Hallo, Hallo!

The activities of the Sections and Chapters are now being scheduled for the second half of 1996; I sincerely hope that all members in the Region will have an opportunity to attend interesting Section/Chapter meetings several times during the year. We should, however, not forget the established Regional conferences, Melecon and Africon, and the increasing number of Societies that have found attractive venues in the Region.

Section Anniversaries

During the Region 8 Committee meeting on June 2nd in Helsinki, the Croatia, Slovenia and Yugoslavia Sections were presented with special IEEE banners celebrating their 25th anniversary. The Yugoslavia section was established on June 21st 1971 in Ljubljana, where Professor Baldomir Zajc and his colleagues at the Electrotechnical faculty have hosted several IEEE meetings and conferences.

Chapter Coordination

In Region 8 we support strongly the creation of new Chapters. Most Societies now appreciate that there are advantages in reaching their members in countries outside the United States and in many cases they provide some very practical support and advice to Chapters; this year for instance the Power Society is holding its summer meeting in Germany. The Distinguished Lecturers programme is gradually being extended, but support from it to the Societies varies considerably. In order to encourage the Societies to increase their support for Chapter activities in the Regions outside the U.S., the Regional and Technical Activities Boards are recommending that the Societies should establish committees for Chapter Coordination; e.g. the Control Systems Society established a Transnational committee at least 10 years ago.

In order to improve Chapter coordination within the Region, we have established a well functioning Chapter Coordination Committee (R8CCC), chaired by Professor Basil Papadias from Greece. Additionally, the R8CCC chairman has appointed five members from the larger Societies. In June last the Region 8 Committee approved the appointment of representatives from the Society-Chapter Coordination Committees as Corresponding members of the R8CCC.

The Board of Directors has decided that all mandatory assessments will be frozen at the level they attained in June of this year, consequently the Region 8 assessment will be maintained at $11. According to the proposed new bylaws any additional services to members must be financed either by the sale of products and services, or by additional assessment only when approved by a majority of the members involved.

The funding of Regional Activities will be assured by the proposed formulation of new IEEE Bylaws. Your Regional Director has strongly stressed the importance of Regional support of member services and the training of elected officers in the Sections and Chapters, a support which is possible only when financed through the Regional Assessment.

Election of the President-Elect 1997

The IEEE President for 1998 (President-elect 1997) will be elected this autumn. The candidates are Vijay K. Bhargava, who is a professor at the University of Victoria, Canada, and Joseph Bordogna, Director of Engineering in the National Science Foundation of America. I recommend that your vote should go to the transnational candidate: Vijay Bhargava.

“Implementation Committee for Structural Reorganisation”,

During the Memphis and Montreal meetings changes in the Bylaws were proposed. In addition, new Bylaws have been formulated for the Regional Activities Board, the Technical Activities Board and the IEEE-USA (previously the United States Activities Board); the Standards Board will become a committee under the Executive Board.

Volunteers are needed

All IEEE activities in the Sections and Chapters are dependent on volunteers. We realise that most members in the Region have joined the IEEE in order to subscribe to the technical publications, but it is also beneficial to meet colleagues at technical meetings; volunteers are needed for the continuance of these local activities. At least every second year, there should be an election of Section/Chapter officers; please consider volunteering when next the elections are announced.

Best Wishes

Peer Martin Larsen

Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers
Regional Director: Prof. P. Martin Larsen
A diploma of the Honorary Member of the Russian Popov Society for radio engineering, electronics and communications has been presented to Dr. Theodore W. Hissey - IEEE Executive Director. The presentation was made by Dr. Heinrich Lantsberg, IEEE Russia Section vice-chair, on behalf of its President Prof. Yuri Gulyaev. The citation of the diploma reads as follows:

"Dr. T.W.Hissey has been elected an Honorary Member of the Russia Popov Society in recognition of his distinguished contribution in developing and furthering cooperation between the IEEE, the Russian Popov Society, the Russia Section and the IEEE Chapters."

The presentation ceremony took place on June 2nd 1996 during the Region 8 committee meeting in Helsinki, Finland.

Dr. Lantsberg also informed the committee that Dr. Charles A. Eldon - 1985 IEEE President - had been elected an Honorary Member of the Society in recognition of his distinguished contribution to the re-establishment of good relations between the two Societies, and to the development of mutual cooperation between the IEEE and the Russian Popov Society. Dr. Eldon's diploma will be presented during the November IEEE Sections' Congress in Denver, Colorado.

