



IEEE THE INSTITUTE OF ELECTRICAL AND ELECTRONICS ENGINEERS, INC

Chairman's Message



Friends,

During a morning walk there was a discussion with a senior doctor who is highly respected in medical circles. The topic was the changing pattern in medical diagnostic techniques. The skills of doctors of yesteryears in accurately diagnosing a disease with just touch, tap and a simple stethoscope, have given way to the new breed

of electro-IT based tools capable of pinpointing the defects in our body, almost with text book precision. Definitely a laudable achievement by the engineering community! The modern doctor may be totally at loss if he doesn't get the tools-support he is now used to. This is where the judicious blend of technology and human skills becomes important, the latter coming handy, when destined to treat without the instrument support in certain situations. It applies equally well to practicing engineers, who depend these days on their armoury of gadgets to perform their engineering functions. We have seen engineers judging a length with precision to the last inch, without a measuring tape or power plant engineers sensing an imminent malfunction of a generator, just by noting the change in its humming sound. We should not leave hold of such skills we are capable of building up over the years, to keep them as our engineering assets. It doesn't need any investment, except our will and little time everyday, to hone up such skills.

The year 2007 is coming to a close and when we look back from 'IEEE Lens', there is reason for cheer, of course, with some small tint of disappointment, as well. The items for celebration are the excellent technical expositions like INDICON 2007, AISC 2007 and a host of classy technical programmes conducted by various sections during the year. On the flip side, the not so-well condition of some of our student branches remains as a matter of concern which our seniors are trying to correct.

The distinctions won by our members, sections, chapters etc, reported in this newsletter from time to time are commendable. Some of the recent additions to this: elevation of Prof. Narahari Yadati to Fellow 2008, Kharagpur Section getting R10 'Sustained Membership Growth Award', V. Sampathkumar of Madras Section getting Gold Achievement Award 2007, Dr S Doke (Pune) adorned with RAB Leadership Award 2007, R.K. Asthana with 2006 Outstanding Volunteer Award... Congratulations to you all and also other IEEE volunteers who made their mark.

IEEE INDIA COUNCIL - SLATE FOR 2008 OFFICE BEARERS

The Nomination Committee Chaired by Mr. R. K. Asthana, Past India Council chair and Shri H. L. Bajaj and Shri R. Muralidharan as members has proposed the following Slate for the year 2008. Nominations by petition, if any, may be sent to Secretary (k.g.kumar@ieee.org) before 31 December 2007.

S. N	POST	SECTION	NAME
1	Chair	Kerala	Mr. N. T. Nair
2	Executive Vice Chairman	Bangalore	Prof. Kasi Rajagopal
3	Secretary / Treasurer	Kerala	Mr. K. G. Satheesh Kumar
4	Immediate Past Chair	Delhi	Mr. R. K. Asthana
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8	VC - Educational Activities	Calcutta	Mr. K. K. Mallik
9	VC- Membership Dev.	Gujarat	Dr. A. R. Dasgupta
10	News Letter Editor	Kerala	Prof. V. K. Damodaran
11	Ombudsman	Bombay	Prof. M. M. Shah
12	Member at Large	Bombay	Mr. Quraish Bakir

Editorial Board

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Visit
[http:// www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/india_council](http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/india_council)

We are hopeful that the new year in the horizon – 2008 – will bring more limelight to IEEE movement in India, with the selfless services of IEEE volunteers, as in the past, enabling us to remain as the major force to reckon with in Asia - Pacific Region.

With new year greetings in advance to every one of you,

Trivandrum
01 Dec '07

N.T. Nair
Chairman, IEEE India Council
ntnair@ieee.org

From India Council Secretary



As another active year draws to a close at IEEE India Council and the Sections in India, it gives us lot of satisfaction to report to our members that the year has been fairly successful with lot of stories to tell. The India Council Newsletter has been carrying these stories month after month, thanks to the energy and perseverance of Prof. VK Damodaran, Newsletter Editor, ably supported by the editorial team. The India Council Webmaster, Mr. Quraish Bakir, has also done his part very well with the IC website.

