

Germany Section

Dr. Christoph Baer

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 order to support the extensive work of the secretary, the Section appointed Kristof Dausien, M.Sc, as secretary assistant and Communications Officer.

Starting in 2025, the Section ExCom holds 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 was scheduled as online Meeting for February 24, 2025, followed by an in person on May 19-20, 2025 in Stuttgart hosted by an industry partner. In frame of the meeting participants visited the Mercedes museum and the main control center of the energy grid in Baden Württemberg. The third AdCom meeting is an online meeting that takes part on 29.9.25. The final meeting in 2025 will be held by 27. November in Hamburg in combination with a visit to the DESY (German Electron Synchrotron) All 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. Furthermore, new approaches toward further national society such as VDI and BDG.

Students

Active Student Branches (SB): Bielefeld, Chemnitz, Gießen, Hamburg, Ilmenau, Karlsruhe, Magdeburg, Passau,

Currently in-active SB: Aachen, Darmstadt, Duisburg-Essen, Hannover, München, Regensburg

Potential SB that prepare a petition: Bochum, Cottbus

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.

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.

As of September 2025 the Germany Section appointed Dr. Sevda Abadpour as Entrepreneurship Coordinator.

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

Germany 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

IEEE Milestone Unveiling – June 2025

In collaboration with the IEEE Poland Section, the IEEE Germany Section celebrated the unveiling of an IEEE Milestone dedicated to the first long-distance electric power transmission using three-phase alternating current. The milestone is located in Frankfurt am Main, and highlights a pivotal moment in electrical engineering history. The unveiling ceremony took place on 12.6.25 and hosted more than 50 guests including representatives from VDE, industry and IEEE president Kathleen Kramer.

GECon 2025

The IEEE German Education Conference 2025 took place in July 2025 in Hamburg. Themed “Networking Education in Germany,” the conference aimed to provide a platform to discuss teaching concepts and methodologies in German academic institutions, including universities, universities of applied sciences, and distance learning universities. This conference also aimed to foster collaboration among German academic institutions and establish education-industry collaboration networks (e.g., towards preparing a future workforce with the adequate skills required by Industry 4.0, Industry 5.0, and Society 5.0 paradigms).

Hosted by the IEEE Germany Section and locally organized by Nordakademie, the conference highlighted challenges and approaches in higher education through oral presentations and posters. Workshops were organized to discuss and exchange recent experiences regarding online teaching, labs, and evaluations, the students' perspectives, and the financial support for conducting research in education.

WESYP2025

The YP of the Germany Section and the SBs Hamburg and Chemnitz organized in collaboration with Region 8 the Wester European Student and Young Professional Congress in September in Hambrug. The congress offered engaging talks, work-

shops, and technical sessions. Participants gained valuable mentorship, explored cutting-edge AI advancements, and connected with industry leaders. With a strong emphasis on inclusivity, diversity, and collaboration, WESYP empowered the next generation of engineers and professionals to thrive in their careers.

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.

Histelcon2025

The Germany Section is organizer of this year's IEEE Histelcon which will be held in October in Bonn, Germany.

"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.