As It Was In The Beginning

The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers
IEEE
Region 8 Newsletter

No 100 - November 1992
Europe, Middle East and Africa

MESSAGE FROM THE DIRECTOR OF REGION 8.

This is the first issue of a new publication to serve the members of Region 8 and which carries the good wishes of the President and Board of Directors.

As you will know, the IEEE is organized on a world-wide basis into ten Regions, of which Region 8 extends over Europe, the Middle East and North Africa, with a membership of over 4000 including some 300 students organized in 11 Sections and 5 student branches.

While the members residing in Section areas have their own lines of communication, and students have had their own Newsletter, there has so far been no Region-wide publication and it is hoped that this Newsletter, issued two or three times a year, will fill this communication gap and enable all members of all grades to feel that they are part of a Regional organization.

Copies of the Newsletter will be mailed direct to all members, including students; editorial policy is under the control of an international committee of which Jean Lebel, the immediate Past-Director, is Chairman; the Editor is Bill Devenish, who has been the Editor of the U.K.R.I. Newsletter and the proposed make-up will cover Institute announcements of particular interest to the Region and Regional, Section and Student news. Not only will this inform everyone of the various sectional and student activities, but it is hoped will also stimulate membership and the formation of new sections and student branches within the Region.

In wishing this new publication every success, I would like to thank all those whose work has helped to make it possible, and to close by reminding all of us that its future depends on the extent to which it is of service to members and that this, in turn, depends on the support it receives from each and every one of us.

Robert C.G. Williams
Editorial Board:
Mr. J.D. Lebel (Chairman) Past-Director & Vice-Chairman Region 8 Executive Committee
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Mr. G. Amer
Dr. E. David
Dr. L. Rohde
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Professor G. Barzilai
Professor O. Francini
Professor G. Bolinder
Mr. G. Guanelli
Mr. F.J. Lane
Professor A. Vander Vorst
Mr. C.R. Russell

I was born one hundred issues ago, on the kitchen table of a house in the ancient town of Guildford, England. Dr. R.C.G. Williams (then Director of Region 8) attended as obstetrician, his wife Molly turning the handle of a reproductive device, the latest of the high technology then available to the maternity ward; the entire delivery was completed in the total absence of any form of electric effluvia.

In my formative years Bill Devenish acted as editorial nursemaid, my general wellbeing and growth remaining under the original and ever watchful obstetric eye: I prospered.

Later there arrived another editor, accompanied by cosmetic changes. Critical and laudatory commentators, printers and mailers having an infinite patience with editorial naivety, and "foreign" authors displaying an embarrassing competence in the English language: each has contributed to Region 8 News

From the IEEE President

Dear Editor,

I am delighted to hear that Region 8 News has just become a centenarian; my heartfelt congratulations. The increasingly international character of the IEEE invites some practical demonstration of the Institute’s collaborative role in the engineering profession, a role which enables it to contribute in no small measure to the wellbeing of society - Region 8 News fulfils that function admirably. I look forward to the next 100 issues. Continued Success and Best Regards,

Merrill W. Buckley, Jr.
1992 IEEE President.
France
By Mme Frédérique Vallée

Conférences:
En association avec d'autres sociétés, la section France de la région 8 apporte son soutien aux conférences suivantes:-


INTELEC 93, Conférence Internationale [Paris, Palais des Congrès, 27-30 septembre 1993], (inf.: SEE, 48, rue de la Procession, 75015 Paris, tel.: (33) 1 45 67 07 70, fax: (33) 1 40 65 92 29).

Nous avons le plaisir de vous annoncer la préparation des conférences suivantes:-

COMPEURO 93, Computers in Design and manufacturing [Evry, 24-27 mai 93], (inf. M. Michel Israël - Université d'Evry Val d'Essonne, boulevard des Copibus, 91025 Evry Cedex, France, tel : (33) 1 69 47 70 74 /70 73, fax : (33) 1 64 97 27 34, e-mail : israel @ enam.enam.fr),-


Dans le cadre des accords passés entre l'A.R.E. et la Section française de l'I.E.E.E., nous annonçons les conférences suivantes:-

"Evolution des transmissions militaires d'infrastructure" (par le Général Maion - 2 décembre 1992).


