IEEE Region8news

http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/8/

http://www.ieee.org/regional/r8/

From the Region 8 Director

First, thank you to my predecessor Levent Onural, who worked very effectively to inform the IEEE leadership about the contribution to the technical and geographical dimensions of IEEE which Region 8 makes. He encouraged Societies to take more interest in Region 8, to bring their conferences here and to better appreciate the transnational aspects of IEEE.

The diversity of the many countries, languages, cultures and economic conditions within R8 are an excellent model for the transnational vision of IEEE. Under the guidance of the R8 Committee, membership has increased, new Sections and Chapters have been formed, exciting student activities have taken place and many new conferences and workshops have been initiated. All this has been a real 'success-story', setting an example for the rest of

IEEE to follow.

Nevertheless, in Region 8 many eligible engineers, especially in industry, have not joined IEEE and are unaware of all that IEEE has to offer. Many perceive IEEE as only a publisher of technical literature, mainly for academic researchers. Although partially true, IEEE offers much more, and we have to find ways to make this apparent.

In 2002 the transnational image of IEEE suffered many setbacks, some with a particularly strong impact upon Region 8. It was a shock to many of us to learn that US Federal laws could prevent citizens of certain countries from joining IEEE. A new IEEE copyright form (fortunately now significantly modified) appeared to restrict some authors from submitting their work to IEEE. Citizens of some countries found it harder to obtain entry visas to USA for attending IEEE conferences. The economic downturn in the USA led to financial problems within IEEE and as a result, some

IEEE Societies became less generous in supporting Chapter initiatives and conferences. The dues increase, especially for students, has a big impact on some parts of Region 8.

I hope that IEEE will overcome such problems, and continue to improve what it offers to the world. I look forward to working with the many dedicated volunteers in IEEE to help bring that about, and to enable Region 8 to continue to set an excellent example.

Tony Davies
Visiting Professor, Kingston University,
Emeritus Professor, King's College,
University of London.
tonydavies@ieee.org
www.tonydavies.org.uk

IEEE Awards to Region 8 Members

At the IEEE Board Meeting in November 2002, prestigious awards were made to Region 8 members. Region 8 News would like to congratulate the recipients.

The **2003 IEEE Haraden Pratt Award**. Congratulations to **Charles Turner** of Kings College, London, who has been named as recipient with the following citation: *"For his outstanding leadership in extending the transnational activities of the IEEE into Eastern and Central Europe."* Charles currently is Secretary of Region8 Operating committee, and is familiar to Region 8 members for his many contributions to the Region and IEEE Technical activities.

The **2003 IEEE Control Systems Award** - sponsored by IEEE Control Systems Society to

Nikolai Nicolaevich Krasovski (Non-member) - Principal Researcher, Professor, Technical University of Ural, Russia *"For pioneering contributions to the theories of stability, control, and differential games."*

The following IEEE Medals were awarded to recipients in Region 8:

IEEE Alexander Graham Bell Medal - sponsored by Lucent Technologies to:

Joachim Hagenauer (Fellow) - Professor, Munich University of Technology, Munich, Germany *"For*

IEEE

Editor's Ramblings...

Every issue of Region8 News is a new experience for me and I hope that you will enjoy this issue.

Welcome to our new director and vice chairmen (V/C's) of the operating committee who are all member - volunteers. Their contact information is printed alongside this column. Vitality in our region is the combination of members interest, a wide variety of activities, hard work and fun. To do their jobs well, they need to hear from you.

Read about the awards and achievements of our members in Region 8. The IEEE has a complex organisation and many awards from Regional Activities Board (RAB) and from the IEEE itself are being achieved by members. I wanted to print the names of all our new Fellows and Senior Members, but lacked space in this issue.

What's New: With the aim to improve our pages further, Region8 News once again will accept paid display advertisements. There is a demand from conference organisers, from consultants, attorneys, and Companies who wish to promote their "brand". If you or your organisation are interested in reaching 55,000 members of our profession, please contact "IEEE Media" which is contracted to sell our advertising space: contact Hilary Turnbull at ht.ieeemedia@ieee.org.

Effective 31 Dec. 2002, IEEE closed its European Operations Centre in Brussels, Belgium. On behalf our readers, thank you to the staff managed since 1985 by Jacques Kevers, whose enthusiastic help will be missed by IEEE R8 members.

Please note the deadlines for announcements and articles. The November Photo Contest had an exceptional response. I hope you will enter the February contest - with a unique, prestigious prize - An attractive Limited Edition IEEE Swatch.

Requests for Extra Copies of Region8 News: If your section/ chapter would like extra copies of R8 News to use for publicity, etc. quantities of 25, 50 or more can be requested in advance and be sent directly from the printers in USA. Please let me know at usual deadline and I will forward your request.

Roland Saam
r.saam@ieee.org

Editor:

Roland J. Saam
Micros For Managers Ltd
149 Gloucester Road
London SW7 4TH
ENGLAND
Tel +44 20 7565 2111
Fax +44 20 7565 2114
E-mail *r.saam@ieee.org*

contributions to soft decoding and its application to iterative decoding algorithm.

The **2003 IEEE Richard W. Hamming Medal** - sponsored by AT&T Labs to:

Claude Berrou (Member) - Professor, Ecole Nationale Superieure des Telecommunications de Bretagne, Brest, France and **Alain Glavieux** (Non-member) - Professor, Ecole Nationale Superieure des Telecommunications de Bretagne, Brest, France *"For the invention of turbo codes, which have revolutionized digital communications"*

The **2003 IEEE Jack S. Kilby Signal Processing Medal** - sponsored by Texas Instruments, Inc. to:

Hans W. Schuessler - (Life Fellow) - Professor (Emeritus) University of Erlangen-Nuernberg, Erlangen, Germany *"For his role in the early development of the field of Digital Signal Processing, especially the theory, design, and implementation of analog and digital filters."*

IEEE Honorary Membership - sponsored by IEEE to: **Jorma Ollila** - Chairman and CEO, Nokia Corporation, Finland *"For contributions to launching mobile communications, a major global industry that has fundamentally changed the way people communicate."*

IEEE Technical Field Award: **2003 IEEE Eric E. Sumner Award** - sponsored by Lucent Technologies to:

Werner Bux (Fellow) - Manager, Dept of Communication Systems, IBM Zurich Research Laboratory, Ruschlikon, Switzerland and

Hans R. Mueller (Fellow) - Retired, Langnau, Switzerland *"For contributions to the design, development and standardization of the token-ring local area network."*

2002 Regional Activities Board Awards to Region8 Members

The IEEE Regional Activies Board has recognized the following Region 8 Members for their outstanding contributions. The editor of Region 8 News extends congratulations on behalf of all of our readers.

The **2002 RAB Larry K. Wilson Transnational Award** to **Rolf Remshardt**, *"For exemplary contributions in bringing the benefits of IEEE membership to colleagues throughout Europe and for effective fiscal and financial leadership within IEEE Region 8."*

Rolf is well known to Region 8 News readers because he has served as Region Treasurer, Region Director, and many other volunteer offices.

Two Leadership Awards in Region 8 were granted:

The **2002 RAB Leadership Award** to **Engy M.S. Foda**, *"For exemplary efforts in organizing successful 2002 IEEE Region 8 StudentBranch and GOLD Congresses"*.

Engy is a student at Cairo University, Computer Engineering Dept., and is very active in Egypt Section Student Branch and GOLD.

The **2002 RAB Leadership Award** to **Margaretha Eriksson** *"For stimulating and promoting the formation of technical chapters and promoting the value of the IEEE membership at regional conferences within IEEE Region 8."* Margaretha has contributed often to IEEE events including introducing management techniques and training at workshops in Region8 conferences and congresses.

The **2002 RAB Achievement Award** to **Issac Adeyemi Adekanye** *"For outstanding efforts in facilitating the rejuvenation of the IEEE Nigeria Section and the promotion of IEEE Senior membership."* Isaac has often appeared in R8News as IEEE Nigeria Section chairman leading events and promoting student branch activities.

IEEE Responsibility Reaffirmed

At its meeting on 14 November the IEEE Publication Services and Products Board reviewed the situation regarding regulations of the US Office of Foreign Asset Control (OFAC) and their potential impact on the ability of IEEE publications to handle articles from authors in certain countries.

The PSPBoard unanimously passed this resolution: "Resolved that the IEEE reaffirms its support for the right of scientists, engineers and academicians to exchange ideas and participate in scholarly activities on a global basis, especially in regard to our responsibility 'to disseminate information on technical, scientific, professional and newsworthy topics of interest to members, the engineering and scientific community and the general public'.

Further, IEEE will continue to work with other professional societies and interested parties to safeguard these principles." This resolution was then passed by the IEEE Board of Directors at its meeting on 17 November. We will keep you informed of additional developments as they occur.

Tony Durniak
IEEE Staff Exec., Publications

IEEE CLOSING BRUSSELS OFFICE

The IEEE European Operations Center, located in Brussels, Belgium, closed, on 31 Dec. 2002. The office was opened in 1985 by the IEEE Computer Society. In 2000, the office became part of the Regional Activities Department.

Beginning in January 2003, IEEE member and affiliate inquiries from Region 8 should be sent to mailto:member-services@ieee.org. Other inquiries about the office should be directed to mailto:regional-activities@ieee.org.

From IEEE Leadership Wire

Letters to the Editor - Is Russian Science Still Alive?

Dear colleague,

Soon we will start publishing a new journal on Computational Linguistics. It will be published in Russia (in Russian and English). To plan its printing and readership, we need to know whether you, or your University's library, would subscribe to this journal. Especially important are subscriptions outside ex-USSR, otherwise the project is just not financially viable.

Is Russian Science Still Alive?

Yes. Recent annual conferences Dialogue www.dialog21.ru have gathered hundreds of Russian linguists, computational linguists, and business representatives. Dialogue conferences have more than 25 years of history.

In 2001, Russian Association for Computational Linguistics and Intelligent Technologies (COLINT) was founded by several leading Russian research institutes, software companies, and university groups, to promote the full spectrum of activity in this domain, from fundamental research to commercial product development.

The new journal will be oriented mostly to the vast community formed around Dialogue and COLINT and will exploit its huge potential for high quality novel publications.

Why Read Russian Publications?

1. Russian science has earned excellent reputation in the past. Even though Russia has lost its military and financial strength, its scientists and the quality of their research are the same.

2. Russian Computational Linguistics tradition, for historical reasons, is different from the Western mainstream. It's good news and bad news.

Bad news because Western scientists sometimes have difficulties in understanding Russian papers, and it takes effort to map the terminology and the basic assumptions to those traditional in the West.