"These awards will contribute substantially to further cooperation, for the benefit of both Societies."

The Netherlands
Eindhoven Student Branch
Study Tour 1996
By Mr. M.W.Krom

Every year the Eindhoven Student Branch organises a study tour for students of the Eindhoven University of Technology; this year we visited Bari in Italy where the Region 8 Melecon was held. On this occasion our particular interest was the Student Paper Contest.

Organisation
In September 1995 the travel committee "TICKET" of the branch began preparations for a two week tour. The committee, which consisted of a number of students, had the difficult task of arranging an interesting programme, obtaining financial support, encouraging participants and arranging sleeping accommodation.

The Programme
The duration of the tour was thirteen days, it consisted of visits to companies and IEEE entities in the north, central and southern Italy - in all, six sites were visited. We started in Turin, and then visited Milan, Parma, Florence, Rome and Bari. In each city we were introduced to cultural sites and museums; our itinerary also included excursions to local electrotechnical companies and laboratories.

We were very impressed by the opportunities and possibilities available from an organisation such as the IEEE. This was particularly apparent during our trip to Milan, where we received substantial help from Professor Gandelli of the North Italy Section.

Excursions
In Parma and Rome the local Student Branches organised several interesting visits. The conversations were not all on a technical level, we very much enjoyed discussing culture, politics and educational matters with our Italian friends.

We visited seven companies and research laboratories. A broad spectrum of electrotechnical topics was covered, from high power applications to software development. Our tour included:

- CSELT (Telecom)
- CESI (High power applications and robotics)
- CISE (Laser and Solar Cells)
- ATM (Control centre for public transport in Milan)
- DATA SYSTEMS (Software development & client servers)
- SELTA (Telecom)
- EUROSAOLARE (Solar Cells)

Student Paper Contest - Melecon
At the end of the tour came the Student Paper Contest. We were welcomed by Professor Onural (Student activities Committee) and Professor Acciani (Melecon organiser). One of the candidates in the contest was Marc Geilen, a student from Eindhoven, and a member of our tour party. At the SPC, six presentations were given, all of them very interesting. Despite an excellent paper by Marc Geilen and the support of ten students, the jury decided to give first prize to our colleague from Delft. At the conclusion of the SPC Professor Acciani invited the party to the Gala Dinner.

Acknowledgements
During the thirteen days we visited a number of interesting companies and learned much about Italy. This would not have been possible without the support of Professor Gandelli, Professor Acciani, Professor Onural, SB Parma, SB Rome, the Benelux Section, Region 8 and the North Italy Section.

Student Branch Secretary: Mr. M.W.Krom, Eindhoven University of Technology, Faculty of Engineering, EH6.17 Den Dolech, PO Box 513, 5600 MB Eindhoven, The Netherlands.
Tel: +31 (0) 4024 7 3433. Fax: +31 (0) 40 244 8375.
E-mail: sb.eindhoven@ieee.org

Nottingham, UK

Power Electronics and Variable Speed Drives
Contact: IEE Conference Services
Savoy Place, London WC2R 0BL, UK
Tel: +44 (0)171 344 5469. Fax: +44 (0) 171 240 8830
E-mail: jchopping@ieee.org.uk
Student Paper Contest

A Student competition for junior students studying radioengineering was organised by St. Petersburg Electrotechnical University and several other universities and higher education institutions in St. Petersburg. Support and cooperation was provided by the St. Petersburg ED/MTT/AP Chapter. Professor Usakov, Vice Rector of the Electrotechnical University, was the organising committee chairman. The event was held at the Electrotechnical University on April 27th 1996.

The goal was to bring together the best students from different universities where electrical engineering is taught and to give them the opportunity to try solving problems more complicated than those included in the standard study programmes. Linear and non-linear circuit theory, the basics of signal theory, transmission line theory and other related topics.

Ninety students from six different institutions took part in the event: the best individual and the best university team were selected. The best team was from the Electrotechnical University and the best student was Mr. Guzenko from St. Petersburg State Technical University.

