

Director**Martin J. Bastiaans****Organization**

The IEEE Region 8 Committee consists of IEEE Region 8 Section representatives, Operating Committee (OpCom) members, and Appointed Members. In the Region 8 Committee, Sections are normally represented by their Chairs. Section Chairs may appoint an alternate representative to the Region 8 Committee. The most recent list of Region 8 Sections and their representatives to the Region 8 Committee can be found on the Region 8 website (www.ieee.org/r8).

The eight OpCom members supervise the different activities in the Region, according to the following list (an asterisk* refers to a Region 8 Subcommittee and a Subcommittee Chair, resp.):

- Director Martin Bastiaans
- Director-Elect Costas Stasopoulos
 - Regional Vitality and Section Development
- Past Director Marko Delimar*
 - Awards and Recognition* Charles Turner*
 - Nominations and Appointments*
 - Strategic Planning*
- Secretary Ali El-Mousa
 - Electronic Communications George Michael
- Treasurer Brian Harrington
 - Voluntary Contribution Fund Daniel Pasquet
- Vice Chair Member Activities Aleksandar Szabo
 - GOLD Activities* Rafal Sliz*
 - History Activities Tony Davies
 - Life Members Jacob Baal-Schem
 - Membership Development* Antonio Luque Estepa*
 - Professional Activities* Urmet Jänes*
 - Region 8 News Roland Saam / Zhijia Huang
 - Sections Congress Coordination Athanasios Skodras
 - Women in Engineering Joyce Mwangama
- Vice Chair Student Activities Pablo Herrero*
 - Student Activities* Christian Schmid
 - Student Representative
- Vice Chair Technical Activities Carl Debono
 - Chapter Coordination* Elya Joffe*
 - Conference Coordination* Jan Haase*
 - Educational Activities* Niovi Pavlidou*
 - Industry Relations* Terje Gjengedal*
 - Standards David Law

What does the R8 Committee do?

- Conducts two annual meetings of the Region leadership
 - Used for coordination of the Region business and for training of new volunteers
- Supports activities of local Organizational Units
- Coordinates meetings for technical and professional purposes throughout the Region
 - Including student events
- Coordinates activities between R8 entities and Organizational Units from outside the Region
- Engages in member development

Vision and Mission

- Vision: Region 8 is an effectively organized, dynamic and influential entity, recognized as a leading and esteemed part of a truly transnational IEEE, with IEEE benefits equally available to all members

- Mission: To serve the needs of the members of the Institute, the profession and society at large, by enhancing and supporting the IEEE's Organizational Units and their activities within Region 8

Key steps to realize the mission

- Provide a platform for coordination, motivation and interaction among Region 8 units
- Provide a link between the Region and other IEEE organizational units
- Work to achieve smooth and effective operations in different countries
 - recognizing cultural differences, and
 - effectively cooperating with national societies and other organizations
- Expand IEEE presence and activities to new geographic areas in Region 8
- Promote the transnational nature of IEEE within the Region and the Institute

General focus points for 2013-14

- Revitalize less active Sections, Chapters, Affinity Groups, Student Branches
- Help Subsections that reside directly under the Region to become a full Section
- Explore the possibility for new Geographic Units in those parts of our Region where no Sections exist
- Assist with the legal registration of Sections where required
- Be aware of the diversity in the Region (for instance, with respect to Member Development, Women in Engineering, Industry Relations, ...)
- Be aware of compliance and governance vs. frustration of volunteers (for instance, with respect to Section registration, Section reserves, Section Officers term limits, mandatory use of financial software,...)

Geographic unit and membership statistics

Statistics on 31 December 2013 (2012)

56	(56)	Sections
10	(10)	Subsections
552	(543)	Society Chapters
71	(68)	Affinity Groups
449	(416)	Student Branches
125	(106)	Student Branch Chapters
58	(55)	Student Branch Affinity Groups

78597	(77909)	Members	28 February 2014 (2013):	55921 (55288);	up by 633 = 1.1%
55652	(55831)	Non-students	28 February 2014 (2013):	40836 (39651);	up by 1185 = 3.0%
22935	(22078)	Students	28 February 2014 (2013):	15085 (15637);	down by 552 = 3.5%
81137	(79767)	Society membership			

Distribution over the different membership grades 31 December:

	H	F	SM	M	AM	GSM	StM
31-12-2012	7	973	5955	46350	2546	11658	10420
31-12-2013	7	1027	6389	46110	2119	12036	10909

Distribution over the different membership grades 28 February (after service deactivation):