Good news because this gives a new perspective, fresh (or just different) ideas, and thus enriches your horizon. Combining these new (different) ideas with the mainstream research directions would give you an advantage over your colleagues who do not have access to this source,

3. Many of these publications will deal with Russian as the object of the research. The potentially huge Russian market and integration of Russia into world culture and economics, many companies and thus research institutes, conferences, publishers, etc. show constantly growing interest in Russian-related lingware. Russian as object might become a promising research direction for your group, too!

What to DO?

1. Ask your librarian if they would subscribe for such a journal, and let us know [Gelbukh@Gelbukh.com]

2. Pass this message on to your colleagues who might be interested, to mailing lists, etc.

Thank you!
Alexander (www.Gelbukh.com)
Prof. Dr. Alexander Gelbukh
Head of NLP Lab,(CIC),
CIC - Centro de Investigacion en Computacion
IPN - Instituto Politecnico Nacional
Unidad Profesional "Adolfo Lopez Mateos"
Av. Juan Dios Batiz casi esq. Av. Mendizabal
Col. Zacatenco
CP 07738 Mexico DF
MEXICO

BOD Reforms Admissions Criteria

At its meeting in Itasca, Chicago on November 16/17th, the IEEE Board of Directors approved some very significant changes in Bylaws 104.4 and 104.10, which govern the admission requirements for candidates applying for membership. At present, candidates applying for full Member grade at, or soon after, graduation must have a bachelor's degree from a program on the IEEE REP list. The REP List comprises, typically, three or four-year programs in Electrical Engineering, Electronic Engineering or Computer Engineering that have been accredited by a national agency (e.g. ABET, FEANI, IEE, etc.)

The new process to be phased in during 2003 introduces a two-pronged approach for the REP List:

(i)   a list of higher education institutions providing accredited degree programs in engineering and applied science;

(ii)   a list of technical fields deemed to be within IEEE's domain of interest.

For **automatic admission to Member grade** an applicant must have graduated from an institution on the REP List, with a bachelor's or higher degree in an IEEE technical field. Otherwise, the candidate would be assigned Associate member grade status.

Candidates who apply for admission some years after graduation with a bachelor's or higher degree will be treated differently. In these cases the key requirement focuses more on the documented professional experience gained in employment, and less on the details of the educational qualifications. The candidate must have at least three years of experience in an IEEE technical field if the institution granting the degree is not in the REP List.

After six years in technical employment in an IEEE technical field there is no requirement for the applicant to be a graduate.

The objectives of the new procedures are (a) to present a more welcoming image for Information Technology professionals who wish to become members of IEEE, and (b) to broaden the range of technical fields embraced by IEEE and to make it easier to accept professionals engaged in emerging technologies.

For the new admissions process to work effectively, the involvement of IEEE Regions and Sections in the maintenance of the list of institutions, and of IEEE Societies in compiling and updating the list of IEEE technical fields will be essential. There will be an inevitable transition phase before the new process comes on stream but the goal is to have it fully in place for the 2004 renewal cycle.

Charles Turner
Secretary, Region 8
c.turner@ieee.org

IEEE Women in Engineering

IEEE Women in Engineering

First of a regular series of articles. A Study of Gender of IEEE Members, and the Aims of the WIE Affinity Group.

The Women in Engineering Committee recently presented a study that surveyed the female membership in the IEEE with a special focus on all of the regions and Sections. The general female presence in the IEEE is– 7.85% (Men members 91.46% and Unknown. The data fluctuates slightly during the year but in this particular case, data is of July 2002.

Figure 1 compares the female membership to regions total in the IEEE. Region8 shows a lower trend than the average of the IEEE. In R8 only 6.96% of the members are women. This is one of the lowest regional percentages in the IEEE. It is also important to note that 11% of all the IEEE females reside in R8.

The regional information is too general, therefore the IEEE female presence in percentage in the R8 Sections was analysed. The results can be seen in the following map, where figures reflect the IEEE female membership to country total. Multi-sectional countries have been united because the results were almost equal and also for clarity.

Although the IEEE penetration is different in the different Sections, this map is intended to show the trends.

The lowest percentages in our region happen in: Saudi Arabia 2%, Czechoslovakia 2.76% followed by Germany with 3,31%

The best results occur in Bahrain, where 26% of the members are women, followed by Yugoslavia 17% and Turkey, also with 17%.

The Women in Engineering Affinity Group offers membership to all IEEE members. In R8 there are 1012 WIE members, 1.9% of the R8 membership, a little bit above the general interest for WIE in the IEEE (1.53% of all the IEEE members are also WIE members) but still way behind the WIE membership in R9 that is 11%.

The Women in Engineering Committee has recently surveyed the members, and 42% of the respondents from R8 answered they have joined WIE because they consider that little is being done in their countries/Sections about this issue. We are now forming local Affinity Group Chapters. In R8 there are only two so far: Spain and Switzerland.
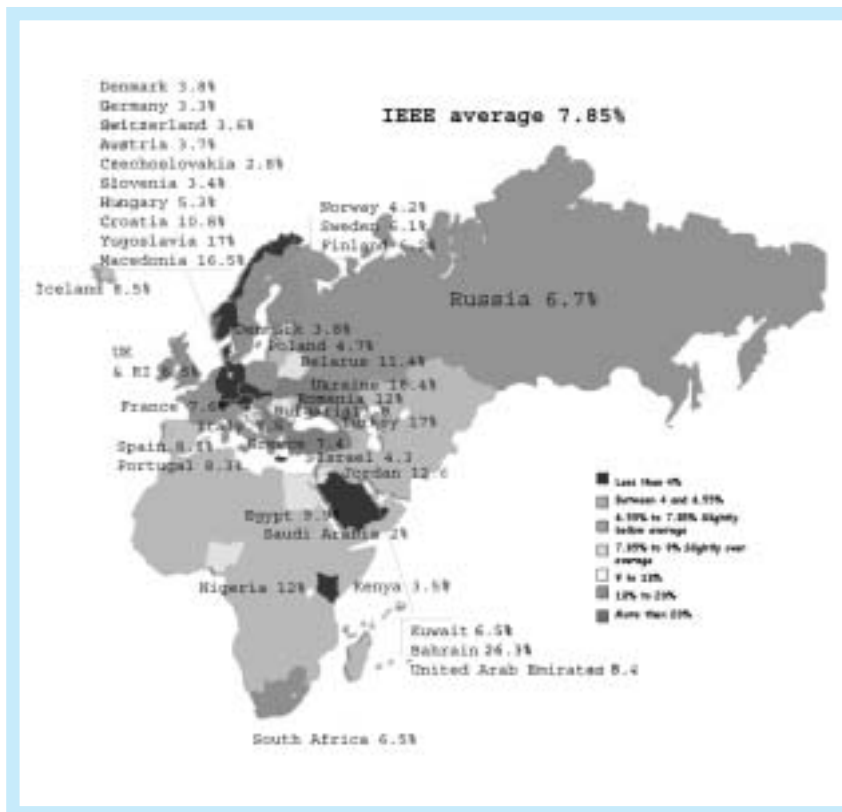
The WIE Committee scopes of interest are:

1. Gather and disseminate information regarding the status of women and initiatives for, by and on behalf of women in engineering and science.

2. Enable mentoring and education programs within IEEE and make available information regarding gender related educational issues which may improve the entry into, and the retention of women in engineering programs.

3. Increase the participation of women within IEEE.

4. Address ways to improve the climate for women in IEEE and the workplace.

If you are interested in this issues, want to find out more about this study or want to send us some feedback, please contact us at women@ieee.org

Contributed by Magdalena Salazar Palma and Pilar Molina Gaudó
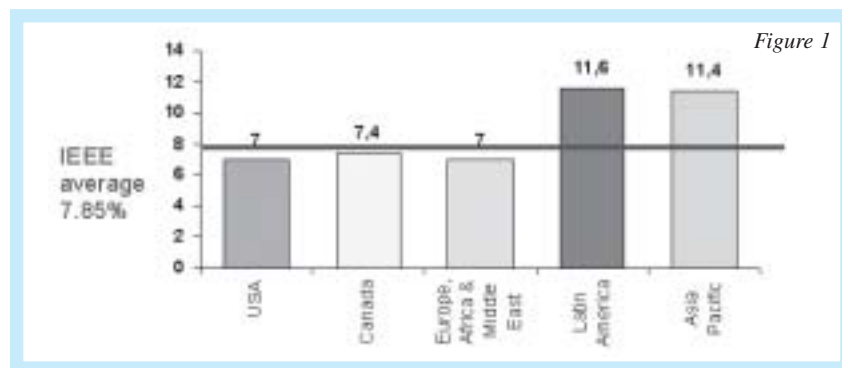
Figure 1

Swiss IEEE Section Dedicates Milestone Quartz Wristwatch

The year 2002 will be remembered in Switzerland not only for the National Exhibition EXPO.02, but also for the first celebration last September of an IEEE Historical Milestone dedicated to pioneering work during the 1960's in the engineering development of the electronic quartz wristwatch.

Both events took place in the three lakes region (Neuchâtel, Bienne, Morat) midway between French-speaking Geneva and German-speaking Basle, close to the Jura mountains at the western border, which have been the cradle of Swiss watchmaking, known today as "Watch Valley" (www.watchvalley.ch). This region is very little known to foreign tourists, who usually flock to the Alpine resorts or visit better known towns, like Geneva, Zurich, Lucerne or Lugano.

This IEEE Milestone celebrates one moment of the birth of the Swiss electronics industry. Until then traditional Swiss industry was dominated by precision mechanics and large mechanical and electrical machinery builders, as proudly shown at the Swiss National Exhibition 1964 in Lausanne. The quartz watch was

the vehicle which forcefully introduced microelectronics into the academic and industrial fabric of Switzerland, disrupting traditional jobs and practices.

Start of a Global Electronics Revolution

It was a truly global revolution, long before Internet (incidentally the Web was invented at CERN in Geneva), because it affected at the same time Japan, the U.S.A. and Europe (France and Germany also have a timekeeping industry). The flow of innovation originated in the U.S.A., starting with the invention of the transistor in 1948, and attracted an influx of specialized microelectronics trained engineers into Switzerland and Japan, which were fiercely competing to adapt the new technologies very quickly to their traditional mechanical watchmaking industries.

This paradigm shift is aptly symbolically represented by the face of the IEEE Milestone.02 SWATCH, created for this occasion in limited number by the SWATCH GROUP. It shows a traditional watch dial being lifted, disclosing below

the electronic innards of the quartz watch movement, housed in a transparent plastic case. The SWATCH, entered the North-American market exactly 20 years ago, marks the start of mass-production of the quartz watch in Switzerland, with very low manufacturing costs, since it only has about 50 components and is produced on fully automated lines. The price of a SWATCH has remained unchanged since its inception in 1982.

