

IEEE Region 8 Membership Activities Report, April 2007

IEEE Region 8 Committee Meeting, Sofia, Bulgaria

IEEE Region 8 Membership Activities Committee

- Chair: Marko Delimar, R8 VC MA
- Rolf Remshardt, Aleksandar Szabo, Pilar Molina Gaudó, Membership Development
- Charles Turner, Professional Activities
- Roland Saam, Basak Yuksel, Region 8 News
- Thomas Watteyne, Electronic Communications
- Tony Davies, Section Congress 2008
- Pilar Molina Gaudó, Eva Gutmiedl, Gerald Anleitner, GOLD
- Maryam Al Thani, WIE
- Peter Hill, LM
- Jacob Baal Schem, HAC

Region 8 Membership Activities - Goals and Objectives

- Improve the value of IEEE membership by increasing services and benefits to R8 members
- Develop non-technical IEEE activities in the Region (including contests, awards and promotion programs)
- Foster members' awareness of IEEE activities and existing benefits
- Support Region 8 initiatives and inform other IEEE organizational units about them
- Increase membership and develop retention strategies
- Develop local retention and membership programs
- Enhance member's careers
- Provide a platform for co-ordination, motivation and interaction among R8 members and organisational units
- Provide input to the IEEE RAB Membership Development Committee regarding R8 issues
- Assure IEEE membership promotion at IEEE Conferences and other events in R8
- Promote and support MA officers (MD, PA, GOLD, WIE, LM, etc.) in R8 Sections
- Provide Training & Orientations for Section MA officers
- Help in formation, organisation and development of non-technical IEEE organisational units (including affinity groups)
- Provide support to and rejuvenate IEEE organisational units
- Help with communication between existing IEEE organisational units
- Represent R8 members' interests and voice their concerns
- Introduce new ideas and proposals and implement initiatives for new activities within the membership responsibilities.
- Assure recruitment of new members and volunteers, control retention of active members and recovery of arrears.
- Promote and support member grade elevation
- Support and provide recognition to IEEE volunteers

Membership Development

Rolf Remshardt, Region 8 MD Coordinator
 Aleksandar Szabo, Pilar Molina Gaudó

IEEE Region 8 membership continues to grow at an impressive rate. Region 8 MD and R8 Sections' MD officers continue to develop two specific MD programs:

- retention programs
- new member promotions.

Region 8 MD webcast - for all MD officers in the Region - in preparation.

Table 1. IEEE Membership Summary – January 2007

REGION	HIGHER GRADE MEMBERS				STUDENT MEMBERS				TOTAL MEMBERS			
	2007	2006	Change		2007	2006	Change		2007	2006	Change	
			#	%			#	%			#	%
1	34,700	35,319	-619	-1.8%	4,576	4,276	300	7.0%	39,276	39,595	-319	-0.8%
2	29,484	30,014	-530	-1.8%	4,025	3,995	30	0.8%	33,509	34,009	-500	-1.5%
3	26,016	26,157	-141	-0.5%	5,219	4,955	264	5.3%	31,235	31,112	123	0.4%
4	20,197	20,350	-153	-0.8%	4,187	4,328	-141	-3.3%	24,384	24,678	-294	-1.2%
5	25,659	25,530	129	0.5%	4,346	4,616	-270	-5.8%	30,005	30,146	-141	-0.5%
6	54,332	54,670	-338	-0.6%	6,988	7,223	-235	-3.3%	61,320	61,893	-573	-0.9%
US	190,388	192,040	-1,652	-0.9%	29,341	29,393	-52	-0.2%	219,729	221,433	-1,704	-0.8%
7	12,545	12,090	455	3.8%	3,865	3,622	243	6.7%	16,410	15,712	698	4.4%
8	44,900	42,438	2,462	5.8%	17,818	15,811	2,007	12.7%	62,718	58,249	4,469	7.7%
9	7,406	6,945	461	6.6%	7,610	7,917	-307	-3.9%	15,016	14,862	154	1.0%
10	41,950	42,355	-405	-1.0%	29,100	22,987	6,113	26.6%	71,050	65,342	5,708	8.7%
Non-US	106,801	103,828	2,973	2.9%	58,393	50,337	8,056	16.0%	165,194	154,165	11,029	7.2%
TOTAL	297,189	295,868	1,321	0.4%	87,734	79,730	8,004	10.0%	384,923	375,598	9,325	2.5%