	H	F	SM	M	AM	GSM	StM
28-02-2013	7	991	5539	31930	1184	9691	5946
28-02-2014	7	1031	5812	32862	1124	8836	6249

Strategic challenges

After studying recent Section reports and carrying out a survey among the Region 8 Committee members, the Region 8 Strategic Planning Subcommittee has defined the following three primary strategic challenges:

- Go to industry!
 - Make IEEE a professional home for people in industry
 - Make IEEE more attractive for industry professionals (local benefits)

- Consider “corporate membership” models
- Increase IEEE’s footprint!
 - Increase IEEE visibility (technologists, public and media)
 - Raise awareness about IEEE among non-government and government organizations active in technology
- Think education!
 - Pre-university and lifelong education
 - Accreditation? Certification?
 - Soft skills? Merging professional activities and educational activities

Recent and upcoming major events in Region 8

- R8 OpCom meeting, Dubai, United Arab Emirates, 25-27 January 2013
- R8 Subcommittee face-to-face meetings, Madrid, Spain, 19 April 2013
- R8 Committee meeting, Madrid, Spain, 20-21 April 2013 (100th meeting)
- R8 OpCom meeting, St. Petersburg, Russia, 12-14 July 2013
- R8 Committee meeting, Sarajevo, Bosnia and Herzegovina, 5-6 October 2012 (101st meeting)
- R8 OpCom meeting, Floriana, Malta, 24-26 January 2014
- R8 Subcommittee face-to-face meetings, Budapest, Hungary, 4 April 2014
- R8 Committee meeting, Budapest, Hungary, 5-6 April 2014 (102nd meeting)
- R8 Student and Young Professional Congress (R8 SYP 2014), Krakow, Poland, 6-10 August 2014
- R8 Committee meeting, Amsterdam, 21-22 August 2014 (103rd meeting), in conjunction with Sections Congress

Recent and upcoming Region 8 conferences

- EUROCON 2013, Zagreb, Croatia, 1-4 July 2013
- AFRICON 2013, Pointe aux Piments, Mauritius, 9-12 September 2013
- MELECON 2014, Beirut, Lebanon, 13-16 April 2014
- ENERGYCON 2014, Dubrovnik, Croatia, 13-16 May 2014
- HISTELCON 2015, Israel, August 2015

Recent and upcoming Section anniversaries (25, 40, 50, 60)

- 28 March 2013, Norway, 50th anniversary
- 12 June 2013, Finland, 40th Anniversary
- 12 July 2013, Germany, 50th anniversary
- 18 November 2013, Western Saudi Arabia, 25th anniversary
- 18 August 2014, Turkey, 25th Anniversary
- 5 October 2014, Israel, 60th Anniversary
- 20 February 2015, Kuwait, 25th anniversary
- 20 March 2015, Sweden, 50th Anniversary
- 15 August 2015, Romania, 25th anniversary
- 15 August 2015, Russia, 25th anniversary
- 8 September 2015, Egypt, 60th Anniversary

Recent and upcoming dedications of IEEE Milestones

- Invention of Holography, 1947
London, England, Dedicated 12 June 2013 - UK & Rep of Ireland Section
- Krka-Šibenik Electric Power System, 1895
Šibenik, Croatia, Dedicated 5 July 2013 - Croatia Section
- Rheinfelden Hydroelectric Power Plant, 1898-2010
Rheinfelden, Germany, to be dedicated 25 September 2014 - Germany Section

The original Rheinfelden plant was an outstanding achievement in Europe’s early large-scale generation of hydroelectric power. It was important for its 17,000 horsepower (12,500 kilowatt) output, for pioneering three-phase alternating current later adopted around the world, and using 50-Hertz frequency which afterwards became standard in most countries.

Gradually, Rheinfelden entered into joint operation with other stations, from which the interconnected network of continental Europe evolved.

- Two Milestones are under consideration for dedication in 2014:
 - First generation and experimental proof of electromagnetic waves, 1886-1888; Karlsruhe, Germany
 - First breaking of Enigma code by the team of Polish Cipher Bureau, 1933-1939; Warsaw, Poland

Awards and recognitions

During the Region 8 Committee meeting in Sarajevo on Sunday 6 October 2013, the following Region 8 awards have been presented/announced:

- 2013 Region 8 Volunteer Award
Samir Shaheen, Egypt Section: in recognition of his outstanding services to the Egypt Section.
- 2013 IEEE GOLD Affinity Group Hall of Fame Award
Tunisia GOLD Affinity Group, Habib M. Kammoun

During an award ceremony in Paris on Monday 9 December 2013, the 2013 SEE-IEEE Alain Glavieux Joint Award has been presented to Jean-Christophe Baillie: For the design of an operating system for autonomous robots and its wide application in the industry and the digital society.