Members may also like to know and note that the R10 Editor and Electronic Communications Coordinator, Dr. Zia Ahmed has been bringing out an online R10 Newsletter in pdf format every quarter. The latest issue of the newsletter, like the previous ones, is quite comprehensive, covering activities all over the region in its 32 pages. The Oct-Nov-Dec issue features activities at several of the Indian sections, Chapters and Student branches as also the INDICON and the AISC. Needless to say, the newsletter plays a key role in propagating useful ideas and practices across IEEE units in the region. Being an online publication, many may not be aware of the existence of the R10 Newsletter. One has to visit the R10 site to access it.

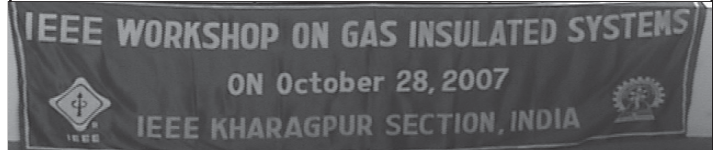
The India Council Newsletter currently reaches every member by post. Some members have suggested that we stop posting hardcopies and move to online publication. As a matter of fact, online publication has been existing for a while, and one just has to visit the IC website to access the current and earlier issues. But the question is how many are aware? And how many will actually go to the site and take a look at the newsletter even if they are aware of its existence. This is a clear distinction between the hardcopy version and a pdf version on the site. Yet, in the year ahead, India Council will need to take a decision on the continued publication of the hardcopy. Views from the members would help the IC in this regard.

As the Secretary of the India Council, may I take this opportunity to thank all IEEE members in India for their confidence in and excellent support to us, during 2007, and we request the same support to the team to be elected for 2008 also.

Cheers!

K G Satheesh Kumar
Secretary, India Council, IEEE
k.g.kumar@ieee.org

Workshop on Gas Insulated Systems



Under IEEE Region 10 Educational Activity, IEEE workshop on Gas Insulated Systems was organised by IEEE Kharagpur Section on Oct. 28, 2007 in Gargi Hall of Srinivasa Ramanujan Complex of IIT Kharagpur. The workshop was coordinated by Prof N K Kishore of EE Department, who is the chair of the section. Keeping in view the increased demand for electrical energy the workshop was organised on Gas Insulated Systems - a way to compact Power Systems. Workshop addressed two major issues i.e. need, physics and problems of GIS in the forenoon session and necessary diagnostics in the afternoon. There were a total of 45 participants, of which 12 were teaching faculty, 5 were doctoral students, 16 masters students and 12 undergraduate students. Being a program under educational activity, only academic community was there. They were from Institutes and colleges from outside, as far as Hyderabad.

Workshop began with an introduction by Professor N K Kishore, which was followed by an exposure to Medium Voltage GIS - right from Planning to operation by Dr B P Singh (Former Chief GM of BHEL (R&D) Hyderabad) presently Principal, Jyothismathi College, Karimnagar, Hyderabad. He is responsible for several Gas Insulated Sub stations in operation in twin cities of Hyderabad & Secunderabad. This was followed by a deliberation on Particle Movement in GIS - a crucial issue in operation by Dr J Amarnath, Professor of EE at JNTU Hyderabad.

Post lunch session dealt with Diagnostics started with a talk on Condition Monitoring by Dr M Joy Thomas of Indian Institute of Science, Bangalore. He stressed on the importance of Partial Discharge Measurement & Non Destructive Test technique, which was followed by a talk on Dielectric Spectroscopy – a state of art Insulation assessment technique by Dr B Hemalatha of the Institute.

It was very well received and participants were made aware of the need for compact power systems and means of achieving through GIS.