"L'industrie électronique japonaise" (par Jean Mariani, ingénieur en chef de l'Armement, ancien Conseiller Scientifique près l'ambassade de France à Tokyo, Direction Internationale de Thomson-CSF - 3 mars 1993)

"Le concept de qualité dans les composants électroniques (et le test des Circuits Intégrés)" (par Claude Leclercq, L.C.I.E, 31 mars 1993)


Ces conférences auront lieu à 17h, dans la salle no 11 de la FIEE, située au quatrième étage du 11 rue Galilée, PARIS 16ème - Métro Boisserie ou Île de la Cité. L'entrée est gratuite. Des rafraîchissements sont servis pour clôturer sympathiquement la séance. Pour tout renseignement ou confirmation, s'adresser à Mme Birckel, 193, rue du Faubourg Saint-Martin, 75010 Paris, tel: (1) 46 07 40 77.

Section Chairman: Dr. Maurice G. Bellanger, 54 Rue de Rennes, 75006 Paris, France. Tel: +33 140 947516. Fax: +33 146 306224

Benelux
By Professor P. Dewilde

CompEuro '92, sponsored by Region 8 and the Computer Society, was jointly organised by the Benelux Section and Delft University of Technology; it took place in the Hague in May 1992. The Conference was attended by over 280 and offered a large selection of lectures, tutorials, and invited and contributed papers. Participants were unanimous in praising the scope and scientific quality of the Conference. There was a strong interdependence between the many fields of Computer Science, prominent among which was logic programming. The research and development community is gradually understanding how computers can act as intelligent agents in a multitude of applications, for which logic programming is providing the necessary basis. Other important topics were:

Logic synthesis using binary decision diagrams, strategic decision analysis, public key systems and packaging systems for high speed high power computing

A book containing an edited series of Tutorials and Lectures has been published by Kluwer: "Computer Systems and Software Engineering, State of the Art". Copies are available to Region 8 members at a discount price of US$90 or NG140. Contact: Mrs. C. Boers, PO Box 5031, 2600GA Delft, The Netherlands. Please send a cheque or ask for a Visa or Master Card charge form.

Section Chairman: Professor J.B.H. Peek, Dennenlaan 10, NL-5671 RX Nuenen, The Netherlands.

U.K.R.I.
(MTT/ED/AP Joint Chapter)
By Mr. Terry H. Oxley

Future Chapter 1992 Events Include:

* 26-27th November 1992. Workshop on "Microwave Optics" Organised by the French MTT Chapter in co-operation with the UKRI Chapter in the Domaine de Seillas, near Tours in France. Contact: Dr. A.J. Seeds, Dept. of Electronic and Electrical Engineering, University College London, WClE 7JE. Tel: 071 387 7050. Fax: 071 387 4350

* 9th December 1992. Evening Lecture on "Microwave Applications of High Tc Superconductors" by Dr. Andrew Phillips, Contact: Dr. J.K.A.Everard, GEC Hirst Research Centre at King's College Strand, London. Contact: Department of Electronic & Electrical Engineering, WC2R 2LS. Tel: 071 873 2744. Fax: 071 836 4781.

1993 plans include evening lectures in England and Ireland, a technical meeting on European contributions to the '93 MTT-S Int. Mic. Symp., and joint European Chapter sponsorship of CAE Workshop in Germany.

Chapter Chairman: Mr. Terry H. Oxley, "Tremont", Back Lane, Halam, Southwell, Newark, Notts NG22 8AG. Tel: +44 036 815510. Fax: +44 836 815865.