The turning point in the battle between the newcomer quartz watch and the old balance wheel mechanical watch (remember that Huygens invented 1675 the balance wheel in Holland) came in December 1967 at the International Chronometric

Contest held each year at Neuchâtel's Astronomical Observatory: for the first time quartz wristwatch prototypes submitted by the Swiss Centre Electronique Horloger SA and by the Japanese Seiko largely broke the accuracy record held until then by highly precise and very expensive mechanical watch chronometers.

Sun Shines on IEEE Milestone Ceremonies

This is the reason why the IEEE bronze plaque dedication was held in the morning of September 28 in the open court in front of the Neuchâtel Observatory building, during a clear nice Fall day. Among the 60 persons attending,there were many guests from abroad including most of the pioneering engineers, who back in 1962 started in Switzerland the miniaturization quest for squeezing a bulky, energy hungry and heavy quartz clock into a small wristwatch case. The plaque now hangs proudly beside the main entrance of the Observatory, close to the sign of the local Meridian.

The dedication started with the welcome from V. Teodoridis, Deputy Managing Director of the Observatory, who then introduced Neuchâtel's State Councillor B. Soguel, who thanked **IEEE** for choosing Switzerland and specifically Neuch el for this celebration. Then Martha Sloan, past IEEE president, recalled the importance of the IEEE history program. Mauro Ciappa, Chairman of the Swiss Section, which sponsored the event, introduced to the audience three of the pioneers (Dr. M. Forrer, Dr. R. Wellinger, R. LeCoultre) of **Centre Electronique Horloger** SA (**CEH**), who jointly with Martha Sloan unveiled the bronze plaque standing beside the speakers podium. The contributions of political and industrial leaders like Gérard F. Bauer and Sydney de Coulon, who arranged CEH research center, was recalled.

Finally Dr.T.Hinderling, Managing Director of **Centre Suisse d'Electronique et Microtechnique SA** (www.csem.ch), the microtechnology R&D organization which was born out of CEH in 1984, gave the closing remarks by illustrating many new avenues of development and products based on the very low power CMOS chip technology that originated in Neuchâtel because of the quartz wristwatch.

Milestone Plaque with Swiss watch pioneers Max Forrer, Roger Wellinger and Rene LeCoultre.

Engineers Recall Early Achievements

In the afternoon of the same day most of the guests travelled up into the Jura mountains to the Musée International d'Horlogerie (www.mih.ch) in La Chaux-de-Fonds, the highest town of Europe and an important center of watchmaking since the early 1800's. The Symposium organized at the Musée d'Horlogerie and sponsored by the SWATCH GROUP had more than 100 attendees.The aim of the symposium was to collect reminiscences from the attending pioneering engineers, who sat on the panel or in the audience and to put into perspective the achievements of CEH in the morning by re-enacting the history of the electrical/electronic watch, which started 1948 with the transistor and ended 1982 with the mass-production of **SWATCH.**

The **historical development** unfolded in three waves: First came the Frenchman Lip together with Elgin,Ill. USA in 1952, when the first battery-driven wristwatch was put on the market (exactly 50 years ago), thanks to the availability of miniaturized electrical batteries developed during WW II.

On the heels of that followed the second wave with the invention by Max Hetzel (a Swiss engineer) of the transistorized mechanical tuning fork circuitry (the basic patent was registered in 1953), which hit the market in 1960 under the **Accutron** brand as exclusive product of **BULOVA**.

Then in 1955 in Geneva at Battelle Memorial, in 1960 at **Seiko** in Suwa

(Japan) and in 1962 at **CEH** in Neuchâtel the third wave took shape, with a very important contribution in 1969 by Jean Hoerni (a Swiss physicist, founder of Fairchild Semiconductors and Intersil) in Cupertino, CA, when the first operating CMOS low power watch chip was mass-produced.

Juergen Staudte, a German engineer, founder of Statek Corp.in Orange,CA made another seminal contribution, by inventing 1972 and later mass-producing the 32-kHz photochemically etched quartz tuning fork resonator.

To celebrate the end of the Symposium an IEEE Milestone.02 SWATCH was donated to the Museum by A.Bally, member of Management of SWATCH GROUP. This closed the gap to its ancestor, the ultraflat gold-cased quartz watch **DELIRIUM,** which was deposited at the same Museum by A.Beyner back in 1979 and marketed in the US the same year by **CONCORD**.

Proceedings Available on CD

The proceedings of the Symposium have been digitally recorded and are available on CD, optionally together with an historical brochure and the corresponding IEEE Milestone.02 SWATCH. Inquiries from IEEE members can be directed to the author at h.wyss@ieee.org

Contributed by
Hugo Wyss
IEEE Switzerland Section
h.wyss@ieee.org

IEEE SIGNS LINK WITH S.E.E.

IEEE President Ray Findlay Visits France Section

During September 13 to 17, IEEE President Ray Findlay visited France and the French Section of the IEEE.

On September 13, 2002, Dr. Findlay participated in a meeting of the France Section's Board followed by a meeting of the General Assembly of the Section with about 100 members in attendance. The meeting agenda covered issues of both local and international importance. Findlay addressed the section with a presentation that included: the mission of the

Ray Findlay and François Ailleret, President of SEE, signing the MOU between IEEE and SEE, on September 16

IEEE towards the non-USA IEEE members; and the role that they can play in the life of the IEEE.

Following the board meeting the membership was treated to a tour of the science museum of the Conservatoire National des Arts et Métiers, which houses the original pendulum of Foucault. A ceremony was organized during the meeting in which President Findlay presented a certificate of recognition and a memento to each of those who have served as president of the France Section since its creation in 1967. After the technical meeting of the Section we attended a dinner honouring the visit of Findlay in the science museum which was kept open until midnight especially for these events

The French National Society for Electrical Engineers, *SEE* organised a meeting on September 16 for the signing of a Memorandum of Understanding extending the relationship between the IEEE and the *SEE* until the end of 2006. This meeting was held in the main center of operations of Electricité de France where the transport of electrical power is constantly monitored and controlled for all of France as well as for the transmission of power to and from neighboring countries. The day was completed

Ray Findlay and IEEE France Section President Victor Fouad Hanna behind the inaugurated plaque at Pleumeur Bodou on September 17.

by a dinner in honor of Findlay's visit offered by the president of "Electricité de France" in its new Paris headquarters.

To conclude his visit, Findlay flew to Pleumeur Bodou in Brittany on September 17 where he visited the site of the first transatlantic television transmission between the USA and France. This past July 11, the 40th anniversary of this event was celebrated recognizing the IEEE contribution to this milestone. Findlay inaugurated a French plaque created by the France Section and placed it alongside the English one in the telecommunication museum at the site. In the afternoon, he received representatives of IEEE members in the region of Brittany and of the regional telecommunication industry and he answered their questions about IEEE activities.

— Let's call them "FIELD EQUATIONS"!

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et cetera

IEEE STANDARDS

Third in a regular series on standards in Region 8

IEEE Standards Strategy for Region 8 Approved

As reported in Region8 News August 2002, **IEEE Standards** have to be promoted in Region 8 for the sake of new technologies, global trade and last but not least for IEEE itself. In the meantime a Standards Strategy has been developed by the Region 8 Standards Coordinator in close co-operation with the Industry Relation Committee and approved by the Region 8 Committee during it's last meeting in Washington D.C. on October 17th 2002.

The objective of the Standards Strategy is to affirm and enhance the position of the **IEEE Standards Association (SA)** as a developer of standards that serve regional and international markets by

- broadening awareness of IEEE standards within Region 8 countries

- promoting reliance of IEEE standards as a source of technical information for Region 8 participants in international and regional standards bodies and

- increasing Region 8 participation in IEEE standards development.

To implement the Standards Strategy many actions are necessary which have to be realised mainly in 2003. They will be carried out by the Region 8 Standards Coordinator with the support of the IEEE Standards Association in Piscataway NJ USA and in close co-operation with the Industry Relation Officers in the different Sections of Region 8.

New Initiatives

Just to mention a few activities:

- There will be an e-mail action to solicit information from SA members in Region 8 about their interests and concerns regarding standards.

In the Region8 News the IEEE Standards Column will be developed with information about standards projects and standards publications.

- At the end of this year a "StandardsEurope.net" portal with all-important news concerning SA activities will be available and a link from Region 8 website to the IEEE-SA website will be implemented.

- To promote usage of IEEE standards the co-operation with IEC (International Electrotechnical Commission) will be increased on the basis of the recently signed Double Logo Agreement.

- Last but not least the participation of Region 8 members in IEEE standards development has to be strengthened by informing industry about the significance of IEEE standards in world trade and the possibilities to influence the outcome of its standardisation process. In addition the standards coordinator will do its best effort to identify Region 8 members for the Standards Board and Board of Governors of IEEE-SA.

In the present circumstances where global trade on the basis of global standards play an increasing role, and IEEE is a global player in that field. The influence of Region 8 in IEEE standardisation must be intensified. As an additional benefit this action offers the chance to increase membership of industry in Region 8 and to support the Industry Relation Committee's activities because industry is most interested in developing global standards to abolish technical barriers to trade. Consequently the Region 8 Standards Coordinator asks all of you to support this activity for the sake of Region 8.

Contributed by Ingo Ruesch, Region 8 Standards Coordinator Iu.ruesch@t-online.de

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Conference Reviews

ICEST 2002

**Niš, Yugoslavia,
October 1 - 4, 2002
Report of the ICEST 2002
Conference**

XXXVII International Scientific Conference on Information, Communication and Energy Systems and Technologies - ICEST 2002 was held on October 1-4, 2002, at the Faculty of Electronic Engineering, University of Niš, Yugoslavia.

The ICEST Conference is the successor to a series of Bulgarian conferences started in 1963 under the name "Day of the Radio". In 1977 the name was changed to "Communication, Electronic and Computer Systems". In 2000, it became an international conference EIST (Energy and Information Systems and Technologies). The first two EIST Conferences were successfully organized by the Faculty of Communication and Communication Technologies, Sofia, Bulgaria and the Faculty of Technical Sciences, Bitola, Macedonia.

This year, for the first time the faculty of Electronic Engineering Niš, joined the Conference organizers. Again, the Conference changed its name into ICEST (International Scientific Conference on Information, Communication and Energy Systems and Technologies).

ICEST 2002 Organizing Committee received over 200 submissions. Paper presentation was organized through 19 sessions with oral presentation (137 papers) and 6 poster sessions (43 papers).

Plenary session key speaker Prof. Claudio Moraga from Tehnical University Madrid, presented "Engineering Applications of Fuzzy Logic".