Table 2. GSMs

REGION	
Region 1	1 627
Region 2	1 409
Region 3	1 729
Region 4	1 457
Region 5	1 336
Region 6	2 540
US Subtotal	10 098
Region 7	1 415
Region 8	6 122
Region 9	1 055
Region 10	6 381
Non-US Subtotal	14 973
Total IEEE	25 071

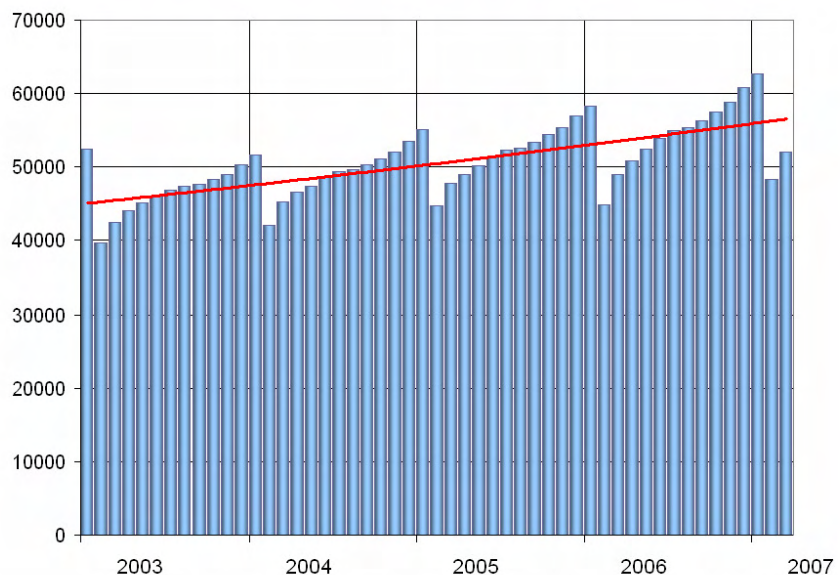


Figure 1. IEEE Region 8 Membership 2003-2007

Region 8 Membership – For the first time more than 60000

At the end of 2006 in Region 8 we had 60856 members. Comparing to the number of 56953 at the end of 2005 it is an increase of 3903 members or 6.9%. After the Terminator Action, according to the membership statistics by 28 February 2007, Region 8 had 48338 members, comparing to 44814 members we had on 28 February 2006. The increase in the one year period was 3524 members or 7.9%.

Membership Statistics in R8 Sections

Most Sections are doing well. Only few sections have a decrease of membership. But there are also some Sections having less than 50 members! They should ask themselves how they will survive. Look into your Section Membership Statistics every month. Is your membership increasing or decreasing? To learn more about the members in your Section use SAMIEEE: <http://ieee.org/samieee>. Contact the arrears in your section to see what are the reasons for not renewing. Don't lose members!

Section Membership Development Officers

We all, the members and volunteers in IEEE, should be aware that Membership Development on all levels and especially on the section level is of extreme importance if we want to have more members, new volunteers and more activity. We still have about 20% of Sections in R8 not having MD Officers! I am asking these sections to appoint Membership Development Officers willing to do their job with enjoyment and without sparing efforts! We are asking all Sections to give or send to R8 MD the names and email addresses of their MD Officers especially if they appointed new ones.

Register for participation in the IEEE Membership Development Community at <https://www.ieeecommunities.org/ieee.md.net>.

2007 Membership Development Manual

Many Region 8 volunteers have asked for a concise guide to introduce them to the membership development processes and tools that are available from IEEE. The MD Manual is an essential overview of MD. It includes resources such as a MD calendar and MD checklists. It helps you coordinate local efforts with headquarters' programs and processes. There is also a listing of IEEE member benefits, as well as sample letter templates for suggested outreaches. It can be downloaded from the IEEE Region 8 web page (<http://ieee.org/r8>) by selecting Membership Activities and afterwards Membership Development.