Region 8 News is not an official publication of the IEEE. The views expressed are those of the authors.
Advanced Intelligent Networks

22 March 1993
a one-day tutorial

by
Celia Desmond, Associate Director
Advanced Services Development
Bell Canada

what AIN is
building AIN trials
what services AIN can provide
issues in introducing AIN

Region 8 Help Desk Established in Field Services

Field Services has established a Help Desk for individual members' problems. You may contact it by using any of the following:

Telephone ... (908) 562-5501
... Monday - Friday
... 8.00am - 4.00 pm
... (G.M.T. minus 5 hours)

E-mail ... region8.help@ieee.org
(internet)

Fax ... (908) 463-3657

Postal ... Region 8 Help Desk
... Field Services
... 445 Hoes Lane,
... Piscataway
... NJ 08855-1331, U.S.A.

This service is being offered to assist members with problems related to their membership of the IEEE. Field Services Department will follow up a problem, obtain a solution and provide an answer.

Egypt
By Professor Abdel-Latif

Formation of a Subsection in Alexandria and North Delta

About 40% of the Section members are located in Alexandria and North Delta. In order to extend the activities of the Egypt Section sufficient signatures have been obtained to form a Subsection. The application has been forwarded to IEEE Headquarters. Prof. Mahmoud Shabana, Vice-dean for graduate studies in the Faculty of Engineering, Alexandria University was chosen as the Interim Chairman of the Subsection.

Awards
The Section has established an award in the name of the late Prof. Dr. Abd-El Samieh Mostafa, Fellow IEEE, who was one of the founders of the Section. The profit from an Investment Certificate (LE 1000) will be given to the top graduate of the Communication department of the Alexandria Faculty of Engineering.

Further, all top graduates (one from each Department of Electrical Engineering, Communication, Electronics & Computers) will be awarded a first year free membership of the IEEE. The cost will be covered by the Egypt Section.

Section Chairman: Professor Ahmed I. Agdel-Latif,
59 Madinet El-flam, FL410 Agouza, Cairo, Egypt
Tel: +3910 3532 711 Fax: +411 251 2504

Data Compression for Voice Image and Video Signals

19, 20, 21 April 1993
to be given by Dr. F. Marvasti
Editor for Modulation and Signal Design
IEEE Transactions on Communications

An intensive course, covering both theory and practical applications, for engineers in the telecommunications or TV Broadcasting industries and those with an interest in signal processing.

Details from: Continuing Education Unit, King's College London.
Cornwall House Annexe, Waterloo Road, London SE1 BTX.
Tel: +44 71 872 3055/6. Fax: +44 71 872 3070
**CompEuro '93 Deadline Extended**

The deadline for submission of papers for CompEuro '93 has been extended to December 1st 1992. CompEuro '93 will be held in Paris/Evry on May 24-27th with the general theme of:

**Computers in Design, Manufacture and Production**

Including the following main topics:

* Automated Manufacturing Systems
* CAD/CAM
* Machine Control
* Integration
* Industrial Products and Applications

Please submit four copies of the full text in English to:

CompEuro '93
c/o SEE
48 rue de la Procession
75724 Paris, Cedex 15, France

For information call: +33 1 44 49 6060 or Fax: +33 1 44 49 60 44

Student Members of IEEE and SEE will be admitted free of charge

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**For Students,**

By Gözde Bozdagi

In my opinion, for students, the Transnational Meetings are becoming one of the main events in Region 8, in addition to the student paper contests. This year it was held in Turkey on 1-15 August under the leadership of Bilkent Student Branch. 48 students from 7 different countries attended this meeting. The students had the chance to see many of the many cultural sites of Turkey. In addition, some companies and universities were visited. I must confess that the weather is very hot in Turkey during that time of the year and the distances the participants had to cover was extremely great. But the friendship they established and the fun they had overcame all of the problems. I want to thank both the participants and the organizers for making this meeting a great event; and I repeat again : If you have not attended a TNM yet, do not miss the next one.