SEE = Société de l'Electricité, de l'Electronique, et des Technologies de l'Information et de la Communication

News from Member and Geographic Activities (MGA)

Current MGA-related issues that are directly relevant to Region 8.

MGA's winning aspiration

- To be the best-in-class association for technical professionals in the world by
 - Delivering an exceptional membership experience (50% or more of members rating as IEEE membership "top box" or "very satisfied")
 - Expanding IEEE's global membership presence.
 - Developing and supporting a positive professional development experience for volunteers who deliver the IEEE experience.
- How will we win?
 - By delivering high quality IEEE branded products and service to meet gaps in member satisfaction
 - By having volunteer and geo units participating with the winning aspiration and associated objectives
 - Through locally authentic strategies and experiences
 - By exploring and implementing innovative and experimental models for member engagement

MGA's current priority projects

- Professional Productivity & Collaboration Tools
Target professional needs of authors, researchers, and current/potential IEEE members by developing tools to:
 - remotely collaborate in a seamless way
 - strengthen connections with the global community of technology professionals
 - access and manage the information they need in their profession in a very efficient way
 - accelerate research and publication with improved tools
 - facilitate professional development and networking

IEEE does not want to create "yet another" general purpose social networking platform (e.g., Facebook, LinkedIn, Google+) but to create a specialized service with a scope and depth of expertise in engineering and technology not found in general social networks. It is a joint effort by MGAB (Member and Geographic Activities Board), PSPB (Publication Services and Products Board) and TAB (Technical Activities Board), and it has a joint volunteer-staff steering committee.

- Careers
Develop a comprehensive plan to improve career offerings in the IEEE
 - Developing enterprise-wide career portfolio
 - Researching and developing career products for members mentoring and resume service
 - IEEE ResumeLab, see <http://ieee.org/resumelab>

IEEE ResumeLab, a new member benefit, is an online service that allows IEEE members to develop a resume or curriculum vitae using a wide array of resume templates. Members can also perform mock interviews using over 900 potential interview

questions or develop letters, portfolios, and skills assessments to use during the interview process. Best of all, the information developed on IEEE ResumeLab is easily shared with potential employers, mentors, or colleagues via a personalized Web site.

- Transition of IEEE GOLD to IEEE Young Professionals, see <http://www.ieee.org/yp>.
The rationale is twofold:
 - Young Professionals is a much more recognizable name that reflects the makeup of the organization, while GOLD is not only hard to understand but in many cultures associated with older generations.
 - The new name reflects a change in focus by the organization to emphasize meeting the career needs of young professionals.

Other forthcoming changes are:

- Young Professionals will become a “Membership”
- Members within 15 years of first degree will be included by default
- Section Vitality Dashboard
Develop a monitoring tool for use by Section leaders that provides real time, top-down status view of their Section’s vitality metrics. All current Section Chairs, Vice Chairs, Secretaries, Treasurers and Membership Development Chairs automatically have access to the Dashboard as well as designated SAMIEEE users.

Phase I of the Section Vitality Dashboard was launched in December 2013 and includes:

- Current information unique to their Section
- Statistics by Society, Technical Council, Special Interest Group, Technical Community and Grade
- Current volunteers and volunteer history
- Links to other performance metrics such as Year over Year membership numbers and a 5 year trend
- Links to create Surveys, Polls and Group Scheduling
- Links to vTools, SAMIEEE, eNotice, Web conferencing, and IEEE online rosters

The URL is http://www.ieee.org/societies_communities/geo_activities/dashboard.html; the dashboard itself is available at <https://analytics.ieee.org/analytics/saw.dll?dashboard>.