The Conference included one round table "Regional Interuniversity Collaboration"

In addition, a meeting devoted to the activities of Yugoslav, Bulgarian and Macedonian IEEE Sections took place. Moderators of this meeting were prof. N. Stojadinoviæ (Yugoslav IEEE Section Chair), prof. G. Stojanov (Bulgarian IEEE

ICEST Reception at the Nis City Hall

Section Chair), and prof. Vlatko Stoikov (Macedonian IEEE Section Chair).

ICEST'02 was also rich in many social events (cocktail, reception, sightseeing tour, chess tournament).

Most participants' opinions were that conference was very successful. It was concluded that ICEST has become one of the most important international events for our technologies, in this region.

*ICEST 2002 Conference Chairman
Prof. Bratislav Milovanoviæ*

MELECON 2002

We were indeed very pleased and honored to host the eleventh Mediterranean Electrotechnical Conference (MELECON 2002) in Cairo, Egypt. The IEEE, Egypt Section, organized the MELECON 2002. The Conference is co-sponsored by IEEE, Ministry of Communications and Information, The Cabinet, Information and Decision Support Center (IDSC) Telecom Egypt and, Egyptian Network Company (Egynet). On May 7, The Conference was inaugurated where Dr. Mohamed Younis

Egypt section chair welcomed the participants and gave logistics of the conference. Then Prof Hans Peek gave a talk for Prof. Levent Onural, Director IEEE region 8. The welcoming presentation for his excellency Dr. Ahmed Nazif Minister of Communications and Information was delivered by Dr. Aymen El dessoki for his Excellency.

The theme of The conference was **"Communications and Information Technology for Development"**.

The technical program consisted of more than twenty technical sessions that covered a wide range of electro technical subjects. The subjects included communications systems, information technology, control systems and applications, computer network, artificial intelligent, signal and image processing, mobile communications, educational systems, electronic devices, circuits and Systems, industrial machines and power systems.

Further to these subjects, there were three tutorial papers:
• On The Application of Modern Signal Processing Techniques in the Design of Antenna Arrays for Wireless Communications.
• Novel Design for Embedded Systems Applied to Wireless LAN Products.
• Advances in the Design of Pulse-Shaping filters for Data Transmission. In addition to the regular Technical program, three panel discussions were held:
• Software Development in Developing Countries.
• All Optical Networks.
• Egyptian Telemedicine Network.

All the Section members worked hard to ensure the success of this conferences. There were 102 papers presented from the 137 accepted, from 27 countries around the world.

*Contributed by
Mohamed I Younis
Chair, Egypt Section*

CA and CACSD 2002

280 Delegates Welcomed in Sunny Scotland

The joint IEEE Conference on Control Applications and Computer Aided Control System Design was held on 18th – 20th September 2002 in Glasgow, Scotland. Glasgow was the sunniest place to be in the United Kingdom. Some 280 delegates and visitors gathered together to discuss all aspects of control engineering applications and computer aided control design in the Scottish Exhibition and Conference Centre by the side of the famous ship building Society conference event, waterway, the River Clyde and to enjoy the sunshine. It was sponsored by the Control Systems Society which was represented at the conference by its President, Leonard Shaw. CACSD General Chair was John Gray.

CCA Technical Programme Chair Derek Atherton and the CACSD Technical Programme Chair Neil Munro arranged a

CCA General Chair, Mike Grimble opens the Award Ceremony at the CCA-CACSD Banquet

comprehensive programme with seven plenary speakers and 56 Technical sessions and the presentation of over 300 papers. Grimble (Strathclyde University, U.K.) who gave the opening plenary presentation on steel industry rolling control problems was thus able to show the really harsh control and operational environment of the hot strip rolling mill.

The seven plenary speakers covered many industrial topics from powertrain

control problems at Ford, given by Jeff Cook (USA) to advanced process control as used by ABB Automation, a talk given by Alan Munns (UK). In an interesting early morning Plenary from Sanjoy Mitter (MIT, USA) the technological convergence appearing between control and communications was demonstrated.

The Conference Banquet had a distinctly Scottish theme --guests were lead in by a Piper in full Scottish piping regalia. Awards ceremonies followed. CSS President Leonard Shaw presented Vincent Tamisier (France) with CCA Best Student Paper Award. Dragan Kostic (The Netherlands) received the Howard Kaufman Memorial Award. The banquet concluded with a short presentation from Okyay Kaynak (Turkey) urging conference delegates to attend the next CCA to be held in Istanbul, in June, 2003.

Contributed by
M. J. Grimble &
M. A. Johnson

Section and Chapter News

Region 8 Industrial Electronics Society Chapter Chairs' Meeting

The R8 and IES Chapter Chairs' Meeting was held in conjunction with IECON 2002 and IES Administrative Committee Meeting, in Seville, Spain on November 5-9, 2002.

Industrial Electronics Conference IECON is the flagship annual conference of IES.which this year presented 602 technical papers, involving more than 1600 authors from 50 countries

The Chapter Chairs' Meeting was an opportunity for IES officers and other Administrative Committee members to meet the chapter chairpersons in R8 and discuss how IES can better serve them.

It was organized and chaired by the R8 Chapter Chair Coordinator, Prof. Imre J. Rudas. Nine Chapter Chairs, Society Officers, and R8 representatives attended the meeting.

The official program included four days with meetings, participation in IECON and social events.

On Tuesday evening (November 5th) Chapter Chairs took part in IECON'02 Reception On Wednesday afternoon meeting with IES President and Chapter Coordinator.

IECON Banquet From left Gerhard Hancke, Vice-Chair for MA in R8, Tony Davies, Director Elect R8, Alexander Mikerov, Chapter Chair St. Petersburg, Russia

On Thursday morning Chapter Chairs met with IES and R8 Officers. After the opening address of the Society President Prof. Kaynak, an overview of IEEE and R8 activities by Prof. Davies, the Chapter Chairs summarized briefly the main activities of their Chapters.

Membership development was one of the key issues in the program. We had a very good and useful presentation on "Ideas in Membership Development" given by Prof. Gerhard Hancke, R8 Vice-Chair for Membership Activities.

On Friday (November 8th) the AdCom meeting we met all the Society officers, to get acquainted in detail with the main IES Society activities starting from strategic planning through the details of present and future conferences.

On behalf of the Chapter Chairs I express our sincere gratitude to Region 8 and IES for providing the financial support as sponsors of the meeting, and to Prof. Leopoldo G. Franquelo for the fantastic social events and for the essential organizational work that made it possible to hold the meeting in Seville.

Imre Rudas
November 2002
R8 IES Chapters Coordinato

LFNM'2002 Workshop

IEEE CAS Paris Meetings

The Circuits and Systems Chapter Chapter Chair invites you to:

Evening lectures of the FIEEC, held in Paris at 5pm at the headquarters of FIEEC (17, Rue Hamelin, 75116, Paris). The lectures are followed by refreshments: - February 25th, "the role of IUT as a referee in conflicts of interest (in frequency spectrum)" by Jean ISNARD,IUT

- March 25th, "The 6th European Plan for R&D", by Alain Bravo

- May 20th, "About the history of the French radar industry" by Delphine GERARDIN

Fourth edition of FTFC (Faible Tension et Faible Consommation) will be held in Paris 14-16 December 2003 at the "Cercle National des ArmÈes Paris 75008".

Deadline for submission is February 15th.

Contact Pr. Amara AMARA,
tel: 33 1 49 54 52 73,
e-mail: amara.amara@isep.fr

The First IEEE "Balkans Sections" Meeting

Theme: Networking the neighbors -
21-22 September, 2002,
Ohrid, Macedonia

This was organized by Republic of Macedonia Section.and attended by 14 representatives from :five IEEE Sections: Bulgaria; Turkey; Yugoslavia; Romania; and Macedonia.

Presentation of Sections

The meeting started with presentations from each section: - representatives gave an overview of their section's structure, number of members and chapters, past, current and future activities.

Membership development and industry relations This was followed by a session discussion about 4Rs (recognition, recruiting, retention, recovery) as membership development task is performed. To improve the 4Rs for active members any activity organized and sponsored by IEEE sections should be used for affirmation and promoting the benefits of the IEEE membership.

To increase the number of members from industry presentation of the IEEE should be made directly to the companies. Special attention should be given to contacts with employers and information about continuing education that IEEE provides. Special awards should be established for distinguished professional engineers.

Recent increase of the IEEE dues for student members is expected to drastically reduce the number student members. In order to maintain and increase the number of student members the delegates agreed that: 1. IEEE should take some measures to reduce the negative effects of this, especially in low income countries; 2. sections should pay attention to special awards for recognition of outstanding students.

Balkans Sections' collaboration: experiences and further activities Some

collaboration between different sections and chapters exists and further activities are planned:

- establishing a list of distinguished lecturers from Balkan countries. Every section should recognize

professionals from different IEEE fields.

- every section should distribute to others a list of conferences organized or sponsored by the section;

- information on visits of speakers from Distinguished Lecturer Program DLP list in any country should

be circulated to other sections;

- encourage cooperation between student branches; sections and chapters.

- establish joint chapters;

- promote a joint conference in the Balkan area. Each section will discuss this with its own chapters and

bring their suggestions to the next meeting

- all information (conferences, seminars, visits of IEEE distinguished lecturers, chapters' activities,

mutual projects, student branches activities etc.) should be put on a WEB page. The WEB page will be

administered by the Turkish section.
Contributed by
Vlatko Stoilkov,
Vice chair, Rep. of Macedonia IEEE
Section
Phone: ++389 2 399 144
Fax: ++389 2 364 262
e-mail: stoilkov@ieee.org

From Chapter Coordination Subcommittee

2002 was a very good year for chapter development and consolidation. Hundreds of interesting events - workshops, seminars and successful international conferences were organised due to strong organisational efforts of the Chapters. Region 8 still has the highest number of chapters in any IEEE Region and many new chapters were created.

The ICEST 2002 Conference co-organised by Yugoslav, Bulgarian and Macedonian Chapters report by Bratislav Milovanovic follows. **"Chapter of the Year 2002"** contest is in progress - contest forms deadline is February 15.

In 2002 Chapters Chairs had good opportunities to get new ideas during the meetings organised by R8 Societies' Coordinators:

• EMS R8 Chapter Chairs Workshop in Oxford , August 18, 2002, in conjunction with Annual International Engineering Management Conference IEMC 2002

• MTT R8 Chapter Chairs Meeting in Milan, September 22, 2002, in conjunction with European Microwave Week

• IE R8 Chapter Chairs Meeting in Seville, November 6-7, 2002, in conjunction with the 28th Annual Conference of the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society IECON'02

The report from Oxford meeting (*by M. Eriksson*) was published in November issue, and reports of the next two meetings (*by J. Zehentner and I. Rudas*) are presented below.

Conference on Lasers and Electrooptics CLEO/Europe'03 and European Quantum Electronics Conference EQEC'03 (*contact person Sergei Malyshev*).