Now for some little problems. During the TNM we had a discussion on the problems experienced by student branches. We may try to solve some of these among ourselves but others can only be solved by headquarters. First, there is a problem of funding. It is always nice to get the money from the IEEE, but if we can't, why don't we try to find some ourselves. Commercial companies are the best choice; try to make them more interested in IEEE. Also newspapers can be used for advertisement of IEEE, like the SB in Graz has done. We have also some problems with e-mail. IEEE News group has not been active for a long time but now Dave Green, the Vice Chairman of IEEE's Student Activities Committee and the chairman of the E-Mail Committee, is trying to reactivate it. His e-mail address is (dgreen@ENGSYS.ENG.UAB.EDU or d.green@ieee.org). Also, we have another list in Region 8; Become a member of it by sending your address to Petri Solanti (ps0@cs.tut.fi) and try to keep it active. Any information concerning your activities may be helpful to other branches, so try to describe them by means of the net.

Gözde Bozdagi Bilkent University, Dept. Elec. Eng., 06533, Ankara, Turkey e-mail: bozdagi@trbilun.bitnet

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**Finland**

By Mr. Aarno Lehtola and Mr. Jari Jokiniemi

December 17 (Thursday) at 15.00. The annual section meeting will be held at Imatra Voima Corp. Address: Rajatorpantie 8 A. New section officers will be elected. Advance registration is desirable. Contact: Aarno Lehtola, Tel. 90-456 6032, Jari Jokiniemi, Tel. 90-456 6009.

November 6: Symposium on "Intelligence in Embedded and Real-Time Systems", at the Helsinki University of Technology in lecture hall E starting at 10.00 and ending at approximately 17.00. Contact: Computer Chapter Chairman Prof. Olli Simula, Tel: (+358 0) 451 32 71, e-mail olli.simula@hut.fi or Aarno Lehtola, Tel. (+358 0) 456 60 32, e-mail aarno.lehtola@vtt.fi.

February 1-5, 1993: MTT/AP Chapter will organize the Bi-isotropics'93 Workshop at the Helsinki University of Technology. The focus is on the theory and applications of novel microwave and millimetre wave materials, like chiral, magnetic, and bi-isotropic media. Contact Ari Sihvola: Electromagnetics Laboratory, Helsinki University of Technology, SF-02100 Espoo, Finland; tel. (358)-0-451 2261, fax (358)-0-451 2267, e-mail ari.sihvola@hut.fi.

Note that MTT/AP Chapter elections were held on August 18th. The new Chapter Chairman is Esa Kemppinen tel. (358)-0-456 5605 and Vice Chairman is Jouko Aurinsalo (358)-0-456 5606 both from the Technical Research Centre of Finland. Ari Sihvola from the Electromagnetics Laboratory of Helsinki University of Technology continues as the Secretary/Treasurer.

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**Zdrahstvoyt'eh**

(Greetings)

By Irving Engelson

Director Technical Activities

During my recent visit to Russia, Latvia and Lithuania I presented lectures to engineers and scientists in Moscow, St.Petersburg and Vilnius. The discussions which followed revealed an interest in the IEEE and in modern management.

All of these countries are undergoing a difficult transition in the conversion to democracy and a free market economy. Engineers there understand the importance of a technical society to coordinate activities and serve as a focal point for the exchange of ideas. They have a sincere desire to develop strong relationships with their counterparts in other countries.

During my two week vacation I encountered hope for a brighter future and enthusiasm for the formation of IEEE Sections. I returned with optimism and an appreciation of the difficulties faced by our colleagues in that part of the world.
Germany

By Professor Walter Pröbster

Student Branch Munich - E-Mail Bulletin Board

The Student Branch at the Technical University Munich, with Professor Entemann as its Student Counsellor, and Peter Hastreiter Student Chairman, has enjoyed recently a healthy growth to about 100 Student members, in part by the addition of students from Computer Science in the University's Informatik Faculty.

