

Germany Section

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Section Vitality

The last election for the IEEE Section Executive Committee (ExCom) took place in December 2024. In this election, the former Vice-Chair, Dr. Christoph Baer, was elected as the new Section Chair, while Dr. Thomas Kopfstedt, the Membership Development Officer, was appointed as the new Vice-Chair. There was no election held for the Treasurer position during this period.

The Secretary of the Germany Section is traditionally appointed by the German Engineering Association (VDE). This process has been in place for many years, with the Managing Director of VDE-ITG typically assuming the role of the IEEE Germany Section Secretary. The strong partnership between VDE and IEEE fosters collaboration, benefiting both organizations by connecting members and supporting various activities.

In 2025, the Section ExCom will hold monthly "Jour Fixe" meetings to discuss matters such as funding applications and other administrative tasks. These meetings will include the Chair, Vice-Chair, Treasurer, and Secretary.

Additionally, the Section will hold four AdCom meetings throughout the year, involving all officers, student branch chairs, chapter chairs, Women in Engineering (WiE) chairs, SIGHT chairs, and other key leaders. The first AdCom meeting is scheduled for February 24, 2025, followed by the second on May 19-20, 2025. These meetings aim to provide a platform for ongoing collaboration, planning, and development across various IEEE activities within the region.

To retain and recruit members, the Section continues to implement effective strategies such as fostering relationships with VDE, hosting regular ExCom meetings, and organizing AdCom sessions to engage all stakeholders. These initiatives help ensure that the Section remains vibrant, collaborative, and responsive to the needs of its members. **Students**

List of Student Branches (SB) in your Section, the newly formed or dissolved SBs, if any since the last meeting reporting. List the student meetings held and Section activities addressed to Students and Young Professionals.

Affinity Groups

The IEEE Germany Section currently maintains the following affinity groups (AGs): Life Members (LM), Women in Engineering (WiE), Young Professionals (YP), and SIGHT (Special Interest Group on Humanitarian Technology).

Among these, the SIGHT group has been particularly active in organizing practical projects. A notable initiative is the LED Christmas Tree project, where the group designed an education kit for students in soldering and programming. The assembled Christmas trees are then distributed to those in need during the pre-Christmas period. This initiative has gained significant attention, and the SIGHT group has recently engaged with the Region 9 Director, who is interested in spreading this idea across multiple regions. Workshops are being planned under the supervision of the SIGHT Germany Section to further promote this project.

The Women in Engineering (WiE) group has not been as visible in recent years. In response to this, the new ExCom has restructured the leadership within the WiE group by splitting the chair position and organizing elections. As of January 2025, the WiE Germany Section now has two distinct chairs: one for Chapter and Professional Activities and one for Student and Young Professional Activities. Both chairs are collaborating closely to support and promote WiE initiatives and to increase the visibility of WiE activities within the section.

There have been no new affinity groups or student branch affinity groups formed or dissolved since the last meeting. The Section continues to focus on strengthening existing groups and supporting them through targeted activities and leadership structures.

Chapters

The IEEE Germany Section currently boasts a total of 24 chapters, covering a wide range of technical areas. In the past two years, the Section has conducted an extensive campaign to rejuvenate its chapters and re-elect long-serving chapter chairs. This initiative has been highly successful, resulting in fresh leadership and renewed energy across all chapters. As a result, the chapters are now led by motivated individuals who are driving growth and engagement within their respective fields.

Two chapter chair positions are currently vacant, but efforts are underway to fill these roles. A notable addition to the Section is the newly approved "Robotics and Automation Society Chapter (RA24)," which was formally recognized in January 2025.

The following is the complete list of all the chapters within the IEEE Germany Section:

AES10, AP03/MTT17, C16, CAS04, CIS11, COM19, CT08, E25, ED15, EMB18, EMC27, EP21, GRS29, IE13/IA34/PEL35, IM09, IT12, ITS38, MAG33, NPS05, PE31, RA24 (New), SP01, SSC37, VT06

Regarding chapter activity reporting, all chapters within the Section have adhered to deadlines and have been eligible for rebates based on timely submissions. The revitalization of the chapter leadership has led to more dynamic and productive

activities across the Section, with a renewed focus on technical events, workshops, and networking opportunities for members. These efforts highlight the commitment to keeping the chapters aligned with IEEE's goals and maintaining strong engagement in the region.