• A Division IX R8 Chapter Chairs' Meeting will be held in September, 2003, in Barcelona, in conjunction with International Conference on Image Processing ICIP'03 (*contact person Guergana Mollova*).

• R8 MTT-S and AP-S Chapter Chair Meeting will be held in 7 October, 2003, in Munich, Germany, in conjunction with European Microwave Week EuMw'03 (*contact person J. Modelski*).

At the end of 2002 the Joint MTT/ED/AP Initiative for Aiding Eastern Europe and the Former Soviet Union (EE/FSU), which started in 1993, came to an end. This Initiative was certainly very useful and productive. It provided tremendous membership growth in all regions of FSU.

In 1993 there were not many IEEE members in this area. Today there are almost 40 chapters with much higher membership. There is increased activity of younger generations (student branches have already been established in few areas, e.g. Novosibirsk, Kharkov, Lviv). Many well prepared conferences and workshops (in English, with professionally edited proceedings) have been organised, which also resulted in larger numbers of foreign attendees. These active chapters create a real IEEE community in the FSU countries.

IEEE Belarus Section was established in

Latvia and Estonia) Section. I hope that all new chapters in the FSU countries will continue their successful activities.

It is a great pleasure to add a 'Message' from Boris Kapilevich, one of the most successful Chapter Chairs in Region 8. I wish to congratulate Boris on creating the new IEEE Siberia Section. I hope that his achievements will be followed by many others.

Jozef Modelski
December 2002
Chair of R8 Chapter Coordination
modelski@ieee.org

"Thank You! - IEEE"

from Professor Boris Kapilevich, Novosibirsk (Russia) Chapter

Dear colleagues and friends,

For more than five years, from May 1996 to October 2001, I served as the elected chairman of Novosibirsk Joint IEEE MTT/ED/CPMT/COM/SSC Chapter. The Chapter was formed in a very difficult period for local professionals associated with new reforms carried out in the former Soviet Union. Understanding that the income of most individuals is too small, you provided the required financial support by subsidizing newly established chapters, including subscriptions to IEEE publications.

Your active and benevolent position has helped us to consolidate high-tech specialists and create here a real IEEE community. There were only two IEEE members before the formation of a Chapter in Novosibirsk. Now, the Chapter consists of more than 60 members. About 40 percent of all members are self-paying. The Chapter is supported by five professional IEEE Societies: MTT, ED, CPMT, ComSoc, and SSC. As a result, the Chapter grew spectacularly during this period and has become the biggest organization of its kind in the Siberia region.

Many IEEE officers and members have provided support for our efforts in membership development and improving professional activity.

I would like to record the most remarkable Chapter initiatives of the period:

	Chapter	Section	Date
1.	C16	Sweden	16 January 2002
2.	C16	Romania	16 January 2002
3.	ED15/SSC37	Bulgaria	01 February 2002
4.	SP01/AP03/C16/EMC27	Ukraine	07 February 2002
5.	SMC28	France	11 February 2002
6.	C16	United Arab Emirates	11 February 2002
7.	IA34	Denmark	1 March 2002
8.	MAG33	Romania	06 May 2002
9.	PE31	Switzerland	06 June 2002
10.	CS23	Greece	11 June 2002

For 2003 the following meetings are planned:

• R8 LEO-S Chapter Chair Meeting will be held in 22 June, 2003, in Munich, Germany in conjunction with European

February 2002 (with 6 chapters). Siberia Section and North-West Russia Section are in the final phase of formation. A Lithuanian Chapter is expected to start in 2003 forming a new IEEE Baltic (Lithuania,

International Conferences on Actual Problems of Electronics and Instrumentations Engineering (APEIE '96, '98, 2000), International Conferences on Microwave Electronics: Measurements, Identifications, Applications (MEMIA '97, '99, 2001), International Korea-Russia Symposiums (KORUS '99, 2000, 2001), International Conference on Modern Information Technologies (MIT 2000), and many others

The Chapter was actively involved in the formation of other Chapters and Student Branches located in the Siberia region such as Novosibirsk LEOS Chapter, Tomsk MTT/ED/CPMT/COM Chapter, ED and SSC Student Branch in Novosibirsk State Technical University, and ComSoc Student Branch in Siberia State University of Telecommunications and Informatics.

As a result, the total number of IEEE members including student members is about 150. There is a real opportunity to form the following Chapters here in the near future:

Professor Wjacheslav Shuvalov (shwp@neic.nsk.su) was elected as the new Chair of the Novosibirsk Chapter. I have very much appreciated your cooperation and hope you will continue with IEEE Globalization.

With best wishes,

Boris Kapilevich
boris@sibnet.ru

Egypt Section Report
Washington DC Oct. 2002
Prof. Mohamed I. Younis, Chair

This year the Egyptian Section has concentrated mainly, on the preparation and conducting the conferences, Melecon 2002, Student Branch Congress (SBC), and GOLD.

These conferences were held during the period May 1-9, 2002

SBC and GOLD   1-5 May 2002
Melecon   7-9 My 2002

All of these conferences were held at Ramses Hilton Cairo, Egypt.

Two reports MELECON 2002 and on GOLD. are presented elsewhere in this issue.

Germany
Engineering Management Society
A Series of Seminars
The newly founded German Chapter of the Engineering Management Society has defined an aggressive plan for forming an active community and starting chapter activities. Region 8 News is following up regularly on their progress.

Dr. Gerd Teepe from Motorola presents his perspective on **"Electronics within the Life Cycle of Vehicles"** at the EMS seminar in Munich.

The work of the german EMS chapter will initially concentrate on organizing a series of seminars in different locations, with a topical focus of high relevance to local industry. According to Gerald Anleitner (Chapter Chair) and Dr. Gerhard Seiler (Chair of Professional Activities), this serves not only to involve members in chapter work, but also to raise the chapter's profile towards an outside audience.

So far, two such seminars have taken place: *Hamburg, Sept. 28th:* Hosted by Philips Medical Systems, the seminar had a dual focus on **"Software Patents"** and **"Management of large Electronics Projects"**. In particular the presentations on patents by Dr. Philippe Lahorte and Stefan Pollmeier sparked such an intense discussion around the issue of patenting software, that more intense follow-up work looks likely. If you are interested, please contact gl@esr-pollmeier.de

¶ *Munich, Nov. 16th:* The seminar **"Managing Embedded Systems in Automotive"**, which took place in the Munich Office of McKinsey & Company, focussed on "telematics" and "architecture". Speakers e.g. from Audi, BMW, DaimlerChrysler, Motorola and Siemens VDO turned this into a high profile local event. The more than 30 participants came from other industries such as telecoms equipment as well as automotive, and the opportunity was used intensely to compare approaches to specification and quality management across the different industries. Again, a regular follow-up discussion on car architecture looks likely to ensue (contact: g.seiler@ieee.org)

Anleitner thinks the seminars have had a very good start, in particular in view of the explicit interest in follow-up work on some of the topics. The next seminars on "HR Management" and "Information Management" are being planned early in 2003 (contact: g.anleitner@ieee.org).

IEEE UK&RI SECTION
30 October 2002
London

"Moore's Law is too slow for us"

The Technology behind PlayStation 2
Paul Holman,
Vice President of Technology
Sony Computer Entertainment

This invited lecture was held in the evening following the UK&RI Section Executive Committee Meetings that were convened in the morning and afternoon.

The revolutionary design of PlayStation2 has forced developers to rethink their approach to development. This sophisticated consumer product is manufactured at a rate of tens of millions per year. The software designed for it has a huge market, which uses a version of Linux that targets thousands of niche users.

Paul Holman, Vice President of Technology, Sony Computer Entertainment Europe, London began with an overview of the structure of his company (SCEE), highlighting the growth over the seven years PlayStation 2 was launched in Europe in November 2000, and as of September 2002 had reached worldwide shipments of 40 million, 12 million of which are in the "PAL" markets.

Sales are highly seasonal, and the engineering challenge in manufacturing has been to create flexible manufacturing of software (achieved by use of Sony expertise in CD and DVD manufacture), and to be able to reduce the electronics cost.

The majority of the presentation focused upon the technology inside the PlayStation 2, highlighting performance gained by multiple processors (the "Emotion Engine" core CPU, which in turn contains two flexible "Vector Units"; a "Graphics Synthesizer"; "Sound

Processor" and "I/O Processor") in parallel. http://www.technology.scee.net/

The performance of the architecture was compared against comparable PC chipsets, to demonstrate that naively considering only the clock speed and main RAM (the Emotion Engine runs at 32MHz, with 32MB main RAM and the GS has 4MB embedded DRAM) doesn't represent the true performance of the system.

The development environment was explained (a professional network-enabled device, but also a new low cost "Linux for PlayStation 2" kit targeted at enthusiasts and educational establishments). Programmers generally using "C" or "C++" and a strong middleware products.

Only 20% of titles are published by SCEE itself, and one secret of PlayStation's success has been to support a thriving developer community.

Finally, the future of the PlayStation family was touched upon, mentioning a partnership formed with Toshiba and IBM - pledging $400 million to develop the "Cell Processor" - Shin'ichi Okamoto (SCE CTO) being quoted as saying "We are working for the third-generation (PlayStation) with this very aggressive and crazy goal -- Moore's Law is too slow for us."

The lecture was lavishly illustrated and raised a high level of discussion with the audience.

Conributed by
Tom Hammons
Past Chair (IEEE UKRI Section)

SAUDI ARABIA -
Jubail Sub-Section re-activated:

3rd November 2002 marked a new beginning for the Jubail Sub Section which has not been very active for some time. Jubail is one of the major industrial areas in the Eastern Province of Saudi Arabia and the rejuvenation of this section is expected to enhance the IEEE image and activities there. In a meeting held at the Dhahran International Airport Hotel, a new Executive Committee was appointed with the following members:
Chairman: Abdul Aziz Al- Nuaim
(ptdnadt@sceco-east.com.sa)
Vice Chairman: Ahmed Al-Shaikh
(shaikhat@petrokemya.sabic.com)
Secretary: Saad Al -Subaie
(ssubaie@ibnzahr.sabic.com)
Treasurer: Fowzi Al- Bazi
(fowzi@arrazi.com)

Abdul Aziz Al Nuaim gave an overview presentation explaining the proposed activities through 2003. In discussions that followed, it was agreed to take the following steps:

- Request the Royal Commission for an office in Jubail that can be used for IEEE activities.
- Organize at least four technical meetings a year; first one to be held in December 2002.
- Solicit speakers along with sponsorship from known companies like Seimens, ABB, Sabic industries, etc.

- Make an awareness presentation in Jubail for the local industry members on "An overview of the IEEE and its Membership Benefits".

