



Chairman's Message



Fellow members,

While waiting at the airport some-time back, a gentleman approached me introducing himself as an IEEE member. He saw the 'IEEE Member' sticker (brainchild of veteran IEEE member H L Bajaj, if I remember correct) on my hand bag and that set in motion an IEEE networking and fellowship. We exchanged information

on several fronts ranging from IEEE activities, professional challenges, new knowledge sources etc. That relationship continues today, even after several years.

Why I bring this incident to this forum is to re-emphasise the importance of networking among our members if we have to reap rich benefits from our membership. We, at IEEE, are a forum of professionals with techno-managerial skills with much more scope to utilise them for our own benefits as well as the society. A wider networking among the IEEE community is needed today, more than ever before, as stated last month in this column. Of course, we do meet once or twice in a month for a few hours, quite often as passive listeners of a technical talk and walk off to return on the next such occasion. I urge that the interactions be continuous, to gain more value from our membership.

Can we think of new innovative schemes to foster more involvement among our members? Let us share such ideas through this newsletter.

IEEE student branch of Shri Sant Gajanan Maharaj College of Engineering under Bombay Section has won the prestigious 'Outstanding Student Branch of R10 Award for 2006.' Congratulations to the student members and their able leader Prof. U. A. Rane for bringing this accolade to their institution, thereby to India, through year long programmes of outstanding nature.

Bangalore is gearing up to conduct the star event of the year, INDICON 2007 during September 6-8, 2007. All Sections and IC team may consider lending full support to Bangalore Section to conduct INDICON most successfully.

Engineering Council of India is having its second event at Vadodara on 31 May 2007 and I am hopeful that there will be good participation from Sections.

With best wishes,

N.T. Nair

Chairman, IEEE India Council
ntnair@gmail.com

Trivandrum
01 May '07

POWERCON 2008

IEEE/PES Asia Pacific Region Biennial Conference 2008
& 2008 IEEE Power India Conference
12 – 15 October 2008, New Delhi
At InterContinental The Grand

Important Dates:

Submission of Abstracts	30 Sep 2007
Conveying Acceptance	29 Feb 2008
Submission of Final Papers	30 Jun 2008
Registration of All Delegates	31 Aug 2008

Topics Covered:

- * Power System Analysis, Computing and Economics
- * Power System Models and Dynamic Performance
- * FACTS and HVDC
- * Challenges in Restructured Energy Systems
- * Power System Control and Operation
- * Power System Communication and SCADA
- * Power System Relaying and Protection
- * Energy Management System and Distribution Automation
- * Application of Power Electronics and Power Quality
- * Distributed Power Generation and Renewable Energy Sources
- * Electrical Machines and Drives
- * Utilization of Electrical Energy

Keep Visiting: <http://ewh.ieee.org/r10/delhi/powercon.htm>
Or contact: **Dr. Subrata Mukhopadhyay**
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Visit
http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r10/india_council

From India Council Secretary



Dear IEEE Member,

In this issue, let me introduce to you, a recent IEEE product for members, the IEEE.tv.

IEEE.tv is an Internet broadcasting network. It produces and delivers special-interest programming about technology and engineering, and is available in two versions:

IEEE.tv Member/Basic – Programming that is an exclusive benefit of IEEE membership, offering more technically-advanced topics impacting industry and the engineering community.

IEEE.tv Public Access – Programs that are free to the general public, offering information and guidance about careers in technology and engineering, topics of public interest, and introductions to new IEEE products.

The IEEE.tv can be launched by clicking “launch IEEE.tv” from the IEEE web page www.ieee.org.

A list of featured programmes is available at the IEEE.tv page. Some of these require a web account which is available to the members only.

The programmes available at IEEE.tv cover technical topics as well as general non-technical topics to satisfy the appetite of a wide range of members and public viewers. There are also programmes, which provide valuable information on volunteering. There is something to appeal to everyone.

IEEE.tv is optimized for High Speed Internet Access. It can be played on Windows Media Player or Real Player. If you do not have a player installed, it can be easily downloaded and installed, for which a link is also provided.

I hope IEEE members would make good use of this very valuable resource and popularise it among non-members too.

Cheers!

K G Satheesh Kumar
Secretary, India Council, IEEE

PROF. P. K. CHARLU PASSES AWAY

Prof. Paul Krishnamacharlu of Kadalur, earlier Professor of Electrical Engineering and later Principal of the erstwhile Regional Engineering College, Calicut (Now NIT Calicut) and an active member of the IEEE passed away in April 2007. After retirement from Calicut, he settled in Chennai and had been technically active for a number of years. IEEE India Info condoles the death of Prof. Charlu and pray that his family and the IEEEians in Tamilnadu with whom he spent years of fraternity have strength to bear this untimely loss.