Visit by Executive Director T. Hissey

On June 4th the IEEE Executive Director T. Hissey visited the St. Petersburg Chapter and took part in a variety of meetings and discussions. At the Leninetz company (radar technology); at Svetlana (electron devices); at Ferrite (microwave ferrite devices) and at three of the city's universities. The meetings were organised by Mr. N. Kocheshkov, Secretary of the Leninetz Scientific and Technical Council. Various aspects of IEEE developments in the St. Petersburg area were discussed. Specifically, the IEEE Entrepreneurial Skills Seminar (Proposed for summer 1997), possible help from the IEEE for the School of Electromagnetic wave propagation, and the continuing education programme of Leninetz were discussed.

Interest in the establishment of other IEEE Chapters was clearly expressed. Prof. Mickerov of the St. Petersburg Electrotechnical University, suggested that there was potential and increasing interest on the part of specialists in power engineering, power electronics, robotics and automation, industrial applications, and control systems. Prof. Sanychev from Leninetz, spoke about his company's interest in aerospace electronic systems, engineering in medicine, and signal processing. The problem of high (relative to local salaries) IEEE fees was raised.

Mr. Hissey also visited the Svetlana company. In discussion with Mr. O. Arshinov and Dr. V. Tsvetov, many St. Petersburg problems were discussed. Generally low salaries, payments delays, massive lay-offs (Svetlana lost about three quarters of its staff during the last few years). The best of specialists migrate from industry, mainly to financial and commercial organisations. The IEEE mission can possibly help in improving the professional status of electrical engineers. The lack of information about the IEEE was discussed; to improve that situation the Chapter will organise displays of IEEE materials in libraries of the universities and industrial companies in the city.

Diffraction '96

International Seminar Day on "Diffraction '96" was held in St. Petersburg from June 4-6th; it was organised by the St. Petersburg branch of the Mathematical Institute of Russian Academy of Science and the State University of St. Petersburg (co-sponsored by the ED/MTT/AP Chapter. More than thirty reports were given, scientists from six countries participated.

Sergei Tretyakov. E-mail: serge@radio.stu.neva.ru or tretyakov@rphd.hop.stu.neva.ru.

Neural Networks:
Basics, Applications & Futures
18 - 20 September 1996

A modular 3-day programme for all with interests in this important field. In the first two days, the basics and applications, both industrial and commercial, of neural networks will be discussed. The final day will be a seminar on the 'Future of Neural Networks', with international authorities including Igor Aleksander, Shun-Ichi Amari, John Hopfield, Teuvo Kohonen and John Taylor.

Safety Critical Systems
16 - 20 September 1996

Designed for all those who require an understanding of the approach and methods used to generate software in safety critical systems, whatever the application. It will be of interest both to software engineers who need to familiarise themselves with techniques, and to those who specify or manage projects in which safety issues are a concern. Participants will be taught how to use software tools by working, in groups, through small projects in SCS development.

Microsystems Technology
25 - 25 October 1996

An inter-disciplinary programme covering the science, technology and application of microsystems - i.e. sensors, actuators and other 3D-structures of emerging importance. Topics covered will include materials, fabrication, devices and applications.

The Isle of Dreams

By Professor Thanos Stouraitis

Three hundred sunny days a year, an unparalleled legacy of archaeological treasure, a luxury hotel or a sumptuous bungalow, all immersed in idyllic and romantic isolation in the bay of Ialyssos; it was here that some of the world's greatest thinkers solved the scientific problems of the then universe.
Germany
By Professor Dr. E. Handschin

The executive committee of the Section met on April 17th in Karlsruhe, under the chairmanship of Prof. Dr. Schwab. The Section now has 3965 members.

The secretarial support provided by Dr. Schanz, manager of the ITG and VDE headquarters in Frankfurt, is much appreciated. In agreement with the treasurer Prof. Dr. Wiesbeck, it has been suggested that the Section should give financial support to the German Chapters and Student branches, in order that their programmes be both more attractive and more complete; and also to give them a wider basis for increased cooperation related to IEEE activities.

In the recent past the German Section has expanded so that it now has eleven Chapters.