The Saudi Arabia East Section will provide SR 2000.00 ($535.00) to the Jubail sub section as financial support from the main section budget.

Contributed by
Jaafar M Ibrahim

NIGERIA
WARRI SUB SECTION,

It is my pleasure to inform our colleagues that WARRI SUB-SECTION of the Nigeria section has been formed. We extend our best wishes for the successful operation of this young Sub-Section.

Activities have begun in this Sub-Section, which includes Technical papers, and Industrial visits. I wish to invite you all to the general/technical meetings at Hotel Charles David Lot by 48 Airport Road, Warri Nigeria, 3rd Wednesday of every month at 5.00pm.

We hope members will find it worthy to share ideas and resources with our Sub-Section to help it grow to strength.

AGUNI, JULIUS .N.
Chair/Coordinator
Warri Sub-Section, Nigeria
aguni@ieee.org
ieeewarri@yahoo.com

Conferences & Call for Papers

MMS'2003

May 6-8,2003.

http://hosting.menanet.net/~mms2003/mms2003

Our MTT chapter will hold the third Mediterranean Microwave Symposium

    Ain Shams University- Cairo- Egypt

    Correspondance email is: mms2003@menanet.net

    Prof. Ibrahim A. Salem

    IEEE Egypt Section, MTT/EDS Chapter Chair

First GCC Conference
Industrial Electrical & Electronics Conference Bahrain

May 13-14, 2003,

Sponsored by IEEE Saudi Arabia, United Arab Emirates, Kuwait and Bahrain Sections.

    The patronage of HH Shaikh Khalifa Bin Salman Al Khalifa, the Prime Minister of the Kingdom of Bahrain will provide the necessary impetus for enhancing the IEEE image in the region.

For more information visit:

    www.megaevents.net/ieeegc, email:trevor@megaevents.net

NDES'03

Nonlinear Dynamics of Electronic Systems 2003

18-21 May 2003

Scuol/Schuls, Switzerland

http://www.ndes-conference.org/2003

The 11th International Workshop on Nonlinear Dynamics of Electronic Systems will be held on 18-21 May 2003, in the picturesque village of Scuol, Switzerland.

    This workshop aims, like the preceding 10 workshops, to stimulate and enable scientists from all over the world and especially from the eastern and western part of Europe to exchange knowledge and ideas in the field of nonlinear dynamic electronic systems.

    Prof. Anthony C. Davies

    School of Computing and Information Systems

    Kingston University,

    Penrhyn Road, Kingston-upon-Thames, Surrey, KT1 2EE

    please reply to: tonydavies@ieee.org

    www.tonydavies.org.uk

4th EURASIP Conference
EC-VIP-MC 2003

Video/Image Processing Multimedia Communications

2-4 July 2003

Zagreb, Croatia

http://www.vcl.fer.hr/ec2003/

The 4th EURASIP Conference focused on Video/Image Processing and Multimedia Communications (EC-VIP-MC) will be held at the University of Zagreb, Croatia.sponsored by The European Association for Speech, Signal and Image Processing (EURASIP)

    The **2003 EURASIP Conference** is the **fourth biennial** confer-

ence promoted by EURASIP and organised by Faculty of Electrical Engineering and Computing, University of Zagreb, Croatia.

    The aim of the EC-VIP-MC is to promote the meeting of researchers involved in the development of methods within video/image processing and multimedia communications.

    Dr. Mislav Grgic

    EC-VIP-MC 2003

    FER, Unska 3 / XII

    HR-10000 Zagreb

    CROATIA

    Telephone: + 385 1 6129 851, Facsimile: + 385 1 6129 717

    E-mail: vip@fer.hr, www.vcl.fer.hr/ec2003/

ISSPICS 2003

The 2003 International Symposium on Signal Processing, Information and Communication Systems

8-10 September, 2003

Symposium at Grand Regency Hotel

Nairobi, Kenya

www.dacom1.ele.tottori-u.ac.jp/isspics2003

Extremely fast, reliable access, processing and reliable transmission of information from any point of the world, is fast becoming a reality.

    ISSPICS 2003 brings together researchers in signal processing, communication systems, computers and control systems.

    ISSPICS 2003 Secretariat

    Dept. of Electrical and Electronics Eng.,

    Jomo Kenyatta University of Agriculture and Technology,

    P.O. Box 62000 Nairobi, Kenya

    Dominic Konditi

    konditi_dom@yahoo.com

DIPED-2003 VIIIth International Seminar/Workshop

Direct and Inverse Problems of Electromagnetic and Acoustic Wave Theory

September 23-25, 2003

http://www.ewh.ieee.org/soc/cpmt/ukraine/

The VIIIth International Seminar/Workshop DIPED-2003 will be organized by both the IEEE MTT/ED/AP/CPMT/SSC West Ukraine Chapter and MTT/ED Republic of Georgia Chapter at the Institute of Applied Problems of Mechanics and Mathematics, NASU, Lviv, and Ukraine.

    Organizing Committee Secretary

    Dr. Mykhaylo I. Andriychuk

    Institute of Applied Problems of Mechanics and Mathematics, NASU

    3"B" Naukova str., Lviv, 79601, Ukraine

    Tel: +380 322 651944, Fax: +380 322 637088;

    E-mail: andr@iapmm.lviv.ua

TELSIKS 2003

6th International Conference on Telecommunications in Modern Satellite, Cable and Broadcasting Services

1 - 3 October 2003,
University of Nis, Yugoslavia.

Prof. dr Bratislav Milovanovic
TELSIKS Conference Chairman
Faculty of Electronic Engineering
Beogradska 14 18000
Nis Yugoslavia
e-mail: info@telsiks.org.yu
Information from the conference web page:
http://www.telsiks.org.yu

JIEEEC 2003
5th Jordanian International
Electrical & Electronics Engineering Conference
Organized by Jordan Engineers Association
IEE – Jordan and IEEE - Jordan section
October 14 - 16, 2003
Amman, Jordan

Following the success of four previous JIEEECs, Jordan Engineers Association will hold its fifth international JIEEEC conference. The conference will provide a forum for researchers, experts and engineers to discuss research ideas, exchange knowledge and practices, and review advancements in related topics.

Areas of interest include Communications Biomedical Engineering,Power & Machines, Automation & Drives.

Prof. Sadeq Hamed, Chair

Organizing Committee JIEEEC 2003
Jordan Engineers Association
P.O. Box 940188,
Al-Shmesani, Amman,
11119 Jordan
Fax + 962 6 5676933
chair@jea-conferences.org
www.jea-conferences.org

MAVEBA 2003
3rd International Workshop on Models and Analysis of Vocal Emissions for Biomedical Applications
10-12 December 2003
Firenze, Italy
Website: www.maveba.org

Dr. Claudia Manfredi
Department of Electronics and Telecommunications
Faculty of Engineering, Università degli Studi di Firenze
Via S. Marta 3, 50139 Firenze, Italy
e-mail: manfredi@det.unifi.it
Tel.:+39-055-4796764, Fax:+39-055-4796767

The Third MAVEBA Workshop offers participants an interdisciplinary platform for presenting and discussing new knowledge in the field of models and analysis of speech signals, as far as both adults and children voices are concerned.

Value of GOLD goes Up in Germany and Bangalore

IEEE GOLD indeed is truly transnational! That's what I realized during my 6 months stay in Germany. GOLD gave me many opportunities to network with fellow IEEEians, especially GOLDies and to participate in their activities in Germany.

It all started with an innocent email to the IEEE Germany chair asking for contacts with GOLD affinity group. In response, I was invited to the **GOLD Annual General meeting at Bonn** on 31st of August.

GOLD in Germany was founded in 2000, the same year we began our activities in Bangalore. They have a great web-site at http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r8/germany/gold/. In Germany members come from different parts of the country, hence one of our main focus will be to plan regional activities and to start local groups.

GOLD Germany AGM in Bonn

The first item on the Agenda was to visit **'Arithmeum'**, a museum of computing history. It was a fascinating journey taking us through the abacus of 5000 BC through Pascal's numerical wheel calculator to present day computers.

During the AGM I had the privilege to present GOLD activities in Bangalore. It was interesting to see that many issues have also been ours, for example publicizing GOLD among the engineering community.

Another was how to have more activities in the regional level.

Discussion of this led to the idea of planning a local IEEE GOLD meeting at Stuttgart, where I was stationed.

GOLD meeting in Stuttgart

Mr. Gerald Anleitner (who is also IEEE Germany Engineering management society Chair) and I set out to plan a local GOLD meeting in Stuttgart. We had all the support from Mr. Peter Knott (Chair, IEEE GOLD Germany). On 5th November 02 after work hours, six GOLDies met at a CafÈ. There was a general agreement on the needs of local GOLD activities in Stuttgart. The group decided to meet again in January 03.

GOLD Germany & GOLD Bangalore
Brother GOLD programs

Though GOLD Germany and GOLD Bangalore are not close geographically, we have much in common in terms of the issues we face and the expectations from the members and the programs we plan. There was a suggestion to continue this association. The idea is GOLD Germany and GOLD Bangalore work as 'Brother programs'. As a first step we would exchange newsletters and keep each other informed about the activities and programs planned.

Contributed by Naved Narayan
Bangalore, India Section
Narayan.Naved@de.bosch.com.

Czechoslovakia Section IEEE – Celebration of 10th Anniversary

Cheers to the Next Ten years of CS Section IEEE.

Marcela Efmertová on history of IEEE.

Zdeňka Benešová spoke on Women In Engineering

Student members digital support team.

Masarykova kolej, Prague November 29th, 2002

The event recalled the past efforts and achievements during the ten years of our Section. The opening ceremony was introduced by the section chairman Jan Vobeckỹ. The audience included IEEE members, Deans of the faculties of electrical engineering from several Czech and Slovak universities, and representatives from local industries.

Historian Marcela Efmertová spoke about the history of the IEEE, and presented an historic survey of the European, American, Czech, and Czechoslovak electrical societies from the end of 19th century till the present time.

Region 8 Director-Elect Anthony Davies congratulated the CS Section, reflected on the present state of the Region 8 and forecast a good future for the IEEE.

At the Awards Ceremony, Anthony Davies and Jan Vobeckỹ presented the Student Branch Chairman, past and present Chapter and Section Chairmen, and others with the IEEE Awards plaques and officer label pins. The whole event was supported by the IEEE Student Members who operated the data projector and digital camera. The presentations and awards were followed by toast and reception.

Report contributed by
Jan Vobecky
Czechoslovakia Section Chair
vobecky@fel.cvut.cz

R8 Director Tony Davies presents awards to Past SC V. Štěpař (left) and Z. Škvor, and Section Chair J. Vobeckỹ (right).

Peter Farkaš (left), the representative of Slovakia in the Executive Committee, receives award from A. Davies and J. Vobeckỹ.