- Volunteer Leadership Training Program
In 2013, MGA kicked off a pilot called Volunteer Leadership Training Program (VoLT), designed to accelerate the volunteer experience. The objective is to expose volunteers to a more in-depth learning experience of the broader IEEE structure and organizational units outside of MGA. They will also acquire practical leadership skills that can be applied in their professional environment. Five Region 8 members participated in the pilot: Gloria Chukwudebe (Nigeria), Habib M. Kammoun (Tunisia), Jesus Fraile Ardanuy (Spain), Khaled Mokhtar (Egypt), and Evgen Pichkalyov (Ukraine). Each one has been assigned a mentor, who is a more seasoned volunteer well versed in IEEE. The final outcome is to have a more interested and motivated IEEE volunteer and an increased pool of candidates for leadership positions. A second pilot will be conducted in 2014 with new volunteers (2-3 per Region) to be trained.
 - First three months: Focus on IEEE foundational overview
 - Second three months: Focus on leadership

An assessment will be carried out on the potential long-term impact to local volunteer leader succession planning.

- Member communications
 - Design a program to ensure that members have better control over the communications they receive
 - Define the requirements for a member interface in IBP (IEEE Business Platform) that allows members to define preferences for communications they receive: opt-out by category, frequency, method, etc.
- Extranet for volunteers
 - Volunteer portal; the vision is to have a single easy to use interface separate from www.ieee.org
 - Project presently on hold until launch of PPCT; tools from PPCT will likely be incorporated into the extranet for volunteers.
- Mobile app strategy
 - Developing a centralized mobile application development strategy; lead by Marketing, Sales & Design Staff
 - Any smart phone user that points their web browser to <http://spectrum.ieee.org> will automatically be directed to a special version of the Spectrum website optimized for display on the smaller screen of smart phones. This is the latest byproduct of the move to HTML5 that the main Spectrum web site completed last May.

Other ongoing projects

- Fellow Directory
The newly redesigned Fellow Directory is an online search and networking tool. In addition to allowing members to network with Fellows, the directory can be used by members and non-members to find references when nominating

members to the Fellow grade. The directory is available via the left-hand menu in <http://www.ieee.org/fellows> or directly at http://www.ieee.org/membership_services/membership/fellows/fellowsDirectory.html

- **GoogleApps@IEEE**
With GoogleApps@IEEE, see <http://www.ieee.org/googleapps>, members gain a robust capability for messaging with access to e-mail, calendar, and contact services from any Internet-connected computer. In addition, members will also have access to Google Drive, Google+, and Picasa. With the use of these services there are varying degrees of privacy. GoogleApps@IEEE is available to members at no additional cost. Users will have access to:
 - a unique IEEE e-mail address (e.g., John.A.Doe@ieee.org);
 - mail forwarding or e-mail inbox (Gmail);
 - 30 gigabytes of shared storage (Gmail and Google Drive);
 - 99.9 percent up time guaranteed by Google;
 - advertisement-free Gmail;
 - storage of files in the cloud for easy sharing and access from anywhere via Google Drive.
- **NetSuite adoption**
The objective is to move towards full NetSuite adoption by developing it as a useful tool for Sections. Ultimately, the goal is full adoption by all Sections on an individual transaction basis. This is important for IEEE to meet its worldwide legal financial reporting commitments. However, at the current time there will be no withholding of rebates for Sections that do not report using NetSuite, provided that Section volunteers attempt to use NetSuite and unit financial reporting is received prior to the annual date of 31 March (same process as for last year's reporting). The office of IEEE Chief Financial Officer, Tom Siegert, will be working directly with Sections and Regions individually to get their feedback on how to make NetSuite a useful tool and to assist Sections with adoption.
- **Volunteer Communications Strategy**
Ralph Ford and Cecelia Jankowski will develop an approach for improving communications of MGA Board actions to geographic units and vice-versa, as well as tracking issues in Regions.
- **Volunteer Compliance Training**
The Ad Hoc Code of Conduct and Policy Review Committee (2013-2014) has been charged to achieve a robust ethics and compliance program based on best practices applicable to IEEE. The training will contain on-line, self-paced courses on such topics as: Harassment; Conflicts of Interest; Anti-trust; Anti-bribery; Sanctions, Boycotts and Export Controls; Data Privacy and Security; and Code of Conduct. The specific volunteer position (e.g., Section Chair or Treasurer) determines the course assignment(s).

Miscellaneous

Two IEEE Ad Hoc Committees reporting to the Board of Directors that focus on Region 8 specific issues have worked in 2013:

- IEEE Ad Hoc Committee on Activities in Africa, chaired by Vincent Kaabunga; the Ad Hoc Committee shall review and report on IEEE current activities in Africa, including scope, geographical distribution, and observable trends; and shall pursue collaborative opportunities with the IEEE-UNESCO Working Group and the Workforce Development Working Group of the IEEE Humanitarian Ad Hoc Committee. Focus of the activities lie in the area of engineering capacity building and educational activities (at all levels: pre-university, university, and continuing education);
- IEEE Ad Hoc Committee on Activities in Europe, chaired by Marko Delimar; the Ad Hoc Committee shall develop and oversee implementation of strategies to provide greater support to and a unified advocacy voice for the nearly 60,000 IEEE members who live within the countries of the European Union.