Microwave Theory and Techniques / Antennas & Propagation
N.J. Keen Reinbach
Phone: +49 (2226) 16432
Fax: +49 (2226) 16479

Computer Society
M.M. Köhler, Rüsselsheim
Phone: +49 (6142) 802440
Fax: +49 (6142) 801713

Circuits and Systems
Prof. Dr. techn. J.A. Nossek, München
E-mail: nossek@nws.technik.tu-muenchen.de
Phone: +49 (89) 2105-8502/8501
Fax: +49 (89) 2105-8504

Power Engineering
Prof. Dr. Denzl, Pulheim
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Fax: +49 (2234) 852695

Electron Devices
Prof. Dr. rer. nat. K. Heime, Aachen
E-mail: mailbox@enterprise.rwth-aachen.de
Phone: +49 (241) 80-7746
Fax: +49 (241) 8888-199

Information Theory
Prof. Dr. Han Vinck, Essen
Phone: +49 (201) 32064-50
Fax: +49 (201) 32064-25
E-mail: vinck@exp-math.uni-essen.de

Engineering in Medicine & Biology
Prof. Dr. rer. nat. H. Witte, Jena
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Fax: +49 (3641) 6-33200
E-mail: iew@imsid.uni-jena.de

Electromagnetic Compatibility
Dr. R. Sturm, Soltau
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Fax: +49 (5191) 5993

Components, Packaging and Manufacturing Technology
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Phone: +49 (30) 314-72896/-72882
Fax: +49 (30) 314-72835

Communication
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Fax: +49 (721) 608-6071
E-mail: nsys@etec.uni-karlsruhe.de

Ultrasonics, Ferroelectrics and Frequency Control
Dr. Ing. F. Möller, Ilmenau
E-mail: moeller@rfm.com

A Very Important Event

Election of the Chairman, Vice-Chairman and Treasurer

The final deadline for submission of the completed election forms is August 21st. A list of the candidates, the election forms and information about the election will be sent to members in July. In anticipation of a substantial turnout, the evaluation of the votes will take place in September. The new term of office will start on January 1st, 1997. During that term the German section will be looking forward to the IEEE Power Society Summer Meeting, which, for the first time will take place in Germany (July 20-25). Deadline for the submission of contributions: January 1, 1997.

Future activities within the German section are:

August 25 - 28, 1996
Eighth Workshop on Local & Metropolitan Area Networks
Dr. Daniel Pitt; Hewlett Packard Labs.; 1501 Page Mill Rd., Palo Alto, CA 94304. Tel: (415) 857 7096. Fax: (415) 857 8526. E-mail: pitt@hpl.hp.com
Hotel Mercure, - Potsdam, Germany.

September 8 - 13, 1996
1996 Conference on Lasers & Electro-Optics Europe and the 6th European Quantum Electronics Convention (CLEO) EU/EOEC
Ms. Samantha H. Padilla; IEEE/LEOS- 445 Hoes Lane-, Piscataway, NJ 08854. Tel: (908) 562 3984; Fax: (908) 562 8434; E-mail: s.padilla@ieee.org
Congress Centrum, Hamburg, Germany.

September 22 - 25, 1996
1996 IEEE 4th International Symposium on Spread Spectrum Techniques and Applications (ISSSTA '96)
Dr. Peter Jung; University of Kaiserslautern; P.O. Box 3049, D-67653 Kaiserslautern, GERMANY. Tel: +(49) 631 205 2085. Fax: +(49) 631 205 3612. E-mail: wowbag@rhrk.uni-kl.de
Electoral Castle, Mainz, Germany.

April 21 - 24, 1997
Prof. Bernd Girod, Lehrst. f. Nachrichtentechnik, University of Erlangen Nuremberg, Cauerstr 7, D-91058 Erlangen, GERMANY. Tel: +(49) 9131 85 7101. Fax: +(49) 9131 3840. E-mail: b.girod@ieee.org
Gasteig Cultural and Convention Centre, Munich, Germany.

June 29 - July 04, 1997
1997 IEEE International Symposium on Information Theory
Prof. Han Vinck, Institute of Experimental Mathematics, University of Essen, Ellernstr 29, 45326 Essen, GERMANY. Tel: +(49) 631 205 458. Fax: +(49) 631 205 457. E-mail: platen@uni-essen.de
Electoral Castle, Mainz, Germany.

July 20 - 25, 1997
1997 IEEE Power Engineering Society Summer Meeting
Executive Office: IEEE Power Engineering Society; P.O. Box 1331 , Piscataway, NJ 08855-1331.
Tel: (908) 562 3864. Fax: (908) 981 1769.
Berlin Intercontinental Hotel, Berlin, Germany.