The Branch is engaged in various activities and seeks contacts with other Branches in our Region. In particular, an E-mail bulletin board is being set up to inform Students on interesting activities: excursions, summer and spring vacation jobs, study opportunities, student contests etc., aimed at enhancing the value of IEEE Student membership. Also a comprehensive E-mail address list is being compiled. Additional information for the E-mail bulletin board and its included address is urgently requested from Students in other Branches and Sections of our Region. Please send information to Peter Hastreiter - E-mail: ohneberg@informatik.tu-muenchen.de

Sweden

By Anders Derneryd

Electromagnetic Day

On October 19th a well-attended Electromagnetic Day was arranged in Mönndal, with the following programme:

- "Understanding Radiated Field Measurements"**, by Thomas Dvorak from ETH in Zurich, Switzerland
- "Antennas and Propagation in Mobile Communications - some recent Developments"**, by Jorgen Bach Anddersen from Aalborg University in Aalborg, Denmark
- "Opto-electronic Techniques for Phased Array Antennas" by Alwyn Seeds from UCL in London, U.K.
- "Array Antennas for Space Applications", by Robert Petersson from Saab Ericsson in Göteborg, Sweden
- "Microwave Applications of New Superconducting Materials", by Orest G. Vendik from Technical University of St. Petersburg in St. Petersburg, Russia.

EMC Education

The EMC Chapter has formed an committee to promote EMC education (in a broad sense) at technical universitites within Sweden. The Chairman is Torbjörn Karlsson. Share your ideas with him on the phone: 013-212430.

Membership Development

The total number of members in the Sweden Section was 914 in August. This is an increase of 12% compared with last year. However, each year there is a rather large drop in membership due to late payment. Now is the time to renew your membership for 1993.

Annual Meeting

The Sweden Section annual meeting is planned to take place in Göteborg during January next year. A separate notice will be mailed to all members together with the annual report.

Section Chairman: Dr. Piotr Starski, Chalmers University of Technology, Division of Network Theory, S-412 96 Göteborg, Sweden .Tel: 031-7721734, Fax: 031-7721561. E-mail: piotr@nt.chalmers.se (UUCP).

Slovenia

By Professor Baldomir Zajc

At the beginning of this year we formed a new Section in place of the old Yugoslavia Section. which had existed quite fruitfully for some 20 years; all internal connections were cut and new independent states were established. In July 1992 the formation three Sections was approved, among them was the Slovenia Section; we of course continued last year as if our Section were approved.

We organised eight special conferences and workshops in the same place and at the same time at the end of September. This enabled the attendees to follow their interdisciplinary interests and to visit a number of the invited lectures. The event was accepted very warmly and we plan to establish such activities every year. A Student Paper Contest was held.

Chapter Chairman: Prof. Baldomir Zajc, Fakulteta za Elektrotehniko, Trzaska 25, 61000 Ljubljana, Slovenia

Switzerland

By Professor Malek G.M. Hussain

Since September 1991 the Board of Officers of the Section has held twelve meetings to resume Section activities, which were halted due to the Iraqi invasion and occupation of Kuwait. On March 22nd 1992 the Board was reorganised to include newly elected officers; the Student Branch at Kuwait University was reactivated at the beginning of the 1991 academic year.

Extensive efforts are being made to establish new IEEE Student Branches at the College of Technological Studies and at other academic institutions in Kuwait. On April 22nd the Section held a National Symposium entitled @High Technology in REbuilding Kuwait@ as part of the celebrations for the first anniversary of the liberation of Kuwait. The symposium was sponsored by the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Science, Kuwait University, and the College of Technological Studies. The Section is planning an IEEE International Conference to be held in Kuwait during the autumn of 1993.

Vice-chairman: Kuwait Section

Kuwait

By Professor Malek G.M. Hussain

At the 1991 International Geoscience and Remote Sensing Symposium, two members of the Switzerland Section were honoured.

Prof. Schanda for his "Technical contributions to remote sensing and microwave signature research" and Prof. Klaus I. Itten for his "Outstanding service for the benefit and advancement of the Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society".