**Graduate Student Members Rights and Privileges**

According to the IEEE Bylaws the Graduate Student Members shall have the rights and privileges of Members. So GS Members are also qualified to sign the petition to establish a new Section – important for new section and new chapter development!

MD at IEEE Conferences in R8

Events planned both for EUROCON and AFRICON. Other IEEE conferences as well.

Table 3. IEEE Region 8 Membership Density per Section

Section/Country	Population (2002)	Total Members (Dec 2006)	Members per million
Iceland	304 334	137	450
Malta	397 499	158	397
Switzerland	7 301 994	2 500	342
UAE	4 496 000	1 347	300
Lebanon	3 874 050	880	227
Cyprus	835 000	182	218
Sweden	9 090 113	1 846	203
Norway	4 525 116	906	200
Israel	7 100 000	1 363	192
Finland	5 157 537	948	184
Greece	10 645 343	1 951	183
Slovenia	1 932 917	337	174
Qatar	839 213	146	174
UK & Republic of Ireland	64 435 925	10 411	162
Croatia	4 390 751	598	136
Denmark	5 368 854	712	133
Jordan	5 350 000	664	124
Austria	8 169 929	996	122
Bahrain	698 585	85	122
Benelux	27 041 363	3 044	113
Portugal	10 084 245	941	93
Spain	40 077 100	3 495	87
Macedonia	2 054 800	167	81
Germany	83 251 851	6 226	75
Italy	58 751 711	4 063	69
Bosnia and Herzegovina	3 964 388	251	63
France	59 765 983	3 187	53
Estonia	1 415 681	75	53
Oman	2 567 000	134	52
Kuwait	3 100 000	154	50
Serbia & Montenegro	10 280 000	498	48
Saudi Arabia (including Subsections)	27 019 731	1 049	39
Hungary	10 075 034	358	36
Bulgaria	7 621 337	258	34
Czech Republic & Slovakia	15 679 126	512	33
Romania	21 698 181	704	32
Turkey	72 600 000	2 104	29
Lithuania	3 601 138	95	26
Poland	38 625 478	794	21
Egypt	78 887 007	1 461	19
South Africa	47 432 000	753	16
Nigeria	133 530 000	1 196	9
Iran	70 049 262	581	8
Ukraine	48 396 470	360	7
Belarus	10 335 382	76	7
Russia - Three Sections	145 184 000	949	7
Morocco	33 241 259	102	3
Kenya	34 256 000	70	2
Tansania Subsection	37 849 133	30	1