Section Chairman: Prof. Dr. Ing. Adolf J. Schwab, Kaiserstrasse 12, 76128 Karlsruhe, Germany. Tel: +(49) 721 608 2520, Fax: +(49) 721 695 224. E-mail: a.schwab@ieee.org
Call for Papers

The 8th IEEE International Symposium on Personal, Indoor and Mobile Radio Communications
September 1-4, 1997, Marina Congress Center, Helsinki, Finland

Submission Guidelines
Please submit 5 copies of original papers in English to the PIMRC'97 Technical Program Committee Secretary as per schedule. The title page should include name, affiliation and full contact information of author(s). Additionally, the authors are requested to indicate the technical area of their papers by including below the title and author information any of the topic codes (if applicable) shown in parenthesis in the list of topics, or other key words describing the topic. The manuscript should not exceed 3000 words.

Schedule
February 28, 1997
Full Manuscript:
June 1, 1997
Notification of Acceptance mailed:
July 1, 1997
Camera-Ready Copy:

General Information
For general information on registration, accommodation, conference venue, social programme and other related issues, please refer to the Symposium Coordinator.

Contacts
Technical Program Committee
Secretary: Jaakko Talvitie
University of Oulu
Center for Wireless Communications
e-mail: jaakko.talvitie@ee.oulu.fi
P.O. Box 444
FIN-90571 OULU
Finland
Fax: +358 81 553 2820

Symposium Coordinator:
Laila Tervasäätä
Mercum Fennica
Kirkkokatu 2
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*By Professor Charles W. Turner*

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**The Region 8 Volunteer Award**

*By Professor E. Folke Bolinder*

The nomination committee met on 31st May: its members were: Maurice Papo - Director-elect; Basil Osborne - Secretary Region 8; E. Folke Bolinder - Awards and Recognitions. In making their recommendation to the Director the committee will consider the following: i) Length of Service to the Section ii) Innovative ideas introduced by the candidates iii) Administrative ability. iv) Support for the work of other Section Committee members.

Having considered these factors it was the conclusion of the committee that the award should be given to

**Mme Frédérique Vallée**

Mme. Vallée served as secretary to the French Section for some nine years, during which time she organised the Section meetings, attendance and reporting, assistance to members and maintenance of the Section files. From 1987 to 1990 she added the Student Activities chair to her other responsibilities; promoting the IEEE among students, and organising presentations and student contest papers.

She is now the Chief Executive Officer of Mathix, a French consultancy company specialising in dependability evaluation and risk management of complex systems.

**You Might Wish to Know**

- The Engineering Council - UK - has formed an association of all engineers from some forty professional societies, whatever their discipline, so that the new body might speak with one voice on matters affecting engineers in general. This "amalgamation" may be said to represent almost half a million members; it seeks to make easier the management of those projects where several kinds of engineering contribute to the whole; and to smooth the path for those who deal with facets of engineering common to many professional institutions, education or accreditation would be examples. The Engineering Council, 10 Maltravers St., London WC2R 3ER

- Doctors from Abidjan in the Côte d'Ivoire are consulting with specialists in Italy and France via a voice and picture satellite demonstration of telemedicine for all African countries. International Telecommunications Union, Place des Nations, CH-1211 Geneve 20, Switzerland.

- The Electrical Engineering Students' European association has as its primary aim the promotion and development of international contact between electrical engineering students; and the introduction of its members to the industrial and educational systems of other countries. EESTEC, c/o AMIV an der ETH Universitat, At-strasse 19, 8092, Frich, Switzerland

- In a trend that has gone largely unnoticed, photovoltaic solar power has made its way into mainstream energy production in the U.S. Although photovoltaic power is not yet fully competitive, the U.S. electrical utilities are starting to use it. Major companies are establishing plants to make photovoltaic panels and costs are falling due to mass production and new technology. Physics World, The Institute of Physics, 76 Portland Place, London Place, London W1N 4AA England.