By Dr. Kiyo Tomiyasu, Geoscience and Remote Sensing Society Awards
**Saudi Arabia**

*By Mr. Jasafar M. Al-Ibrim*

After a low profile 1991 due to hostilities, the Saudi Arabia Section is resuming its normal activities. Membership Development is improving and shows a positive increase. The Section has conducted dinner meetings in Al Jubail and Riyadh in order to re-activate the sub-sections in those cities and it is encouraging committed volunteer members to put more effort into the development of the sub-sections.

*Section Chairman: Mr. Jasafar M. Al-Ibrim, IEEE/Region 8 Committee Meeting in May*

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**Poland**

*By Professor Zhigniew H. Czyz*

At the end of August 1992 the Section had 187 active members, including 12 Students, and 33 arrears, including 5 Students. Many of the arrears are still caused by delays in the processing of our cheques by Headquarters; that is why, in order to improve our dues payment procedure, we were trying through the IEEE Transnational Office to open our bank account at the Warsaw branch of an American bank. Now, after the closure of the Transnational Office, we have the problem of how to continue our efforts since May 1992 we have organised 12 Technical meetings. Two lectures were given by Professor F.L. Stumpers: "Mobile Communication Systems" and "The European Community and Research on Communications". We have also co-sponsored three technical conferences: "Optical and Electronic Sensors - COE '92 in May; an International Conference on Electronics and the 2nd

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**Bi-isotropics '93**

*Novel Microwave Materials*

Workshop in Espoo, Finland, February 1993

There will be no registration fee. Russian and Belarussian experts in the field of optical activity have been invited.

Contact: Dr. Ari Siivola, Helsinki University of Technology Electromagnetics Laboratory, SF-02150 Espoo, Finland.
Tel: (358) 0-4512261 Fax: (358) 0-4512267 E-mail: arsiivola@hut.fi

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**Brussels, Belgium**

**12-16th April 1993**

2nd IMACS Symposium

*Mathematical & Intelligent Models in System Simulation*

Prof. H. Hanus, Free University of Brussels, av. F.D.Roosevelt 50, 1050 Brussels, Belgium. Tel: 32 2650 2613 Fax: 32 2650 2677 E-mail: imacs@ulb.ac.be

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**European Conference on Circuit Theory and Design**

August 30 - September 3, 1993

Papers are invited on the following topics:

- Circuit Design
- Mathematical Methods
- Signal Processing
- Computer Methods
- Part of the Conference will be devoted to tutorials given by selected specialists on current topics of interest.

**Author's Schedule**

Submission of Full Papers - January 15 1993
Notification of Acceptance - May 1, 1993
Camera ready Copy - June 30, 1993

The 1993 European Conference on Circuit Theory and Design will be held in Davos, Switzerland, at the Davos Congress Center. Davos is a mountain resort less than 3 hours by train from the Zurich Airport.

Further information can be obtained from:

Mrs. R. Agotai, Phone: +41 1 256 51 93.
Fax: +41 1 262 23. E-mail: ecctd93@isi.eth

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**Prosperous 1993**

A Very Happy End of Year Holiday and a Prosperous 1993 to all our Readers

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**February Copy Date = January 12th 1993**
January 1993
17-20. Tampere, Finland. IEEE WINTER WORKSHOP ON NONLINEAR DIGITAL SIGNAL PROCESSING. P. Haavisto, Tampere Univ. of Tech., POB 555, Tampere, Finland.

March 1993
09-11. Zurich, Switzerland. EMC '93 - 10th INT. SYMPOSIUM ON ELECTROMAGNETIC COMPATIBILITY. EMC Zurich '93, ETH Zentrum-IKT, 8092 Zurich Switzerland.
24-26. Lucca, Italy. 2nd INT. WORKSHOP CONF. ON SOFTWARE REUSABILITY. IWSR'92. IEEE CS.