Table 4. R8 Active and Arrears members in all grades

Section	01-MAR-2007			01-APR-2007		
	Active	Arrears	%	Active	Arrears	%
SWITZERLAND	2225	347	13%	2324	286	11%
SERBIA & MONTENEGRO	423	134	24%	500	63	11%
ESTONIA	66	11	14%	69	10	13%
SLOVENIA	300	51	15%	307	46	13%
CROATIA	531	97	15%	572	89	13%
GERMANY	5479	956	15%	5683	886	13%
NORWAY	792	142	15%	820	132	14%
AUSTRIA	869	169	16%	934	157	14%
ITALY	3530	717	17%	3713	639	15%
SWEDEN	1622	313	16%	1702	293	15%
BENELUX	2661	525	16%	2777	479	15%
CZECHOSLOVAKIA	449	97	18%	476	85	15%
ROMANIA	634	138	18%	682	124	15%
RUSSIA (NORTHWEST)	188	38	17%	191	38	17%
HUNGARY	271	110	29%	320	64	17%
DENMARK	619	134	18%	642	129	17%
FINLAND	802	181	18%	828	167	17%
SPAIN	2964	689	19%	3075	651	17%
RUSSIA (MOSCOW)	422	97	19%	439	94	18%
LITHUANIA	94	24	20%	98	21	18%
MALTA	133	36	21%	149	32	18%
PORTUGAL	761	210	22%	817	180	18%
IRAN	618	156	20%	664	152	19%
POLAND	698	188	21%	736	171	19%
UKRAINE	321	85	21%	331	80	19%
GREECE	1558	443	22%	1652	407	20%
UK & IRELAND	8384	2612	24%	8948	2420	21%
CYPRUS	141	46	25%	151	41	21%
ISRAEL	1048	383	27%	1142	328	22%
FRANCE	2493	895	26%	2710	789	23%
BULGARIA	154	139	47%	234	73	24%
KENYA	48	27	36%	58	19	25%
SOUTH AFRICA	574	231	29%	647	215	25%
ICELAND	99	42	30%	108	38	26%
BAHRAIN	58	27	32%	65	23	26%
BELARUS	47	30	39%	58	23	28%
RUSSIA (SIBERIA)	211	97	31%	227	91	29%
QATAR	97	57	37%	113	53	32%
MACEDONIA	91	95	51%	129	64	33%
TURKEY	1398	844	38%	1586	794	33%
BOSNIA & HERZEGOVINA	154	123	44%	211	116	35%
KUWAIT	97	71	42%	109	63	37%
UNITED ARAB EMIRATES	782	636	45%	1031	598	37%
LEBANON	582	362	38%	591	349	37%
SAUDI ARABIA (EAST)	483	427	47%	558	385	41%
EGYPT	794	793	50%	962	766	44%
OUTSIDE SECTIONS	553	549	50%	630	517	45%
OMAN	68	68	50%	74	64	46%
JORDAN	317	386	55%	412	367	47%
NIGERIA	570	741	57%	713	719	50%
SAUDI ARABIA (WESTERN)	91	93	51%	94	96	51%
MOROCCO	48	74	61%	57	71	55%
TOTAL R8	48412	15936	25%	52119	14557	22%

Green = below average, Red = alarming

Arrears

The number of arrears by February 23, after the Service Terminator action, was 15973, what is very high. This happened although we have sent e-mails at the beginning of February to all the Section Chairs/ Section Membership Development Officers, attaching the Pre-Arrears list, asking them to send letters to members who didn't renew. After receiving the list of Arrears from Piscataway, we sent e-mails again to all Section Chairs/ Section Membership Development Officers asking them to contact the arrears from the attached lists of Arrears. On April 1 the number of arrears in Region 8 reduced to 14557. But there is still a long road ahead of us. The percentage of recovery is always the highest immediately after the Service Terminator. So we must strengthen our efforts to further reduce the number of arrears being so high this year.

To prevent such a situation in the future we should work more in advance (November, December, January), especially on the Section level, to encourage members to renew on time, well before the Service Terminator.

The Half-Year Dues Period

The half-year dues period is a peak recruitment time. It allows people to test IEEE membership for a smaller initial monetary outlay. New members pay half-year dues when they sign up from 1 March through 31 August. Services commence immediately upon joining and continue through December 31. A member joining in March receives a bonus of 4 months of extra service above and beyond the six months they are paying for. For Membership Development Resources visit <http://iee.org/md> and for best practices <http://www.ieee.org/ra/md/bestpractices.html>

Member-Get-A-Member Program Gets an Upgrade for 2007

Beginning in September, the payout for recruited professional members (not students) was raised from 5.00 to 15.00US\$ per member. Recruiters (including student members) have the option of using their reward vouchers to pay for IEEE products or services, including the membership renewal, or they can use the vouchers for a donation to the IEEE Foundation.

Announce and provide information on the Member-Get-A-Member (<http://iee.org/mgm>) programs at Section, Student Branch and Chapter Meetings and Conferences. Make it a challenge within your Section to see who will be the best in Membership Development. The reward is more than a 15\$ IEEE credit voucher, it's a bigger organization with better connections into industry and community. If each of us recruited just one new Member, we would double our size in one year!!! But let's increase our membership by 10%. Remember, without Membership Development, we cannot build the IEEE of tomorrow.

Membership Development Promotional Material

The 2007 Membership Recruitment Kits have been sent to Sections and Student Branches in September 2006. To order additional supplies visit <http://iee.org/mdsupplies>

R8 MD Newsletter

IEEE Region 8 Membership Development Newsletters have been sent from time to time to all R8 Committee Members and Section MD Officers pointing out important information and MD actions to be done.