(Continued on p8)
France

by Professor Edwige Pissaloux

OCEANS '96 MTS/IEEE, The Coastal Ocean, will be held on 23-26 September 1996 in Broward County Convention Center, Fort Lauderdale, Florida. This Conference sponsors a Student Poster Competition. Inf. Prof René Garelo, Télécom Bretagne, ITI, BP 832, 29 285 Brest Cedex, France; phone: +33 98 00 13 71 or +33 98 00 10; Fax: +33 98 00 10 98; E-mail: rene.garello@enst-bretagne.fr

CESA '96 IMACS Multiconference, organized with the support of the IEEE-SMC, Ecole Centrale de Lille and Région Nord Pas de Calais, will be held on July 9-12 1996 in Lille at Ecole Centrale de Lille. Inf.: Conference Secretariat: Ecole Centrale de Lille, BP 48, 59 651 Villeneuve d'Ascq Cedex, France; Fax: +33 20 33 54 99; E-mail: cesa96@ec-lille.fr; URL: http://www.ec-lille.fr/~cesa96.

NEWS IN FRENCH

Compte rendu de la derniè re assemblée générale.

L'Assemblée Générale de la Section Française s'est tenue le mercredi 12 juin 1996 à 19 heures à la Maison des Polytechniciens, 12 rue de Poitiers, 75 007 Paris.

Le compte rendu de la précédente Assemblée Générale a été approuvé à l'unanimité.

Le rapport moral, présenté par M. Maurice Papo, président de la Section Française, a résumé les différentes activités de la Section pendant l'année 1995.

Le rapport financier, présenté par M. Jean-Gabriel Herry, a reçu le quitois sur les comptes de l'année 1995.

Le nouveau Bureau de la Section a été élu. Il est composé comme suit: Mme Christine Nora, président; M. François Meslier, vice-président; Mme Edwige Pissaloux, secrétaire; M. Jean-Gabriel Herry trésorier. Sont élus membres du nouveau Bureau: MM. Thierry Bosch, Hussein Fawaz, Victor Fouad-Hanna, Michel Israel, Jean Robieux et Michel Urien.

A la suite de l'Assemblée Générale, un dîner a réuni les membres avec leur conjoint. Monsieur Laffitte, sénateur, des Alpes Maritimes, a fait un exposé sur "Les inforoutes, craintes et espoirs".

La prochaine Assemblée Générale aura lieu à la même période l'an prochain.

Création du CHAPITRE français de la Power Electronics Society (PELS). M. le professeur Gérard-André CAPOLINO organise ce chapitre; les intéressés sont invités à le contacter à l'Université de Picardie, IUP, Département Génie Electrique & Informatique Industrielle, 33 rue Saint-Leu, 80039, Amiens Cedex; tél. (16) 22 32 78 21; Fax: (16) 22 32 78 22.

Création du CHAPITRE Robotique. Mlle Yasmina BESTAOUI de l'Ecole Centrale de Nantes l'organise. Les intéressés peuvent la contacter au Laboratoire d'Automatique de Nantes, Ecole Centrale de Nantes, 1 rue de la Noc, 44 072 Nantes; tél. 40 37 25 12, fax: 40 37 25 22; E-mail YasminaBestaoui@lan.ec-nantes.fr


- le 22 octobre 1996, <Le Projet de Laser Mégajoules>, par Michel ANDRE, Maître d'oeuvre Principal du Projet au CEA-

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E-Mail: jchopping@iee.org.uk

Strathclyde, Glasgow, Scotland, 20-21 June 1997

**International Symposium on Technology & Society 1997**
Technology & Society at a Time of Sweeping Change (ISTS 97)

Contact: IEE Conference Services
Savoy Place, London WC2R OBL UK
Tel: +44 (0) 171 344 5469. Fax: +44 (0) 171 240 8830
E-Mail: jchopping@iee.org.uk

Sindelfingen, Germany, 22-24 April 1997

**Microwave & Optronics Conference & Exhibition on Microwaves**
Radio Communication and Electromagnetic Compatibility

**MIOP '97**

NETWORK GmbH, Wilhelm-Suhr Str. 14, D-31558 Hagenburg
Tel: +49 5033 7057. Fax: +49 5033 7944

Rodos, Greece, 13-16 October 1996

**Third IEEE International Conference on Electronics, Circuits and Systems**

Contact: ICECS Secretariat, Dept. of Electrical and Computer Engineering, Rio 26500, Greece. Fax: +30 61 994798
E-mail: alexopou@iee.upatras.gr

Berlin, Germany, July 20-24 1997

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Copy date for November = 1st October 1996