April 1993

May 1993
04-06. Florence, Italy. NINTH OPTICAL FIBRES SENSORS CONFERENCE. AEI.
23-26. Geneva, Switzerland. IEE '93 - IEEE INT. CONF. ON COMMUNICATIONS. Prof. P. Leuthold, ETH-Zentrum, CH-8092 Zurich, Switzerland.

25-27. Sindelfingen, Germany. MIOP '93 MICROWAVE & OPTRONICS CONF. ON UHF ENGINEERING. Network Gmbh, Wilhelm-Suhr-Str. 14, D-3055, Hagenburg, Germany

June 1993
01-03. Budapest, Hungary. ISIE '93 IEEE INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM ON INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS. Dr. Ozyay Kaynak, Bogazici University, 80815 Bebek, Istanbul, Turkey.
27-6-01.07. Trondheim Norway. ISIT '94 - INT. SYMP. ON INFORMATION THEORY. Torleiv Maseng, SINTEF DELAB, N-7034.

September 1993
30.08-01.09. Athens, Greece. ATHENS POWER TECH - JOINT INT. POWER CONFERENCE ON PLANNING OPERATION AND CONTROL IN TODAY ELECTRIC POWER SYSTEMS. Prof. B.C.Papadias, National Technical University, EE Dept., 42 Patission St., 106 82 Athens, Greece.
30.08-03.09. Davos, Switzerland. EDDTD '93 - EUROPEAN CONF. ON CIRCUIT THEORY AND DESIGN. R.Agotal, ETH Zentrum, Ch8092, Zurich, Switzerland.
12-16. Montreux, Switzerland. ECOC '93 - 19TH EUROPEAN CONF. ON OPTICAL COMMUNICATIONS. SEV.
20-24. Liege, Belgium. 11th INT. CONF. ON POWER STATIONS. Ch. Lacrosse, AIM, 31 Rue Saint Gilles, B-4000, Liege, Belgium.

October 1993

IEE Conf. Dept.
Savoy Place, Victoria Embankment
London, WC2R OBL, England

AFRICON '92
By Dr. Jacob Baal-Schem
This, the third All-African Conference, was held in the Ezulwini Valley, Swaziland from 22nd-24th September 1992. The principal sponsors were: the South African Institute of Electrical Engineers, the Foundation for Research and Development, the South African Section, and Region 8. The main themes of the Conference were: telecommunications, Energy, and Education, all in relation to the requirements of Africa.
An audience of some four hundred was present to hear His Majesty King Mawati III of Swaziland conduct the opening ceremony; the King was accompanied by the full Swazi cabinet and the audience included representatives from some forty nations. Professor Daan van Wyck acted as Conference Chairman, and Professor K. Richter gave the opening lecture. Mr. Meril Buckley, IEEE President, was unable to attend owing to illness; he sent his greetings.
From the two hundred and fifty abstracts submitted, the Programme Committee accepted one hundred and seventy papers; these were presented in two Plenary sessions, six Parallel sessions, fifteen Dialogue sessions and six Workshop sessions.
The Conference proved to be an excellent occasion for establishing contacts between engineers from South Africa, the United States, Europe and African states. The theme of Education and Technology aroused considerable interest among the delegates, especially in view of the modern means now available for the distribution of knowledge.
The enthusiasm of the participants for these Conferences was evident. Representatives from both African and non-African countries were nominated to assist with the organisation of the next AFRICON.
In his closing speech the success of the conference was expressed by Prof. P.W.van der Walt, past Chairman of the South Africa Section: "AFRICON '92 has changed the face of Electrical Engineering in Africa".
Conference Record Entries Cost £30 (sterling) each
Published in February, May, August and November
Deadlines: 15th January, April, July, October.
Copy to the Editor, Region 8 News

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Circulation: to 30000

A Selective Mailing service, on a Geographical or Members' interests basis, is available: details may be obtained from the Editor.

Copy to the Editor, Region 8 News, "Sandstones", Crookskbury Road, Runfold, Farnham, Surrey, GU10 1GB, England
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