IEEE Job Site

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 URL: www.ieee.org/jobs




Figure 2. IEEE Region 8 Job site promo

Professional Activities

Charles Turner, Region 8 Professional Activities Coordinator

The R8 Professional Activities Group (PAG) comprises Charles Turner (Co-ordinator), Gerald Anleitner, Marko Delimar, Rolf Remshardt, Aleksandar Szabo, and Martin Bastiaans. The PAG held a teleconference on March 12th 2007 to review recent PA activities in the Region and to discuss plans for 2007. The Minutes of this meeting are available on the PA website.

The main priorities were agreed as follows:

1. More activity at local Section level should be emphasised, especially through the appointment of Section PA officers. Although Section Chairs had been urged to find local co-ordinators there were still too many Sections that had not fulfilled this task yet.
2. Priority needed to be given to PA activities for younger members (GOLD and Student members). Employment-related issues were the top priority for these groups. Job search and career development were two key areas. There was a strong demand for courses on business skills for engineers, interview techniques, how to sell yourself, etc.
3. There were excellent opportunities to expand PA work in industry, in collaboration with the Industry Relations Co-ordinator and with Standards, especially in small companies.
4. Products and services developed by IEEE-USA were potentially useful to Region 8 members. A trial set of publications had been made available by IEEE-USA for the PAG members to review. Discussions had been held with IEEE-USA to explore ways of co-operating in the future. The issue of charging members for these products and services, and for PA benefits in general, needed to be addressed by the Region 8 Committee.
5. Many more speakers on PA topics were needed. Possible sources were the EMS Chapters, EdSoc Chapters, the Standards community and Life Members. Alternative means of delivery could be considered, including the online seminars currently being rolled out by various IEEE groups. These were attracting very large audiences and were ideal for countries with a geographically widely scattered membership.
6. The Region 8 Leadership Skills and Project Management workshops begun by EASC had been extremely successful. Because of the very strong overlap with the work of the PAG, it was essential that the future management of these workshops should be clarified.
7. Region 8 should develop new member services, such as networks for consultants, entrepreneurs, and inventors. There were good opportunities in the areas of Standards and intellectual property rights (IPRs), which were not being adequately addressed.

It was agreed that there would be a regular series of teleconferences, via Skype, of the PAG throughout the year, to minimise the Group's expenses.

Region 8 News (print)

Roland Saam
Basak Yuksel
-- Co-editors



- 4 x year
- March, June, Sept., Dec.
- 12 pages/ per issue
- 50 articles each issue
- 200+ articles per year
- Cost \$76,000. in 2006 per member ÷ 55,000 = \$1.38 per year per member.

Benefits

- Every member receives it – tangible evidence of membership.
- Fresh news about IEEE activity.
- Also published, indexed on R8 Website
- News channel for R8 leaders, volunteers
- Attractive, public record of vitality in Region 8

We report

- Regional Membership Development
- GOLD, Student News
- Voluntary Contributions Fund, IEEE Foundation, Job Center, IEEE Benefits
- Chapter Development
- Standards in R8
- Interesting articles about members, information, quiz, Conference Calendar, amusing cartoons!

Electronic Communications

Thomas Watteyne, Region 8 ECC

The Region 8 Electronic Communication Coordinator's job is to facilitate communication, both between members of the Region 8 Committee, and between this committee and present or future IEEE members. The IEEE R8 ECC 2007-2008 is Thomas Watteyne (thomas.watteyne@ieee.org).

The new Region 8 website <http://ieee.org/r8> was launched on 15 January 2007, after a few months of programming. The Web Task Force, thank to whom this was possible, is composed of (in alphabetical order) *Marko Delimar, Michael Gloegl, Eva Gustmiedl, Luka Lugaric* and *Thomas Watteyne*. The website is based on a Joomla!, a modern Content Management System. The main idea is to **let volunteers participate as much as possible in the content of the website.**

This includes:

- update the content of the particular page you're in charge of;
- submitting new **calendar events** such as IEEE conferences or Region 8 meetings (*open to all*);
- submitting **frontpage items** (*open to all*);
- opening up an account to share your **electronic business card**.