Mrs. Vlasta Hlavičková accepted the award on behalf of her husband Jan Hlavička (Past Section Chair), who passed away this year.

REMINDER CALENDAR
Workshops/ Conferences/ Symposia in Region 8

**Digital Signal Processing
And its Applications
5th International Conference and
Exhibition**
March 12-14, 2003,
Moscow, Russia
E mail: nto.popov@mtu-net.ru

**Neural Engineering:
Merging Engineering with
Neuroscience
1st International IEEE EMBS
Conference**
March 20-22, 2003
Capri Island, Italy
www.dartmouth.edu/~ne2003

ITAB 2003
"New Solutions for New Challenges".
4th Annual IEEE EMBS
Special Topic Conference on Information
Technology
Applications in Biomedicine
24 - 26th April 2003
ICC, Birmingham (UK).
www.mis.coventry.ac.uk/biocore/itab2003/

MMS'2003
Third Mediterranean Microwave
Symposium
Egypt Section MTT chapter
Ain Shams University
Cairo- Egypt on
May 6-8, 2003.
hhtp://hosting.menanet.net/~mms2003/
mms2003
email mms2003@menanet.net
Prof. Ibrahim A. Salem

**2003 Joint Meeting
IEEE Frequency Control Symposium
European Frequency and Time Forum**
Tampa, Florida, USA,
May 5-8, 2003

http://www.ieee-uffc.org/fc

EMC'2003
2003 IEEE Int'l Symposium on
Electromagnetic Compatibility
May 11-16, 2003,
ISTANBUL HILTON HOTEL,
ISTANBUL, TURKEY
http://www.ortra.com/emc2003/

GCC 2003
Indust'l Elec. & Electronics Conference
Bahrain Gulf Int'l Conv. Centre
May 13-14, 2003
www.megaevents.net/ieeegcc

**IEEE and SPIE
XIIth Symposium on
Photonics and Web Engineering**
22-25 May 2003
Warsaw, Poland
IEEE Symposium for B.Sc., M.Sc., and
Ph.D., students, GOLD members and
young researchers.
photonics@ise.pw.edu.pl;
R.Romaniuk@ieee.org;

**IFAC Conference on Analysis and
Design of Hybrid Systems**
June 16-18, 2003
Saint-Malo, Brittany, France
www.upelec-rennes.fr/adhs03/

**ICCS 2003:
3rd Int'l Conference on Computational
Science**
A Bi-location event: June 2-4 2003
St. Petersburg (Russian Federation) and
Melbourne (Australia)
www.science.uva.nl/events/ICCS2003/
4th IFAC Symposium
Robust Control Design
Milan, Italy
June 25 - 27, 2003.

Patrizio Colaneri
colaneri@elet.polimi.it

**SYSID 2003
13th IFAC Symposium
System Identification,**
August 27-29, 2003,
Rotterdam, The Netherlands
Co-sponsored by IEEE Control
Systems Society
www.sysid2003.nl.

**ISSPICS 2003
Symposium**
Kenya
Sept 8-10, 2003

EUROCON 2003
Ljubljana, Slovenia
Computers As A Tool
Sept. 22-24 2003
www.eurocon2003.si

**JIEEEC 2003
5th Jordanian Int'l Electrical &
Electronics Engineering Conference**
Organized by Jordan Engineers
Association
IEE – Jordan and
IEEE – Jordan section
October 14 - 16, 2003
Amman, Jordan
chair@jea-conferences.org
www.jea-conferences.org

**29th Annual Conference
IEEE Industrial Electronics Society**
Roanoke, Virginia, USA
November 2nd to 6th, 2003
General Chair: R. Krishnan
(kramu@vt.edu
Spl chairs: Carlo Cecati c.cecati@ieee.org
Seta Bogosyan (bogosyan@elk.itu.edu.tr)

Visit Our Website
http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/8/

Photo Quiz Page

Winner of November Photo Quiz

The winner of the November Photo Quiz is Mr. Joe Sloan

Joe has a B.Eng (Electronic,1989) from the University of Limerick (UL), Ireland and has worked extensively in network and service design in the mobile communications industry. He was founder of AETHOS Communications in Bristol, UK. Joe now researches wireless security at University of Limerick jsloan@ieee.org

Answer To November Photo Quiz

The picture in the November Photo Quiz shows a wheel force transducer.

It was developed in

Ostfildern, Germany by Kistler Ag. although they recently acquired the original design team at Ingenieurgesellschaft für Leichtbau mbH (IGeL).

That particular model, the test-bed version of the RoaDyn S650 is used in place of a vehicle wheel whilst in a test bed environment. It is used to measure the forces and moments that are placed upon the wheels of vehicles such as sports utility vehicles, heavy cars and vans. There are 6 strain-gauge sensors and a dynamometer providing output signals.

The output signals can be sent to external data acquisition and processing system for analysis over a cable.

It is important to measure and analyse the forces at play whilst a vehicle is in a controlled environment prior to measurement and analysis in a real environment or drive test. This will help to determine the performance and reliability of new wheel and vehicle designs, and the end result will be safer and more reliable driving.

The smaller model shown on the Ford Focus has 4 precision load cells with first stage amplification contained inside. A full technical explanation is given on the R8News website www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/8 Thanks for photographs and assistance to passenger vehicle research and development group at Ford Motor Co, Dunton Engineering Centre, Basildon, Essex.

Photo-Quiz February 2003

The photo shows a Quartz wafer approx. 100mm square which is etched, yielding hundreds of miniature resonators. What is the shape of these resonators? Who made them first and where?

February Photo-Quiz Tie Breaker Question

Jean Hoerni (1922-1997), a cofounder of Fairchild Semiconductors with Noyce and Moore, was a Swiss national and graduated as Ph.D. in Geneva

and Cambridge. He invented while at Fairchild the planar process in 1958, which is still today the foundation of integrated electronics.

What was the mother tongue of Hoerni?

The winner will receive a Milestone Swatch with documentation free of charge. All entries to be sent to the Editor R8News@ieee.org or posted to address on page 2 and received by 1st March 2003.

Calling all IEEE Life Members

IEEE Life Members are those over 65 years of age whose age plus years of IEEE membership is 100 or more. Life Members pay no IEEE dues and have some other privileges such as an entitlement to attend any IEEE conference for a fee not more than the student registration fee.

There are nearly 900 Life Members in R8, who, for historical reasons, are mainly concentrated in the larger Sections of Western Europe. Worldwide there are nearly 30,000 Life Members.

To support Life Members, IEEE has a

Life Members Committee and Life Member Chapters may be established by petition from the Life Members in a geographical area. So far there are only a dozen or so Life Member Chapters, none in R8.

Life Members are welcome to participate in all the events available to other IEEE members and some are active volunteers in Sections, Societies, etc. However, it may be that the Life Members have some special interests and wishes that could best be served by the formation of Life Members Chapters.

I have asked all the Section Chairs in R8 to try to find out about the wishes, needs and interests of the Life Members in their Sections, and a few responses are already coming in. Any Life Members in R8 are invited to send a message to the R8 Secretary, Prof. Charles Turner <c.turner@ieee.org> with a copy to me, indicating whether they would be interested in the formation of a Life Member Chapter in their area, and if so, what kind of activities the Chapter should provide and how they could contribute to these activities.

With new information from the Life Members, it will be possible for the Committee to know what, if anything, Life Members need from IEEE. Some told me that they do not want anything special, they just want to continue participating in existing IEEE activities. However, if you tell us, we could consider appointing a Region 8 Life Members Coordinator and try to establish some Life Member Chapters in R8.

Life Members as a whole have many memories and experiences which could be of great interest from a historical point of view, and the preservation of this historical engineering heritage can be an important contribu-

tion from them. Let's not assume that Life Members are only interested in such things as historic trams, aeroplanes and railways, etc.

Please write or e-mail: we need some information from you to guide us.

Sometimes I hear concerns from IEEE members in Region 8 that for political or economic reasons they were unable to join IEEE until late in their careers (although they have been members of their National Electrical Engineering Society for a long time), and so the IEEE 100-year Life Member rule is unfair and discriminates against them. Some concessions in the Life Member rules seem to have been made in one of the other Regions out-

side North America, so it might be possible to find a way for making some similar concessions in R8. However, given the economic constraints this does not seem a very propitious time to ask!

Life Members with Internet access may like to have a look at the Life Members web page www.ieee.org/lmc. Members without e-mail are invited to write to me c/oEditor-address on page 2.

Contributed by
Tony Davies
Director, Region8
<tonydavies@ieee.org>

Be a Leader — Mentor Young Engineers

by Harry T. Roman

Do you remember someone who took an interest in you when you began your engineering career? Perhaps a senior member in your department, your first boss, or friends and co-workers you met your first few days on the job? Almost everyone can identify one caring person who mentored and guided them through the rough spots and showed them the ropes. Should you now consider returning the good deed done for you? You may find that being a mentor will make you a better leader.

Connecting Work to the Corporate World

All engineers need to see the relevance of their work and understand how it influences their company, especially young engineers. Sure, they probably have a good intuitive feel for how engineers influence product design, manufacturing, packaging and perhaps even cost. But few appreciate how their interactions with customers actually influence the market-

ing and sale of new products and services.

Show young engineers the connections between the technical and non-technical aspects of new product development. Help them appreciate the tradeoffs and compromises that need to be made and how customer and societal concerns often overshadow the "technical gee-whiz" of it all.

Show Them the Importance of Good Communications

Poor communication skill is the Achille's heel of many engineers, both young and experienced — and it can even be a career showstopper. In fact, poor communication skills have probably claimed more casualties than corporate downsizing.

Work with young engineers to develop and hone their oral and written communication skills. Review their written work and offer constructive editorial suggestions. Be an audience for them as they practice their oral presentations. Teach them how to be cool during question-and-answer periods. If you can, videotape their practice session; the tape can be an incredibly valuable tool for improving performance. Helping young engineers build good communication skills is one of the greatest things a mentor can do.

Help Them Develop a Network of Colleagues in the Organization

The informal organization chart is often more important than the rigid departmental lines of a company. All successful engineers have a well-developed network of

colleagues both inside and outside the company they can turn to for consulting, technical support and professional expertise.

Take young engineers with you to meetings, seminars, conferences and professional gatherings. Let them interact with other role models and create their own network of resources. Encourage them to discuss projects freely, seek advice and propose new ideas. Appeal to your counterparts to get young engineers assigned to exciting projects, where they can learn new skills, techniques and methods. Help to expand young engineers' breadth of professional experience.

