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CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE**Report Card**

For the ten Sections in India and for India Council, 1999 has proved to be a highly successful year. At the beginning of the year, I started inviting individual engineers in larger organizations in India to join as members of IEEE. During the year with the co-operation of a few active members, who were able to get for me these letters were despatched. India Council also visualize the All India Students Congress, and, a Technical Tour Programme to organize technical lectures in hitherto unrepresented cities. During the year 1C and its Chapters sponsored and conducted many excellent programs, which have been reported in the various issues of the Bulletin. Shri H. Kalyanasundaram, IC's Ombudsman, has compiled the following data, which may be of interest to our members. In the 12 months period, ending 31st December 1999, IEEE membership in India grew from 11072 to 17458. During the year, 20 new Students Branches were established in India. Madras section, with 50 Branches, leads the world. Congratulations to all the active members in India for the great success, they have been jointly able to achieve.

With Bangalore and Hyderabad, emerging as important centers in the world of IT technologies, I expect the membership in these two Sections to grow fast during 2000. I also call upon every member to contribute to this task of enlarging the IEEE family by enrolling two new members during the year.

STUDENTS CONGRESS

The All India Students Congress is being hosted by Madras Section. IT IS EXPECTED THAT EVERY STUDENTS BRANCH IN INDIA WILL SEND ITS COUNSELOR AND ITS CHAIRMAN TO THE CONGRESS. Besides other highly interesting and useful sessions, the Congress would have sessions on Case Studies of successful efforts/projects, completed by the Students Branches. I request the Chairmen of the Students Activities in every Section, the counselors and the Branch Chairmen to send proposals for presentation of such Successes to the Chairman, Madras Section. His address is : Er.S.A.SoundaraRajan 157, Dr. Besant Road, ICE House, Triplicane CHENNAI - 600 005 e-mail: ietecnet@md3.vsnl.net.in The presentation at the Congress will be a recognition and an honour for the Section and the Branch Officers and it will be a mutual learning exercise for the Branches in India.

I also request the Chairmen of the Students Activities in every Section to interact with the Page Master of their Section to prepare a plan for hosting one page each for each of their Students Branches on the Section's Web-she. The idea is that the ten SACs, jointly with the IC's SAC and its PageMaster may discuss the issue at the Congress and they may thus be able to prepare useful recommendations. Any other suggestions, from our members, regarding the Students Congress will be highly welcome.

Ahmedabad
1st July, 2000.

A. K. Aggarwal
Chairman



E-mail : aka@ad1.vsnl.net.in

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INDIA COUNCIL BE PROUD !

Prof. U B Desai, Professor of Electrical Engg. At IIT Bombay and Executive committee member of IEEE Bombay Section has been selected as Associate Editor of IEEE Transaction on image Processing. Others in Bombay Section who are on Editorial Board of IEEE publications are

- 1) Prof. Juzer Vasi of IIT Bombay and
- 2) Mr. Vimal Kumar Khanna of Cebiletron India.

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WISE AND OTHERWISE

"If there's a way to do it better find it."

Thomas A. Edison

"The only place where success comes before work is in the dictionary."

Vidal Sasoon

"Innovation is not science or technology, but value"

Peter F. Drucker
Management Tasks,
Responsibilities, Practices

Extracting drinking water from air

Norbert Rabiger of Bremen University, Germany, has developed a method for transforming atmospheric humidity into drinking water. He uses special adsorbents: polymer-like substances with large surfaces. They adsorb humidity from air, primarily at night and release water again when heated. A pilot installation will go into operation in Jordan.

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IEEE INDIA COUNCIL : SLATE FOR 2000

The following slate has been proposed for the year 2000 by the Nomination Committee chaired by Shri. Mayank M. Pande. In case some members would like to suggest some other names i.e., "Additional Nomination by Petition", they may do so by sending the candidate's name(s) to the Nomination Committee at the address of the Secretary by Registered Post so as to reach him not later than 01 April 2000. To be valid, such a petition shall carry the signatures of no fewer than 25 voting members of the Council and will include a statement of the willingness of the candidate to serve the Council. Elections will be held in case two or more valid nominations are received for a particular post.