You are strongly encouraged to register on the Region 8 website. This will allow you to access the non-public documents. Note that registering replaces the common login/password used on the previous website.

A **IEEE template** has been made specifically for Joomla!, it has been made publicly available on <http://ewh.ieee.org/templates.html>, together with two tutorials on how to use it and customize it. We have received very positive feedback from Sections, including Italy Section, who have used it. Please feel free to use your this *off-the-shelf template for your Section or Student Branch websites!*

We have created new mailing lists, and I do my very best to keep them up-to-date. Don't hesitate to contact me if a change occurs (e.g. a new Section Chair). Mailing lists and aliases are:

- r8opcom@ieee.org, Region 8 OpCom members;
- r8committee@ieee.org, Region 8 Committee;
- r8meeting@ieee.org, attendees of the Region 8 meeting. *This is set up a few weeks before each meeting;*
- r8ma@ieee.org, Region 8 Membership Activities Committee;
- r8ta@ieee.org, Region 8 Technical Activities Committee;
- r8sac@ieee.org, Region 8 Student Activities Committee;
- r8gold@ieee.org, Region 8 GOLD sub-committee;
- r8web@ieee.org, Region 8 Web Task Force;
- r8webmaster@ieee.org, Region 8 Webmaster.

Current work includes introducing an electronic Gazette into Region 8. This will be sent a few times a year to all Region 8 members. We are slightly running behind schedule due to organisational problems. Based on the feedback we got from the Region 8 website users, we are working on making tutorials on how to use <http://www.ieee.org/r8/> at its full potential. Finally, we are planning to link the calendar on our Region's website with the global conference databases.

If you have any problems, suggestions or comments regarding Electronic Communication, please don't hesitate to contact me.

WIE (Women in Engineering)

Maryam Al Thani, Region 8 WIE Coordinator

IEEE Region 8 WIE web page updated

GOLD (Graduates Of the Last Decade)

Pilar Molina Gaudó, Region 8 GOLD Coordinator
Eva Gutschmiedl, Gerald Anleitner

**EXECUTIVE SUMMARY**

Rolf Remshardt, past Region 8 GOLD coordinator ceased in this position and the new team took over responsibility in January 2007. The GOLD coordinator is Pilar Molina Gaudó. She is strongly supported by Eva Gutschmiedl and Gerald Anleitner. Therefore, GOLD activities continue to have tremendous momentum. We will:

- continue with the idea of the R8 GOLD Team , with slight adaptations
- try to secure budget for a Team meeting in late 2007,
- support and move the AGs,
- edit R8 GOLD Newsletter,
- be present in R8 News,
- be web present (idea of a podcast and RSS integration of already existing IEEE sources)
- implement Graduation Welcome Package of RAB GOLD Committee (pilot in some sections)

ACTIONS REQUIRED

Support for a small R8 GOLD Committee planning meeting late in July 2007

- aim: planning of GOLD activities in R8 in conjunction with SAC and PA
- funding approved by VC MA and VC SAC

Support for GOLD Summit at Sections Congress 2008

- Sections are asked to send at least one GOLD representative as primary or secondary delegate. The summit will be held on Sept, 18th 2008 (one day before SC08 officially starts).

RESOURCES REQUIRED

- Full Region 8 SAMIEEE access to all three GOLD committee members
- Regional budget to have the GOLD team meet in 2007 (see above)

REPORT

- GOLD Team met in Munich in May 2006. The idea of a team member is someone (may or may not be an AG chair) that is responsible for the GOLD activities of several neighboring Sections (this in Region 8 means countries) to supervise, support and create AG. For more information on the Munich meeting attendants, results and actions, click [here](#)
 - o Currently all GOLD team members have been requested to report on their past activities and plans for the future.