Direct Them to Professional Society Involvement

In my early years, my managers — right on up to the vice president — were all IEEE members. Our company expected all young engineers in its employ to attend the annual IEEE conference for our industry, and present at least one professional paper at that conference. We were also required to attend the various sessions, take detailed notes, and share those notes with our department colleagues. We were encouraged to participate on IEEE committees and working groups. As a result, I made contact with many of the innovators in my industry and was motivated to keep pace with those who were defining my industry's future. This participation also rapidly improved my ability to speak in public and write concise technical papers — as well as withstand peer review and scrutiny. Just as importantly, these interactions greatly influenced my

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teaching the 'Z-Transform'

S B UNIVERSIDAD DE ZARAGOZA (Spain)

NEOcom 2002

Making Science out of the Fiction was the third edition of our New Technologies in Telecommunication event in our Region (Aragon, Spain). Three main events took place between 22nd and 25th of October 2002 at the Engineering Faculty (Centro Politécnico Superior) of the University of Zaragoza (Spain).

This initiative was supported by The Marsh Theodore W. Hissey International Education Fund. A fund of the IEEE FOUNDATION.

The event was co-organized by AATUZ (Asociación de Alumnos de Telecomunicaciones de la Universidad de Zaragoza, which is the Association of Telecommunications Engineers of the University of Zaragoza) and by the IEEE SBUZ (IEEE Student Branch of the University of Zaragoza, with members also of different Engineering majors)

The number of people taking part in the event brole a record this year: 150 students and 30 IC professionals. 28 of them were IEEE Student Members. Twenty volunteers helped to organize this event.

The three main streams were:

1. **Presentations:** 13 representatives of the most relevant new technologies industries of our country made different presentations in order to show their most recent novel products, their most interesting projects or to share their knowledge in some high technological issues.
2. **Research Forum:** Departments and researchers from the University of Zaragoza and other Universities across Spain presented their current lines of research and activities and their most interesting projects. Some interesting examples: New telemetric projects (communications in cars), Virtual Reality, development of Fibre Optics of Plastic.
3. **Technology and Employment Forum:** To exhibit the newest products of both the companies and the research groups and to open the possibility for the industries and companies to recruit future employees among the conference attendees, an exhibit with 10 stands was open during the four days in which the event took place. The booths were: Amena, Vodafone, ITA, SCH, COIT, Telefónica, CPS 1 (Computer Departments), CPS 2 (Communications Departments), AATUZ (Organization), IEEE SBUZ (Organization).

The quality of the presentations was very high and according to the survey which we asked the participants to complete after the event, most of them were very satisfied with the contents of the conference.

Contributed by
David Manero,
SB Chair
davidman@ieee.org

Honoured Guests, Members and Students of the department of Electrical/Electronic Engineering University of Port Harcourt on the 22nd November 2002.

PREP 2003 invites Student Members
14-16 April 2003
University of Exeter, UK
www.prep2003.org

This is a unique kind of conference, aimed at research students, for them to meet their peers and present their own work. Full details are on the website.

PREP 2003 is a student-centred conference focussed on the training and development needsof postgraduate students in the electronics, photonics, communications and software communities.

The aims of PREP 2003 are to provide
- a forum for students and young researchers to present technical work to their peers,
- to offer a showcase for the high quality work being carried out in UK universities,
- an opportunity for technical discussion and networking
- to demonstrate university research to industry.

No other conferences within the UK offer the postgraduate community the same scope. In addition to an exciting technical programme, participants have the opportunity to meet personnel from key industrial sectors, to explore job opportunities, and to participate in a full schedule of entertainments.

UNIPORT SB UNIVERSITY OF PORT HARCOURT
400 attend SEEES/IEEE Research Center OPENING 22nd NOVEMBER 2002.

SEEES/IEEE computer research center was commissioned by the Vice Chancellor of the University of Port Harcourt: Professor Nimi Briggs.

It is the first of its kind in the history of University of Port Harcourt. This project is

Antonín Král, the SB Chairman of the FEE-CTU receives award at Czechoslovakia Section Tenth Anniversary Celebration from Region 8 Director Tony Davies. 29th November 2002.

sponsored by the entiremembers of the Society of Electrical/Electronic Engineering Students (SEEES) under the leadership of their President and the IEEE SB Chair: Mr. Sunny U. Francis.

The research center which has few computers is established to help students have a better knowledge of computer oriented courses, to initialize positive learning ideals and develop useful skills.

The occasion was an epoch event where over 400 participants attended. A keynote address was presented by the president and IEEE SB chair; Mr. Sunny U. Francis on the need for building a creative mind towards achieving positive changes in the society.

An address by the H.O.D: Dr. A .O. Ibe was geared towards the cordial relationship amongst the University and the students.

He advised for hard work for the pursue of various professions. The guest of honor, Professor Nimi Briggs(Vice Chancellor) spoke on the need for students to emulate positive innovations and explore more in the further advancement of their various course of study. He donated 2 sets of computers on behalf of the University to the research center.

Distinguished guest included: the Bursar, Registrar, Chief Liberian, Dr.Umesi (Associate Dean of the Faculty of Engineering), Engr. A. Isaac (IEEE Nigeria section chair), Dr. U. Roland (IEEE Uniport branch Counselor), Engr. Sofimierie (Computer Technical Director), Engr. T.P Oje, Engr. Dr. Iyagba (Basic Studies Director), Engr. Ajabuego, Engr. Ikejieku, Engr. Kamalu, Engr. F.K Okpara, Dr. Appah(H.O.D Petroleum Department), Professor Ajeyinka (Petroleum Department).

The occasion concluded with a vote of thanks from the Students Branch Counselor: Dr. U. Roland who expressed his sincere thanks to the entire students, IEEE officials and the 2001/2002 SEEES Executive members for their support.

Mr. Sunny U. Francis, Branch Chair
Mr. Osumili Chuks, Branch secretary
Miss. Omaegbu Chinwe, Vice Branch Chai

S-PAC AT NNAMDI AZIKIWE UNIVERSITY STUDENT BRANCH

A heavy morning rainfall it was on Friday, 18th October 2002 in the city of Awka, Southeast Nigeria. But that was not to affect the STUDENT PROFESSIONAL AWARENESS CONFERENCE (S-PAC) planned for the day. The students, trooping out from all known shelters on campus, as the rain subsidized, moved straight to the Auditorium.

In his opening speech, Engr. Clement Mezi, the head of EE department welcomed the speakers and the participants especially those from other Universities. Engrs. G.Massari (SMIEEE), E.O.Okoye (MIEEE) and C.Mezi spoke at the different sessions.

There was also a panel discussion on "Unemployment Problem in Nigeria". The local TV and radio stations covered the program. The only regret was our inability to get our great friends from Middle East SBs to participate through Teleconferencing. A lot of regards to Mr. Louis Lovas, R8 S-PAC coordinator and Engr. Isaac Adekanye, the Nigeria section Chair and every other person that contributed to the success of the first S-PAC ever by an IEEE Student Branch in West Africa.

Igboanugo,Charles C.
Branch Chair;
IEEE NAUSB,
Nnamdi Azikiwe University,Awka,Nigeria.
e-mail:anugo@ieee.org

Be a Leader — Mentor Young Engineers

ability to build a professional network.

The best way to get young engineers involved in the IEEE is by showing them the benefits.

Teach Them to Understand and Evaluate Questions of Ethics

Sooner or later, every engineer encounters a potentially thorny situation — a set of circumstances for which their activities may compromise their objectivity or place them in conflict. At these times, the comfort and wisdom of experience can ease them over the hurdles. A leader and mentor can teach through case examples and first-hand expe-

riences what constitutes a conflict of interest or ethical breach, helping young engineers spot potential problems before they get ensnared in them. The simple telling of "war stories" can be an effective way to illustrate a situation. Bringing in the company's law department to give an introductory lecture on what constitutes ethical breaches can also help young engineers understand this critical aspect of the profession.

These are but a few things for you to consider when mentoring young engineers. Relive your early engineering days; pass along the good things that happened to and for you. It just may reveal you as a devel-

oper of people — that all-important step on the road to becoming a recognized leader.
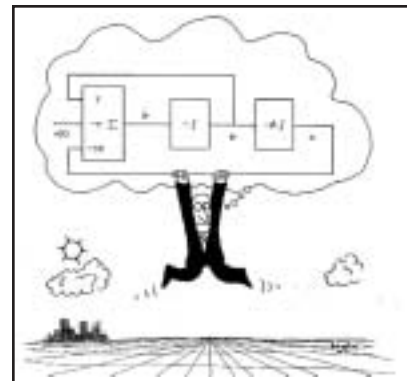
IEEE Region 8

EUROCON 2003

The International Conference on
COMPUTER AS A TOOL
Ljubljana, Slovenia
September 22 – 24, 2003

http://www.eurocon2003.si/

IEEE Neural Networks Society Welcomes New Members

Dr. Vicenzo Piuri 2003 NNSoc VP for Membership writes.

We have a lot of interest from Region 8 in the new Neural Networks Society with new chapters in progress in Turkey (Prof. Okyay Kaynak kaynak@boun.edu.tr) and in UKRI Sections (Prof. Leslie Stirling lss@cs.stir.ac.uk). Contact me for more information piuri@elet.polimi.it Northern Italy Section.

The IEEE Neural Networks Society (NNS) is one of 37 societies under the IEEE umbrella. The NNS was formed in 2002 and is now able to accept new members.

The IEEE NNS field of interest spans "the theory, design, application, and development of biologically and linguistically motivated computational paradigms emphasizing neural networks, including connectionist systems, genetic algorithms, evolutionary programming, fuzzy systems, and hybrid intelligent systems in which these paradigms are contained."

These topics are sometimes included in broader frameworks, usually referred to as Computational Intelligence or Soft Computing. For more information please visit: www.ieee-nns.org

The NNS publishes three transactions:
- IEEE Transactions on Neural Networks (TNN)
- IEEE Transactions on Evolutionary Computation (TEC)
- IEEE Transactions on Fuzzy Systems (TFS)

NNS Membership Benefits

Membership in the NNS will allow you to:
• Receive the printed version of the NNS (member-only) Newsletter
• Participate to IEEE NNS governance activities by running for an Administrative Committee representative position, nominating candidates, and voting for the candidates
• Be eligible for any IEEE NNS-sponsored technical and educational activity, such as recognition awards
• Organize an IEEE NNS chapter to benefit from IEEE and NNS funding for local events
...and many other benefits!
NNS Student Membership Cost: $5 US

(for IEEE student members).
and will allow you to:
• Receive the printed version of the NNS (member-only) Newsletter
• Organize an IEEE NNS student chapter in your university, so you may invite distinguished lecturers
• Compete for the Walter Karplus Student Summer Research Support Award
• Compete for an IEEE NNS-sponsored conference travel grant and other IEEE NNS sponsored technical and educational activities and other benefits!
Visit the NNS website www.ieee-nns.org/