Presidential visits:

- In April 2013, the IEEE Presidents, accompanied by some IEEE Staff members, visited several countries in Africa; see also the above-mentioned Ad Hoc Committee on Activities in Africa.
- A visit of President Peter Staecker to Portugal (Lisbon, Coimbra and Porto), accompanied by Directors José Moura (Division IX Director and – with Portugal Section Chair Ruiz Cruz – one of the main organizers of this event), Gianluca Setti (Vice-President Publication Services and Products), and Martin Bastiaans (Region 8 Director), took place 29 September – 2 October 2013. The purpose was to contact and establish closer relations with the local technical community (government, business, academia).
- The second visit of two President-led delegations to (sub-Saharan) Africa took place 3-15 November 2013 with visits to Tanzania, Kenya and Ghana.
- President Roberto de Marca visited several Sections in the Middle East in January 2014: Qatar (18 January), United Arab Emirates (19-21 January), Egypt (22-26 January) and Jordan (27-29 January).

The monograph “A short history of IRE Region 9 / IEEE Region 8” is now available online at the IEEE Global History Network:

- URL to the Global History Network: <http://www.ieeehgn.org>
- Direct URL to the history of Region 8 on the Global History Network: [http://www.ieeehgn.org/wiki/index.php/Region_8_\(Europe,_M](http://www.ieeehgn.org/wiki/index.php/Region_8_(Europe,_M)
- Direct URL to the monograph: http://www.ieeehgn.org/wiki/images/a/a6/R8_history.pdf
- Abstract: A history of IEEE Region 8 spanning its origins from the IRE Region in Europe, through the IRE/AIEE merger forming the IEEE and subsequently to the present day Region 8 consisting of Europe, the Middle East, and Africa. Included are personal reflections of past directors, committee meetings and conferences, student activities, award recipients from Region 8, and Region 8 history papers presented at HISTELCON 2012. A number of archival documents are attached as appendices, including ephemera and minutes from early Region 8 Committee meetings.
- Note that this monograph is a living document and is updated whenever new material becomes available. Feel free to send any comments and suggestions for additions to m.j.bastiaans@ieee.org.

Director's calendar since the Region 8 Committee meeting in Sarajevo, October 2013

- 13 November 2013, Antwerpen, Belgium: Benelux Section ExCom meeting
- 20-25 November 2013, New Brunswick, NJ: Board Series
- 9 December 2013, Paris, France: SEE-IEEE Alain Glavieux Joint Award Ceremony
- 10-14 January 2014, Rio de Janeiro, Brazil: Board of Directors Retreat and meeting, and outreach
- 24-26 January 2014, Floriana, Malta: OpCom meeting
- 12-17 February 2014, Los Angeles, CA: Board Series and MGA Board Retreat (13 February)
- 23-24 February 2014, Budapest, Hungary: Arranging details for the R8 Committee meeting, 5-6 April 2014
- 28 February 2014, Kuching, Malaysia: Region 10 Seminar
- 1-2 March 2014, Kuching, Malaysia: Region 10 Committee meeting
- 5-6 April 2014, Budapest, Hungary: 102nd Region 8 Committee meeting
- 7 April 2014, Budapest, Hungary: IEEE Industry Application Society Day
- 13-16 April 2014, Beirut, Lebanon: MELECON
- 13-16 May 2014, Dubrovnik, Croatia: ENERGYCON
- 18-23 June 2014, New Brunswick, NJ: Board Series
- ?? June 2014: N&A Subcommittee meeting - OpCom candidates
- 6-10 August 2014, Krakow, Poland: SYP 2014 - Student and Young Professional Congress
- 21-22 August 2014, Amsterdam, Netherlands: 103rd Region 8 Committee meeting
- 22-24 August 2014, Amsterdam, Netherlands: Sections Congress
- 25-26 August 2014, Amsterdam, Netherlands: Board of Directors meeting
- 25 September 2014, Rheinfelden, Germany: Milestone event Hydroelectric Power Plant
- 3-5 October 2014: MGA Operations Committee meeting
- 19-24 November 2014, New Brunswick, NJ: Board Series