

IEEE ComSoc Technical Committee on Power Line Communications Committee Meeting  
at IEEE ISPLC 2016 in Bottrop, Germany  
on 21 March 2016 from 19:00 to 21:00 local time

Chair: Andrea Tonello  
Vice-chair: Haniph Latchman  
Secretary: Gerd Bumiller

## List of attendees:

#	Name	Affiliation
1	Gerd Bumiller	Hochschule Ruhr West, Germany
2	Ralf Lehnert	TU Dresden, Germany
3	Ievgenii Tsokalo	TU Dresden, Germany
4	Stanislav Mudriievskiy	TU Dresden, Germany
5	Inigo Berganza	Iberdrola, Spain
6	Antti Pinomaa	Lappeenranta University, Finland
7	Anil Mengi	Devolo, Germany
8	Alfredo Sanz	Atmel, Spain
9	Pascal Pagani	Telecom Bretagne, France
10	Shinji Tsuzuki	Ehime University, Japan
11	Masaaki Katayama	Nagoya University, Japan
12	Bamidele Adebisi	Manchester University, UK
13	Khaled Rabie	Manchester University, UK
14	Riccardo Pighi	Selta, Italy
15	Lutz Lampe	University of British Columbia, Canada
16	Danilo Zanatta	Digital Strom, Germany
17	Weilin Liu	Smart Grid Research Institute, China
18	Kaveh Razazian	Sagemcom, France
19	Cedric Lavenu	EDF, France
20	Peter Jensen	EDF, France
21	José Antonio Cortés	University of Malaga, Spain
22	Andrea Tonello	University of Klagenfurt, Austria
23	George Hallak	Hochschule Ruhr West, Germany
24	Stefan Hoffmann	Hochschule Ruhr West, Germany
25	Babak Nikfar	Hochschule Ruhr West, Germany
	<b>On the phone:</b>	
26	Haniph Latchman	University of Florida, USA
27	Mauro Biagi	University of Rome, Italy

## Agenda for the meeting:

1. Welcome and introduction
2. Approval of the previous meeting minutes
3. Conferences activities:
  - (a) Report on ISPLC 2016 (Gerd Bumiller)
  - (b) Report on ISPLC 2017 (Inigo Berganza)

- (c) Report on WSPLC 2015 (Andrea Tonello)
- (d) Status of WSPLC 2016 (Andrea Tonello)
- (e) Report on SmartGridComm 2015 (Haniph Latchman)
- (f) Status of ICC 2016 (Lutz Lampe)
- (g) Status of Globecom 2016 (Haris Gacanin)
- (h) Status of SmartGridCom 2016 (Han Vinck)

4. Publication activities:

- (a) PLC DocSearch update (Francisco Canete)

5. Standardization and regulation activities:

- (a) Update on PLC standardizations (Anil Mengi)

6. TC-PLC matters:

- (a) Ratification of the newly elected TC-PLC officers, term 2016-2018 (Lutz Lampe)
- (b) ANC report (Ralf Lehnert)
- (c) Liaison with Smart Grid Communications sub-committee
- (d) TC-PLC web site update and maintenance
- (e) Update of TC-PLC representatives in committees

7. Any other business

## Meeting minutes:

### 1. Welcome and introduction

Andrea Tonello opens the meeting at 19:12.

### 2. Approval of the previous meeting minutes

Minutes of the previous meeting has been approved.

### 3. Conferences activities

- (a) Gerd Bumiller reports on ISPLC 2016. There has been 90 registered participants with both academy and industry affiliations.

Lutz Lampe compliments the well-organized event and provides the statistics as follows. 70 papers have been submitted with 41 accepted papers which is less than expected. The majority of papers were from Germany. The smart grid papers as well as the experimental system papers are growing in number.

Andrea Tonello mentions that we have to find a way to re-attract scientists into the PLC research. He suggests to lower the acceptance rate to urge the reputation to go up. He also suggests to expand the scope of the committee, e.g. to make it a symposium version of the SmartGridCom.

Masaaki Katayama replies by saying that if we lower the acceptance rate, no new faces will emerge in the conference. Anil Mengi agrees with Katayama and adds that

lower acceptance rate will also makes it difficult for industry to publish in ISPLC. Lutz Lampe agrees with Tonello and mentions that we want to get new faces but we want them to be good as well. Mauro Biagi suggests to add a student competition to make the event more interesting for students.