Prof. N. K. Kishore
Chair, IEEE Kharagpur Section

HK's Notings on Awards and Placements

It is real great for any IEEE Member to get one of the RAB Awards, be it the Achievement Award, Larry K Wilson Transnational Award, Leadership Award, Innovation Award, Distinguished Service Award or the recently introduced GOLD achievement Award.

When you come to know the background of these awards, and how much they are valued in the knowledgeable IEEE Community and as to how much each of the Award motivates and encourages one to do better in future, you feel you are blessed to be in the chosen few to be honored. Allow me to say this with pride and authority, as I was the recipient of the "1988 Transnational Award" for effective leadership which resulted in the formation of a significant number of new student branches in India'.

This has encouraged me to keep on to Student Branches Development for the last 20 years.

The RAB Awards have never been easy to get nor are they available in plenty. Most Awards are just one per year and I know there has been years when no Awards in a category were made, as right candidates were not sponsored. As per the limited data I hold, just 9 Awards have come to Region 10 from day one and the great news is that 8 of them have come to members in India. Let me share the honors list with you all:

- Achievement Award 1999: Mr S Parthasarathy (Bangalore) and Dr Subrata Mukhopadhyay (Delhi)
- Innovation Award 1991: Mr C Satish (Hyderabad)
- Transnational Award 1985: M V Chauhan (Madras); 1988: H Kalyanasundaram (Madras); 1994: Jim Vasseleo (NSW)
- Leadership Award 1992: Dr Subrato Mukhopadhyay (Delhi); 2007: Dr S Doke (Pune - Bombay)
- Gold Achievement Award 2007: Mr V Sampath Kumar (Madras)

I believe, the great achievement on the part of Dr Subrata to have got the Award twice has not been excelled so far.

Awards are one of the golden keys to move up in IEEE ladder for high offices. On a quick study of the winners, in the brief span of 10 years from 1984, I recognize Raymond D Findlay, our 2002 President was the 1989 RAB Innovation Award winner, Charles K Alexander the 1997 President was the 1984 Winner and 2003 President Michael S Adler was a 1980 Winner.

It is gratifying to note that Mr V Sampathkumar has secured the GOLD Award in the very first year it is established.

This award consists of a cash prize of \$250 USD and a plaque, which carries the following citation:

"For outstanding efforts in local GOLD activities and successfully obtaining industry sponsorship". He is also selected as the 2008 A&A Committee Chair by RAB.

My Greetings and Best Wishes to him and to his sponsors. I hope I will have an early opportunity of meeting and shaking hands with Mr Sampath to hold on to my record of having met all RAB Award winners in our Region.

Congratulations Dr. Doke for your achievements! You have been chosen from the near 270,000 higher grade members to receive the Leadership Award 2007.

In the information I have given above, if any of you find any wrong data or I have missed any names, please correct me and inform others about it. I also request Dr Subrata to verify and edit what I have mentioned. New Year is around the corner –

My Greetings and Best Wishes for Good Health and Cheer to all of you.

Regards.

H Kalyanasundaram

Kharagpur Section gets R10 'Sustained Membership Growth Award'

Congratulations to IEEE Kharagpur Section for getting the prestigious "Sustained Membership Growth Award" from IEEE Reg.10. Prof. Santiram Kal of IIT, Kharagpur received the award at Taipei during the ceremony on November 1, 2007.



Request from Prof. Mini S. Thomas

Dear Section Chairs & SAC Chairs,

Greetings to all of you from Delhi! Even though the last date for registration for the R10 Student congress was over on 30th November 2007, the registration list of Indian Delegates shows only (as on 12th December) 48 delegates nomination, out of which around 20 are from Delhi section. We have equal number of foreign delegates already registered for the event. I congratulate Delhi section for deciding to sponsor 25 students with a grant of Rs,5000 each for registration/- and travel for the event.