OFFICE	NAME
1. Chairman	A. K. Aggarwal
2. Immediate Past Chairman	R. K. Bagga
3. Exec. Vice Chairman	P. K. Shrivastava
4. Secretary/Treasurer	A. R. Pandya
5. Student Activities	S. C. Gupta
6. Membership Development	C. R. Sasi
7. Technical Activities	S. C. Sahasrabudhe
8. Professional Activities	R. Muralidharan
9. Educational Activities	Amit Johri
10. News Letter Editor	V. K. Damodaran
11. Member at Large	J. Muraleemohan Lal
12. Member at Large	Sandeep Toda

Address Petitions to

Shri. A. R. Pandya
Kalyan Alaknanda Tapovan
Society
V. K. V. Road, Nadiad-387 001.

Yours is a Creative Profession

What should engineers do to expand their value-added to themselves and the organization ?
 A few thoughts.

Get out of the cubicle - See the rest of the world. Find out what your colleagues are doing and get involved by asking the right questions - the what, why, when, who, how, and where. Find out what's going on in those other cubicles. We used to call this getting into other peoples' sandboxes. You may just find out how, what you're working on, fits into the total picture.

Become proactive - Look beyond the present. Imagination, thinking of what could be, drives engineering. It's exciting to discuss future possibilities. But imagination must be followed by action, and action requires knowledge, discipline, and really hard work. Eight to five doesn't cut it.

Find the opportunities - Engineering is about ideas, concepts, invention, innovation, and more. It's also about entrepre-neurship. It's a creative profession. It's about effectiveness, efficiency, and the economic use of resources. It's about being the contributing maverick. It's not a routine nine to five job.

Take risks - Dealing with the new and novel involves both financial and personal risk. The

financial risk can be easily reconciled. Disregarding some organizational time-honored practices presents personal risk. There's a time to take a position even though it may create tension. It's your future.

Every engineering manager and engineer may not accept these thoughts but if you keep thinking today what you thought yesterday, don't expect different results. There are no magic answers, no recipes, and no prescriptions in a dynamic global economy. Make the time and see what your colleagues are doing. You just might change your perspective.

Gus Gaynor

Editor & Past President,
Adapted from IEEE Engineering
Management Society

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TECHNOLOGY CORNER

World's largest solar suburb

Electricity for the athletes' village next to the Olympic Games site in Sydney, Australia, is to be provided by the sun under a plan to establish the world's largest solar suburb.

British Petroleum (BP) has won the contract to supply the first 500 solar power systems for the village, which is located in the newly established Sydney suburb of Newington, next to the Olympic site at Homebush.

The solar village will include 665 permanent houses, all of which will have a one kilowatt peak renewable solar energy system. The village will in fact be a mini power station because its output will not only be sufficient to meet its own annual demand but also allow power to be supplied to the national electricity grid. Depending on the intensity of the sun light and the demand for power, the village will also be able to import electricity from the grid if necessary.

The solar power system company of the London-based BP group claims to be the world leader in this field. The manager of BP Solar Australia, Ken Brown, said : "Around one million kilowatt hours a year of electricity from the sun will be produced from this village. Combined with energy efficiencies already built into the dwellings, this represents a reduction on of carbon dioxide emissions to the atmosphere of at least 2,500 tonnes a year.

For further information contact:

British petroleum plc,
1 Finsbury Circus,
London, United Kingdom,
EC2M 7BA.
Tel : +44 171 496 4231,
Fax : +44 171 496 4099

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BRIEF REPORT ON ACE'99 HELD AT TRIVANDRUM (Prepared by Mr. P. K. Srivastava)

The Annual Conference & Exhibition (ACE) '99 of India Council was organised by the

Kerala Section from 2 to 4 Dec '99 at Techno Park, Trivandrum. The venue was very nice amidst picturesque surroundings. The auditorium as well as the audio-visual facilities were of international standards. Over 100 persons had participated out of which 81 were the paid delegates. The standard of technical presentation was pretty high.