Industry

The IEEE Germany Section maintains a strong and active relationship with the industry through its dedicated team of four Industry Officers, each specializing in a key sector: Automotive, Semiconductor, Energy, and ICT/IUK. These officers meet regularly to align strategies and share insights, ensuring a coordinated approach to industry engagement.

Through their efforts, the IEEE Germany Section maintains close contact with a diverse network of over 60 companies, ranging from small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to globally recognized brands. This continuous exchange fosters collaboration opportunities, strengthens the IEEE's presence in the industry, and supports innovation and knowledge transfer between academia and businesses.

Diversity, Equity and Inclusion

The IEEE Germany Section has a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion officer which is close contact to the WIE affinity group and who can be contacted at any time when specific questions are raised.

Activities since the last report

During the reporting period, the IEEE Germany Section underwent elections, which naturally limited the number of major activities. However, one particularly successful initiative was the LED Christmas Tree Event.

Organized in collaboration with the SIGHT group, this activity involved distributing specially designed soldering kits to all IEEE Student Branches across Germany. As a result, the event was conducted simultaneously in multiple locations, creating a nationwide engagement opportunity. This decentralized approach not only maximized participation but also strengthened the connection between student branches and IEEE's humanitarian technology efforts.

This initiative proved to be a great success, demonstrating the effectiveness of simple yet interactive hands-on activities in fostering student engagement.

Planned activities

The IEEE Germany Section has several exciting initiatives and events planned for the coming months, focusing on internal capacity building, historical recognition, and addressing future challenges in engineering education and industry demand.

German Section Webinars

With several newly elected Administrative Committee (AdCom) officers, the IEEE Germany Section will organize a series of webinars to provide guidance on structural organization and operational procedures. These webinars aim to enhance knowledge and efficiency within the section by covering the following topics:

IEEE Structure and Governance

Technical Infrastructure

Funding Possibilities: Application Processes and Reimbursement with Concur

vTools for Reporting and Messaging

These sessions will ensure that all officers and active members are well-equipped to manage their responsibilities effectively.

IEEE Milestone Unveiling – June 2025

In collaboration with the IEEE Poland Section, the IEEE Germany Section will celebrate the unveiling of an IEEE Milestone dedicated to the first long-distance electric power transmission using three-phase alternating current. The milestone will be located in Frankfurt am Main, highlighting a pivotal moment in electrical engineering history. All interested members are encouraged to attend this significant event.

"Future of German Engineering" Initiative

In response to the declining number of engineering students and the increasing demand for engineers in the industry, the IEEE Germany Section's Executive Committee (ExCom) has launched an ad-hoc initiative titled "Future of German Engineering."

The initiative will proceed in two phases:

Phase 1: Connecting with schools, universities, and industry stakeholders to understand their specific needs, expectations, and challenges. IEEE will also collaborate with national organizations involved in engineering.

Phase 2: Facilitating mediation between educational institutions, industry, and policymakers. Based on the insights from Phase 1, the initiative will work on new education models, career pathways, and job opportunities. Additionally, IEEE Germany Section aims to engage with the German government to launch a nationwide campaign promoting engineering careers to younger generations.

This initiative marks a proactive step toward ensuring the future of engineering in Germany by fostering collaboration and innovation in education and workforce development.

How Region 8 can be of help to your Section, members, and activities

At this moment, the IEEE Germany Section does not face any significant challenges requiring immediate support from Region 8. Likewise, there are no specific agenda items or other pressing issues to be addressed in the upcoming Region 8 Committee meeting.

However, the section remains open to collaboration and looks forward to continued engagement with Region 8 to further strengthen IEEE activities in Germany.