

## Estonia Section

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**List the activities carried out to foster relations with Industry and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help your Section in your industry-related activities?**

Contacts with the national electronics industry association and industry are very good. The contacts with information technology and systems engineering associations and industries have improved.

Unfortunately, the spread of COVID did not allow activities during spring 2020 but there have been activities from summer. This year, the section's traditional August seminar had presentations from power and energy industry.

One joint chapter - IA/PE/RA (Industry Applications / Power & Energy / Robotics and Automation) - has been inactive and will be dissolved. In coming months, there are plans to reorganize IE/PEL (Industrial Electronics / Power Electronics) Joint Chapter to include also members from Power & Energy Society.

**List the activities addressed to Students and/or Young Professionals and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your students and YP-related activities?**

There are two student branches in Estonia Section. The one at Tallinn University of Technology has been rather active and has good cooperation with Young Professionals affinity group and Industrial Electronics Society student chapter.

The second one at Tartu University was not very active last year but this year their representatives participated actively at IEEE Xtreme 14.0. With the help of new members, there are plans to make this student chapter more active again.

To attract 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 and Young Professionals affinity group are present at ExCom meetings.

**List the activities carried out to retain and recruit members and the results obtained. List the initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your membership-related activities?**

To address potential members, we see two ways. First, to make IEEE more visible among students who are often working already during their studies. This will also improve contacts with industry. This year, at the traditional summer seminar, the participation of student members was higher than in previous years.

IEEE Xtreme competition has been a good way to attract new members. This year, 14 teams participated and the section has now 20 new student members.

All members of the section are regularly informed about upcoming events not only in the section but also in the neighboring sections when possible. The COVID virus did not affect much the membership renewal and the membership numbers are comparable for the previous year, if not even rising a bit. We plan to have our members regularly informed about upcoming events to keep their interest.

**List the activities intended to support chapters, affinity groups, and student branches and the results obtained. List the related initiatives planned during the next 6 months and their expected outcomes. How can the Region help in your support to chapters, affinity groups, and student branches?**

The section informs chapter chairs about upcoming section events. Also, chapter chairs inform through ExCom the whole section about their upcoming events. The chapters are supported logistically and financially when organizing their events. The same applies for affinity groups and student branches. The Young Professionals affinity group has been also very active organizing different events.

During last few years, three new chapters have been formed. Two of them, joint IE/PEL and IE student chapters have been very active thus showing for the need of such chapters. Unfortunately, the third one - IA/PE/RA (Industry Applications / Power Energy / Robotics and Automation) - has been inactive and will be dissolved since the attempts to activate it have not been successful. However, there are plans to reorganize IE/PEL Joint Chapter to include also members from PES.

**Challenges (with a focus on what support is required from Region 8)**

The main challenge today is to organize events in the situation when traveling and meetings are very complicated to organize, if not even impossible. The use of virtual events would require smoother informing of members - eNotice is not always comfortable for that because of its restrictions about who can use it.