This is to urge all the sections, especially Madras, Bombay, Bangalore and Hyderabad to sponsor more students to this event. As our Director, Prof. Janina requested in her letter to all section chairs earlier, I request all Section Chairs to take up the matter immediately and sponsor delegates (Students & Branch counselors) for this event, which is happening in India for the first time. Kindly propagate this to student branches, we are extending the last date for submission of registration form along with registration fee to 31st December 2007.

I am glad to inform that a large number of VIPs from IEEE will be attending the SC in Chennai.

Best Regards,

Mini S. Thomas, R 10 SAC Chair

'My father didn't tell me how to live; he lived, and let me watch him do it.' - Clarence Buddinton Kelland

Editorial

EE Technology Makes Changes in the Social Order



It is well known that people's destiny world over, over centuries, has been influenced so unavoidably by innovations in the technology front. Invention of incandescent light bulb, transistor radios, electric motors, microchips and computers have been some of them. Readers under the IEEE banner know these very well. Of late, the introduction of white light emitting diodes or white LEDs is paving the way for safe and steady lighting in those unfortunate half

a billion households all over the least developed nations or the economies in transition. In many of these areas, reaching the energy services economically through grid extensions have been foreclosed.

With more and more powerful LEDs in the market, at near affordable rates, a new hope has emerged. If you can provide a stand alone power source, based on locally available renewable energy sources, to provide the very little amount of electricity required for re-charging the battery that could power these devices for about 7-10 days between chargings, the many remote rural areas would glitter with dependable, steady, ready and smokeless light sources. In many countries, with far less money they spend on domestic lighting by kerosene, the LED lamps can be recharged and battery replaced free at intervals of three years. Owning those lamps could also be made strain free if some micro credit system is there to help them pay up in an year's time from the savings they have from the kerosene budget.

The RE power source could be any one of pico, micro or mini hydro, solar, wind, biogas or DG sets using locally produced vegetable oil (edible or non-edible) with end product as electricity. 5 to 10 kW units can do wonders to hundreds of families and the balance power in the village from these outlets can help build an ICT centre or some post harvest processing or some other community applications. These decentralised, self managed, Energy Kiosks (as UNIDO calls it in Kenya, which is trying to make a beginning with a bang) could usher in a lot of social transformations in remote village communities.

For professionals who are in power and electronics sectors are to think of cheaper current control in LED circuits, projecting an array of devices and lamp packages that will suit every aspirations of the rural

community. It would be nice to help bring the 1.6 billion people who are still in darkness, to the world of modern lighting. Lot of ingenuity and efforts are required to satisfy this new sector, which can boast of several merits over flourescents and other devices having environmental and safety problems at the final disposal stage.

Hope many of our IEEEians in India could spare a little time to ponder over the issues of such a revolution and contribute directly or through their innovative ideas. Rest of the world is ready to take it.

Regards,

Trivandrum
01 Dec '07

V. K. Damodaran, Editor
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IEEE PES Proposes change of Name

Request from Wanda Reder, PES President Elect

Your vote in favor of the Society name change from **IEEE Power Engineering Society** to **IEEE Power & Energy Society** is being requested. Please share this rationale and encourage other PES members to vote on this item of great importance. If you have questions or hesitation to promote this name change, please call us or any of the IEEE PES Governing Board members, so we can discuss your concerns.

Congratulations

Prof. S. V. Sankaran on IEEE IBSC Board

Prof. S. V. Sankaran has been appointed to Individual Benefits & Services Committee (IBSC) Board during the IEEE 2008. Prof. Janina, the R-10 Director feels the presence of Prof. Sankaran on the IBSC Board will serve our Region well. Congratulations, Prof. Sankaran!

R.K.Asthana

Mr. R. K Asthana, immediate past Chair of IEEE India Council, has been chosen for 2006 R 10 Outstanding Volunteer Award. Congratulations, Mr.Asthana !

'When you know a thing, to hold that you know it; and when you do not know a thing, to allow that you do not know it - this is knowledge.'
- Confucius

To

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