

Estonia Section

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What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to foster Industry Relations? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Industry Relations? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Industry Relations? How are you going to continue to foster Industry Relations?

Contacts with the national industry associations are rather good. Wider distribution of information about different events like DL visits have made members from industry more active. This helps them to feel they will too benefit from being IEEE member.

The traditional summer seminar in August will bring together both industrial and academic members of the section. Presentations at the seminar are from both groups and of interest for all.

One of the industry oriented new joint chapters, created two years ago - IE/PEL (Industrial Electronics / Power Electronics) - has been rather active thus proving the need for such chapters. The second one - IA/PE/RA (Industry Applications / Power & Energy / Robotics and Automation) - has been rather inactive but with the help of new chapter chair there is a hope to have them active too.

What activities/programs/initiatives work well in your Section to Attract and Support Future Members, e.g., Students and Young Professionals? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to better Attract and Support Future Members? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Attracting and Supporting Future Members? How are you going to continue to support Students and Young Professionals?

The two student branches are rather active, although now and then they forgot about reporting. One of the reasons is the increasing number of foreign students at universities. Student members participated actively at IEEEExtreme and the majority of the participants had renewed their membership.

To attract more student members, the Section is supporting their participation at various events. The students are also welcome to participate at Section's events. Representatives of Student Branches are present at ExCom meetings.

Young Professionals affinity group was launched last year to as a one option to attract more members. Their representative is also present at ExCom meetings.

What activities/programs/initiatives work well to drive the vitality and sustainability in your Section? What changes would be required by IEEE/the Region/your Section to improve Section vitality and sustainability? What were major successes since the last meeting in terms of Section Vitality? How are you going to continue to foster Section Vitality?

There are two ways to address current and potential members, essentially. First to make IEEE more visible among students who are often working already during their studies.

This will also improve contacts with industry. Another way is the use of our traditional summer seminar by inviting non-members from industry to participate.

In 2019, the seminar will be most probably in the southern area of the country and we are looking to a co-locating possibility with one of the doctoral school events. Among traditional topics from wide areas at the seminar, membership and vitality issues will be addressed more clearly.

What are your recommendations to IEEE Region 8 and the Africa Council Chair Gloria Chuckwudebe to foster IEEE in Africa? How does your Section support IEEE Activities in Africa?

Student Branches at universities where many students from African countries are studying, seems to be a good way to distribute information about IEEE and its activities.

What services and which kind of support would you expect for Region 8 and/or your section out of the new IEEE office in Vienna, Austria? How has the existence of this office influenced your section since its inauguration last year?

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Outstanding new initiatives, Special Achievements, Anniversaries.

Estonia section joined the IEEE Blockchain Groups initiative in the end of 2018. Two conferences were technically co-sponsored by the section in 2018 - CyCon 2018 and BEC 2018. The section also participated organizing IEEE NorCAS 2018 conference in Estonia in October.