WEBSITE CONTEST RESULTS

of 30 R 10 Student Branches Students from Mumbai Outshine

A letter from Dr. Mini S. Thomas, R 10 SAC Chair (Professor & Head, Department of Electrical Engineering, Jamia Millia Islamia, New Delhi, INDIA, 91 11 26982651 (O), 91 11 26680480(R) www.jmi.nic.in) to all Council, Section and Student Branch Chairs under Region 10 has officially announced the results of the 2007 Website Contest for the Student Branches of R 10. Letter reads as follows:

“I am delighted to declare the results of the R10 Student branch website contest 2007. First let me congratulate the 30 student branches which participated in the contest and from the final scores, it is evident that we had a tough competition. A heartfelt ‘Thank You’ to the judges (outside of R10) who took time to judge the contest which had 6 criteria, with around 40 sub-criteria too for judging.

Congratulations to the following three winning student branches. All the three will be entered in the Inter regional contest. Best wishes!

First Place: US\$ 500

Thodamal Sahani Engineering College, Bombay.
<http://www.ieee-tsec.org>

Second Place: US\$ 350

VESIT, Bombay. <http://www.ieee-vesit.org>

Third Place: US\$ 200

The University of Western Australia, Australia. <http://www.ee.uwa.edu.au/~ieeesb>

Congratulations! Best wishes to all the other Branches, better luck next time!

Let me thank RSR Kazuyuki Sudoh & Dr. Marzuki Khalid for all the help.

- Mini S. Thomas”

At India Council, we feel proud that the first two places were taken by Indian Student Branches - Editor

Conflicting Proverbs!

Birds of same feather flock together, BUT opposites attract.
The best things in life are free, BUT there is no such thing as a free lunch
Silence is golden, BUT the squeaky wheel gets the grease.
All good things come to those who wait, BUT time and tide wait for no man.

There are no passengers on Spaceship Earth. We are all Crew – Marshall McLuhan

CONGRATS Dr. SUBRATA**APPOINTMENT TO TAB SOCIETY REVIEW COMMITTEE**

Dr. Subrata Mukhopadhyay of IEEE Delhi Section and a Member of PES Governing Board in the capacity of Region Representative Asia Pacific, has been appointed as a Member of the TAB Society Review Committee for 2007-2009.

The 6-Member Committee at IEEE level, reviews each of the TAB Technical Societies and Councils, and reports findings to

TAB and provides comments and recommendations to the Society or Council and to TAB.

ENSURE YOUR VOTING RIGHTS

To ensure that you receive your 2007 IEEE Annual Election ballot materials, please verify that your IEEE member profile contains your current postal and e-mail addresses. Please make sure that your member profile information is updated by 12:00 noon EDT (16:00 GMT) on Friday, 29 June 2007. All eligible voting members will be mailed a ballot based on this information on or before 1 September 2007.

To access and update your profile, visit myIEEE (<http://www.ieee.org/myieee>) or the Update Profile Application (<http://www.ieee.org/coa>). If you encounter any problems, contact IEEE Member Services at member-services@ieee.org or at +1 800 678 4333 or +1 732 981 0060.

Loaded Quotes of Modern Age

I have no doubt that we will be successful in harnessing the sun's energy.... If sunbeams were weapons of war, we would have had solar energy centuries ago. ~Sir George Porter

The use of solar energy has not been opened up because the oil industry does not own the sun. ~Ralph Nader

I am the earth, You are the earth. The Earth is dying! You and I are murderers. ~Ymber Delecto

IEEE Office bearers of Delhi Section for 2007

Chair	- Dr. R G Gupta
Executive Vice Chair	- Dr. Ram Nath
Vice Chair	- Dr. V R Singh
Secretary	- Mr. R K Aggarwal
Jt. Secretary	- Mr. Daman Dev Sood
Treasurer	- Dr. S Dharamraja
Past Chair	- Mr. P V Ekande
Members	- Dr. Govind, Dr. Srinivasan Vathsal, Dr. Piyush K Gupta, Dr. Shankar Prakriya, Ms. Rachna Garg, Prof. Mini Thomas, Dr. Ravi Kothari, Ms. Prerna Gaur, Dr. Parma N Gupta

INDIANS LAUDED***Secret of Recruiting Student Members Revealed***

ANNA BOGDANOWICZ in The Institute Online dated 25 April writes an interesting story for the World to listen:

When it comes to getting student members excited about the IEEE, involving them with fun and games is the way to go.