About 10 organizations sponsored the event. However, due to a sudden political strike at Trivandrum on 2nd Dec, the inaugural function as well as Tutorials were to be shifted from Techno Park to ER&DC1, which incurred extra expenses and also due to which certain exhibitors like Hewlett Packard could not take part in the Exhibition. Due to this setback ACE'99 is likely

to just break even and India Council should not expect any surplus. The seed money of Rs. 20,000 is however, likely to be returned to 1C by the Kerala Section. The valedictory session was addressed by IEEE President Ken Laker who was quite impressed by the conference, exhibition and general facilities. Messrs H. L. Bajaj, H.P. Khincha, R. Muralidharan and myself were the other outside participants. Mr. Bajaj chaired the session. On this occasion, the result of M. V. Chauhan Student Paper Contest '99 were also announced. The First Prize of Rs. 2,500/- shared by three authors was given by the IEEE President to Mr. N. Balaji, one of the author who was personally present. As the Kerala Section did not receive the draft from 1C, I requested Mr. J. M. Lal, Chairman Kerala Section to arrange the draft for only the first prize and adjust in the accounts with 1C. The second and third prizes of Rs. 1500 and Rs. 1000 respectively are yet to be sent to the winners by the IC.

Prof. Damodaran has already published the Newsletter of 1C, December issue on 4th Dec itself giving the details of ACE'99 upto 3rd Dec, including the inaugural function.

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TECH BRIEFS

Internet signals through power lines

A UK company has announced it has invented a way to send internet signals to home lines by using ordinary power cables and not telephone line.

"What we have done is fixed the fuzz." Said Ian Vance, chief scientist for Nortel's European division. "We have patented technology that allows us to send data through power wires without it being corrupted by interference from the power itself." Users will need to install a card in their personal computers and fix a small box to their standard electricity meter to use the service. Trials are expected to start next spring in north-west England, the heartland of the company. These are expected to go on for at least six months before a wider roll-out is considered.

The company said it would concentrate on delivering the Internet through power cables rather than competing with telecoms companies to provide telephones. But when Internet technology allows telephone signals to be sent as Internet data, telephone applications could find their way into this new system.

For further information contact :

Norweb Communications

Talbot Road, Manchester, United
Kingdom, M16 0HQ
Tel. + 44 161 8738000

Fuel saver car can go far

A futuristic-looking, fuel-efficient car developed by students at King's College, London University, has been shown to achieve a remarkable performance of 2,500 km to the litre.

It is pictured during trials at Silverstone racing circuit, southern England, prior to entering the 21st Shell Mileage Marathon where its space-age aerodynamic shape captured widespread attention. Some 100 vehicles took part in the event, several of them from other countries.

The hotly contested annual marathon encourages teams from all over the world to design and build their own vehicles capable of achieving maximum kilometres to the litre.

Lecturer Dr Graham Paul and his team from King's College designed the car with a carbon-fibre chassis and moulding and built its four-stroke fuel-injection engine. The majority of the components were engineered at the college. The vehicle runs on standard unleaded petrol and can reach speeds of 40 kilometres per hour.

The King's College car project forms part of the college's mechatronics degree course that combines mechanical engineering with both electronics and computing.

For further information contact :

King's College, University of London,
Department of Mechanical Engineering,
Strand, London, United Kingdom, WC2R
2LS Tel: + 44 171 8732259.
Fax: +44 171 873 2437.

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EDITORIAL

It has been a revival of communication between the members of the IEEE in India, with the revival of this Bulletin's publication since March 2000. On the one hand, we have lot to tell and hear from Sections and Chapters and even from individual members. But, for the last three years, the publication has been fully funded by the generous contribution of willing Sections and Chapters and the India Council which has very little money to spare. Yet, this has been proved to be the only effective communication between the several thousands of members spread over the whole of India.

This year, it has been suggested that instead of burdening the Sections and Chapters, we may raise funds through Advertisements. Sections and Chapters can canvas one Ad in a year and if all the Sections and Chapters do it faithfully - get just one Ad a year - the Bulletin can stand on its own to serve you better. The rates are:

Full page : Rs 15,000
Half page: Rs 8,000
Column : Rs 6,000

This month, the voluntary effort has started. Please see page 2. We expect more such offers in the days to come.

Regards,

Camp: Hangzhou,
China
01 April 2000

V. K. Damodaran
Editor
E-mail:
vkd@ieee.org



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Your feedback is important!

- *e mail:* haresh@ipdpg.gov.in
- [Click here to send your feedback, comments, remarks and suggestions.](#)

Write to:

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Space Applications Centre,
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Ph. 91-79-6774770

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This electronic version of the IEEE India Bulletin is an adaptation of the official, printed newsletter.
This adaptation has required some minor modifications and restructuring of the original text, to
suit its viewing as a webpage.

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