- It is our plan to continue with this idea in 2007-08 but with some MODIFICATIONS:
 - No team members based on geographical area
 - Complete R8 team does not exceed 7-8 people
 - Team members are highly motivated volunteers to WORK
 - Team meeting in 2007 is conceived as a working session rather than a sit-around-the-table-and-discuss one.
- GOLD Congress during Student Branch Congress in Paris, August 2007. 30 attendees from all over Region 8. Reported about [here](#).
 - Idea for the future is to start thinking about R8 GOLD Congress in 2008.
 - Section Congress 2008 might host a RAB GOLD Congress as well.
- R8 GOLD Newsletters published 3 times per year. See example [here](#).
- Contribution to [Region 8 News](#).
- All delinquent Affinity Group Chairs have been recently contacted. Some have answered and are ready to take action.
- Letter to graduating Student Members in some Sections to inform about GOLD and retain membership. Currently under development.
- Update of the [R8 GOLD website](#).
- A small teleconference has been held recently about RSS and Podcast in our web site to attract more GOLD members.
- RAB GOLD Meeting 2007 in Boston – R8 GOLD is one of the most active regions!
- GOLD Receptions at major conferences: GOLD Reception at AFRICON (in planning), GOLD Reception at EMBS Conference in Lyon (confirmed)

HAC (History Activities Council)

Jacob Baal Schem, Region 8 History Activities Coordinator

- IEEE Region 8 History Activities web page updated
- Organization of a special session at EUROCON 2007 on “History of Electro-technology”:
 - 6 papers have been received and are reviewed
- Grant from IEEE Foundation has been approved to support History activities in Region 8.
- HAC meeting will be held at EUROCON:
 - IEEE History Center representative has been invited, to provide guidance and teach procedures for History activities/
 - A proposal for forming a History network in Region 8 will be discussed.
 - Future activities– oral interviews and History Conferences (e.g. St. Petersburg in 2009), will be discussed

LM (Life Members)

Peter C J Hill, Region 8 Life Members Coordinator

Introduction: I became a Life Member (LM) on my 72nd birthday at the end of 2006 and was selected to be your Life Member Coordinator in January 2007, taking over from Jacob Baal-Schem – a difficult act to follow! An e-notice to that effect was duly transmitted to all R8 LM Grades.

Status of Life Member Affinity Groups (LMAG) in R8: At the last count, we have 4 LM Groups, *viz*, France, Israel, Italy, and United Kingdom & Republic of Ireland (UK&RI). Switzerland will be forming a new LMAG very soon.

Events: There was to have been an IEEE Workshop '*You and the Future – A working retirement: fulfilling lives for an ageing population*', to take place in Stockholm, Sweden, 20-21 April 2007; the event was supported by the IEEE Foundation and the Sweden Section. Unfortunately the event was cancelled due to lack of interest, but this kind of initiative is important enough to note here, as activities of this type are directly relevant to our LM membership.

A forthcoming event is the special History Session at IEEE EUROCON 2007 to be held in Warsaw, Poland, 9-12 September 2007. This conference will be of particular interest to LMs; suitable electro-technology history papers for the special session have already been submitted. Conference detail is at <http://eurocon2007.isep.pw.edu.pl>.

The UK&RI LMAG experience: We have around 160 IEEE LMs in the section and they were all contacted in September 2006 for possible interest in forming an affinity group; about 1/4 to 1/3 replied through the proforma response form which, *inter alia*, sought various ideas concerning future LM activities. They were specifically invited to attend the next UK&RI Section meeting in London together with the associated IEEE public lecture; unfortunately the response was not particularly positive! However, we did form a LMAG with about 6 committee members and so far have had four constructive meetings, the latter two also combining with our section history affinity group. This should be a good motivating example for other Sections to follow for starting up new LM affinity groups.

Sections Congress organisation and preparation

Tony Davies, Region 8 Section Congress Coordinator

- IEEE Sections Congress, Quebec City, Canada
Quebec City Convention Center, 19–22 September 2008
- Latest version of the Section Congress material available on the R8 Web
- For more details see separate report



Sections Congress 2008 Update

Québec City, Canada 19-22 Sept 2008

Be Prepared !

Profitant du 400^e anniversaire de Québec, la plus ancienne ville d'Amérique du nord, le Congrès Mondial des Sections IEEE aura lieu à Québec en automne 2008! Plus de 2000 délégués sont attendus au Centre des Congrès.