- (b) Inigo Berganza reports on ISPLC 2017 which is going to be held in Madrid, Spain. The conference publication form is done. There has been an issue with the website but the communication with IEEE ComSoc is ongoing to fix the problem. They are in process of signing the contract with the venue (Iberdrola internal unit). Call for paper has been issued. The suggested dates are November 30 for deadline of paper submission, January 18 for notification of acceptance and February 22 for final revision. The intention is to use EDAS. The process of patron seeking will start soon. The venue (Iberdrola campus) is not in Madrid center but 30 km away, but bus transportation is going to be available. The intention is to get special offers for hotel accommodations.

Andrea Tonello suggests to have the conference from Monday to Wednesday instead of Wednesday to Friday, and Berganza replies that they are open to this suggestion.

- (c) Andrea Tonello reports on WSPLC 2015. The workshop has been very successful with high participation. 65 to 70 percent of participants were from industry.
- (d) Andrea Tonello gives the status on WSPLC 2016 with two proposals from France and Czech Republic.

The proposal from France is from the École Polytechnique in Paris. The school is a highly recognized school in France. The total amount of estimated funds is 10680 dollars. Andrea Tonello mentions that the main organizer i.e. EDF should commit itself and it should be clarified until next two weeks.

The proposal from Czech Republic is from technical university in Prague. The university is very large and well-organized. The proposed dates are September 29 and 30. A total of 9821 dollars is estimated for the event's expenditures which results in a registration fee of 200 dollars.

Andrea Tonello suggest to postpone the voting to the next two weeks by email, and until then he will share the proposal slides with the voting members.

It has been suggested to accept both proposals for this year and the year after.

- (e) Haniph Latchman reports on SmartGridCom 2015 which has been successful and well-organized. A total of 332 papers were submitted with 150 accepted papers which yields the acceptance rate of 49%.
- (f) Lutz Lampe gives the status of ICC 2016. A total of 28 submission with 2 papers on PLC which one of them has been accepted and one has been rejected.
- (g) Andrea Tonello gives the status of Globecom 2016. There will be a session on smart grid and PLC. The deadline is on 1. April which is a hard deadline and is not being extended.
- (h) Lutz Lampe gives the status of SmartGridCom 2016. The event will be in Sydney, Australia and the deadline is 24. April.

The next SmartGridCom (2017) is going to be in Dresden Germany. Ralf Lehnert reports that the preparation has been started and the negotiations with IEEE is ongoing.

#### 4. Publication activities

Andrea Tonello reports about the PLC DocSearch. There has not been any updates since last time. The Klagenfurt papers has not been added yet.

## 5. Standardization and regulation activities

Anil Mengi reports on the update on PLC standardizations. For frequencies above 30 MHz for indoor applications, EN50561-3 was recently accepted. For frequencies between 1.6 MHz and 30 MHz, EN50561-1 was accepted in November 2012. The draft EN50561-2 was rejected and work is being done to propose a new draft. New EU directives has been updated. PLC equipments are controlled in the EU under the framework of the EMC Directive 2014/30/EU. The Radio Equipment Directive (RED) 2014/53/EU becomes relevant for PLC products that link to wireless.

## 6. TC-PLC matters

- (a) Lutz Lampe reports on the newly elected TC-PLC officers for the term 2016-2018. There has been 17 votes from the voting members which was unanimous.  
For the term 2016-2018, the chair is Andrea Tonello. Vice chair is Han Vinck, and Secretary is Gerd Bumiller.
- (b) Ralf Lehrent reports on the Awards and Nomination Committee (ANC). He has asked for nominations with self-nomination also possible. There is a long list of possible candidates. There are two awards to be hand out in the banquet and two best paper awards. Andrea Tonello mentions the application for senior membership and encourages people to do so.
- (c) Andrea Tonello reports on the Liaison with Smart Grid Communications sub-committees, suggesting to increase the scope of communication and join forces of different committees without losing the PLC roots. He mentions the probability of merging PLC and Smart Grid committee. An idea is to give a different definition to smart grid with PLC as a sub-division. The conference of ISPLC and SmartGridCom may merge in the future independent from this liaison.
- (d) Andrea Tonello reports on the TC-PLC web site update and maintenance. The website has moved to Wordpress. It is suggested to appoint someone to work on the website to make it more attractive and include pictures.
- (e) Andrea Tonello reports on the update of the TC-PLC representatives in committees. The steering committee chair is Andrea Tonello until ISPLC 2018. Brian Evans, Il-Han Kim and Anil Mengi are members until ISPLC 2017. The new member is Gerd Bumiller until ISPLC 2018.

## 7. Other matters

- (a) Lutz Lampe mentions that the next TC-PLC meeting can be either at SmartGrid-Com in Sydney or at Globecom in Washington, which Globecom is favored more by the attendees.

## 8. Adjourn

Meeting adjourned at 21:55.

Minutes prepared by Babak Nikfar.