No one knows that better than the IEEE Gujarat Section in India and the IEEE student branch at the Indian School of Mines, in Dhanbad. Read about the events they organized at <http://bmsmail3.ieee.org:80/u/6141/04119145>

PES General Meeting 2007

The PES GM 07 will be held in Tampa, Florida USA from 24 to 28 June 2007. The 2007 General Meeting promises to be the best ever, with hundreds of high-quality technical presentations, super sessions, and a full schedule of committee meetings, tutorials, networking events and activities for you and your family. Participants can exchange ideas with experts in their fields from across the globe, learn about emerging technologies, new situations and innovative solutions covering all aspects of the power engineering spectrum.

Registration Now Open

2007 IEEE Power Engineering Society
General Meeting Scheduled for June 24-28, 2007

In Tampa, Florida, USA

http://www.ieee.org/PES_GM2007

A REQUEST

We get many reports from Sections, student branches etc in formats not fit for cut and paste or editing. Needless to say that copying introduces errors and omissions. Apart from that, one could use the time used for re-typing for more serious work in the professional field. So, please send a soft copy, even if you want us to see the illustrations etc through reports in other formats.

Likewise, we get group photos without a foot note covering the names of the persons in it. Please give the list of names at the back of the photo or on a slip pasted to one edge of the picture.

- Editorial Board

Technology News

Bioplastics That Can Be Broken Down to Liquid Fuel

Researchers at New York's Polytechnic University have bioengineered a fuel-latent plastic from plant-derived fatty acids that can subsequently be broken down into a diesel-like liquid fuel for use in generators. Professor Richard Gross, director of Polytechnic University's National Science Foundation (NSF) Center for Biocatalysis and Bioprocessing of Macromolecules (CBBM) developed the new bioplastic. He partnered with DNA 2.0, a biotechnology company specializing in gene synthesis, to develop the enzymes that can both synthesize and break down the fuel-latent plastic after its use.

About this, Prof. Gross said: We showed DARPA that we could make a new plastic from plant oils that has remarkable properties, which includes being tougher and more durable than typical polyethylenes. Additionally, the bioplastic can be placed in a simple container, where it is safely broken down to liquid fuel.

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency's (DARPA) Mobile Integrated Sustainable Energy Recovery (MISER) program has awarded the researchers \$2.34 million to advance this technology and transfer it to industry.

The DARPA work is designed specifically to achieve nearly complete plastic packaging waste reduction while harnessing 90% of the packaging energy content for use in electricity generation.

A plastic wrapper could be fuel tomorrow, writes Mathew L. Wald from Washington and it seems Pentagon is seriously looking at this technology for processing the military wastes and the like.

In fact plastics in wastes can be converted to electricity by an older technology, which needs costly autoclaving and breaking its elements. But, bioplastics are truly environment friendly.

Editorial

IEEE and Societal Interface



As the most respected professional society in the world, having the largest member base for decades, IEEE has always emphasized its social responsibility. Its members are more than fortunate and are open to a sea of professional knowledge and its Sections all over the world, grouped under 10 Regions geographically segregated are conducting very valuable technical programmes, as is evident from the large number of announcements that comes to us. These, no doubt enrich the members' professional kitty and acts as a back up in case one is unsure of the right path on subject matters. Through such enrichment, they are bound to raise the technical competence of the professional work force in the respective countries. India's technology surge during the last one to two decades at least can be traced partly to this kind of nourishment in the electronic, electrical, information technology and allied areas aided by societies such as IEEE, CSI etc.

However, our nation is fast re-building to be a technology leader in the coming decade and this goal is more than likely to be met with, if current trends are any indication. To achieve and sustain such technological supremacy, the country has to take the people with the technology tide at more than one level. Also, a society can "afford" to have the fruits of technology for themselves much faster than ever, if they were sensitized and familiarized with the trends, benefits and risks with fast changing technology upsurge that we witness today. This is where the societal interface of professional societies such as IEEE becomes important to creating a better environment for the professionals to work and economic boom for the public at large, through choice applications of Science & Technology.

How do we open such an interface? The Sections can plan at least one interface activity every alternate month with the society and see how their needs can be felt by the professionals and let them know how professionals also could become guiding spirits who can be taken into confidence. Every Section EC has Members at Large or Senior Members under their hold, who could be used to construct bridges with the society, aided very well by the Student Branches and Women In Engineering Groups. Please think it over!

Trivandrum
2007 May 01

Prof. V. K. Damodaran, Editor
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To

IEEE India Info

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