One representative from each Section (called the Primary Delegate) is expected to be funded by IEEE and if usual practice is followed, the R8 Committee meeting will be in Quebec City on the day(s) before Sections Congress.

Sections Congress is an outstanding opportunity to meet other IEEE volunteers and staff, especially an opportunity to meet Section representatives from all of the other nine Regions. Therefore all R8 Section Committees are strongly recommended to plan ahead for their Section's participation.

As far as financially possible, each Section should try to send additional representatives (e.g. not just the Section Chair), and choose these especially from Section volunteers who have **not** previously attended a Sections Congress. Partial financial support for such additional representatives might be available from the R8 budget, but for now Sections should budget for paying the full cost of additional representatives from Section funds. Since this will be a significant expense in 2008, all Sections are encouraged to set aside a proportional part of the estimated cost from their 2007 budget. The financial support offered from the R8 budget will naturally be dependent upon the availability of sufficient funds, and assumes continued support of R8 by the Regional Activities Board (RAB), and the prudent use of R8 funds by all Sections.

One of the functions of Sections Congress is for the representatives to make suggestions for future developments or changes in IEEE, and to vote on these, putting them in a ranked priority list. Therefore in the time leading up to Sections Congress, opportunities should be taken to create a list of realistic suggestions that can be taken to Sections Congress. Proposals which are likely to have the support of other Regions naturally have a much better chance of getting into the final list.

Site selection for Sections Congress 2011

Bids are invited for the venue for 2011: any Section in any Region may submit a bid. Suggested dates are 23 -27 Sept; 14 - 17 Oct; 21 - 24 Oct; The deadline for submitting proposals is October 2007. In the past, Sections Congress has always been held in the United States of America, except for 1990 in Toronto, Canada and 1993 in Puerto Rico. Thus there has never been a Sections Congress in R8.

Any Section in any Region may submit a bid to have Sections Congress held within its territory. However, the preparation of a bid should not be taken lightly, since holding Sections Congress imposes a very substantial organisational commitment on the Section Volunteers over an extended time. For more details see the information on the R8 Website.

Tony Davies, R8 Sections Congress Coordinator
tonydavies@ieee.org 16 March 2007

Sections Congress 2008
Québec City, Canada, 19-22 Sept 2008

Sections Congress 2008
Québec City, Canada, 19-22 Sept 2008
Theme
**CELEBRATING VOLUNTEER
ACHIEVEMENTS WORLDWIDE**

One representative from each Section
(called the Primary Delegate)
is expected to be funded by IEEE
R8 Committee meeting expected to be in
Québec City on the day(s) before Sections Congress.

IEEE Sections Congress 2008

- **Hilton Québec Hotel**
– Sleeping Rooms/Region meetings
- **Québec City Convention Center**
– Sections Congress Events
- **Québec City, Canada**
- **19 – 22 September 2008**


**The Sections Congress Location
Rotates among Regions**

- 1984 – Boston, MA, USA (R1)
- 1987 – Anaheim, CA, USA (R6)
- 1990 – Toronto, Canada (R7)
- 1993 – San Juan, Puerto Rico (R9)
- 1996 – Denver, CO, USA (R5)
- 1999 – Minneapolis, MN, USA (R4)
- 2002 – Washington DC, USA (R2)
- 2005 – Tampa, FL, USA (R3)
- **2008 – Québec City, Quebec, Canada (R7)**

Never in Region 8: Bids for 2011 invited and due by Sept 2007

Sections Congress 2008
Québec City, Canada, 19-22 Sept 2008
Recommendations to Sections

Plan to send additional representatives
(*e.g. not just the Section Chair*)

Choose from Section volunteers who
have not previously attended a Sections Congress
–
especially the likely future leaders in your Section

Sections Congress 2008
Québec City, Canada, 19-22 Sept 2008
Recommendations to Sections

A significant expense in 2008
Set aside a proportional part
of the estimated cost from your
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- **2008 – Québec City, Canada**
 - **19 – 22 September 2008**
- Never in Region 8: Bids for 2011 invited and due by Sept 2007



(R6)
(R7)
CO (R9)
(R5)
JSA (R4)