submission Due: February 15, 2007
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