



THE POCKET SCOPE



The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

Volume 55, Number 2

October 2004

SCOPE NOTES

October Houston Section News

here:
ESS (Houston Engineering and Scientific Society)
430 Westheimer@Yorktown

hen: Thursday, December 2, 2004
6:00 - 6:30 p.m. Social
6:30 - 7:30 p.m. Dinner
7:30 - 8:30 p.m. Speaker

ost:
10.00 - IEEE Members with 48-hour advance reservations.
20.00 - non-members
5.00 - students
all (713) 207-IEEE to make your reservations.

See Page 3 for the Continuing Education Schedule!

IEEEWEB ADDRESS
<http://www.ieee-houston.org>

IEEE Houston Section
P.O. Box
460443
Houston, Texas
770568014

The Chairman's Message

Gilroy Dolor



The Chairman's Message

At the last section meeting held on September 23, Darby Vicker gave an excellent presentation on "Computational Fluid Dynamics Analysis for the STS-107 Accident Investigation and Return-To-Flight Effort." We had good attendance and good audience participation. Our next section meeting will be held on December 2, 2004. Mona K. Draper, a consultant with Consensus Strategies, will present a talk on Six Sigma. She is the only GE certified six sigma consultant in Houston who works with organizations designing and implementing Six Sigma systems. This promises to be a presentation that you will not want to miss.

On behalf of the Section, I want to extend our congratulations to the newest Senior Members in the Houston Section; James E. Bowen, Hyeokho Choi, Carlos A. Coello, Vincent G. Ernst, Dick A. Kabell, Robert S. Oshana, and Karl M. Williams. Excellent! Senior Membership is an important achievement for the individual and it distinguishes the Section so I urge all who meet the qualifications to submit an application. For elevation to Senior Member status we are looking for members who meet the following criteria: ten (10) years of professional practice including five (5) years of significant performance, and references (see the nominator letter and application form for clarification on the IEEE website). If you qualify and are not a Senior Member, please reply to one of the Section EXCOM members. We will ensure you are nominated.

Our 3rd Annual IEEE-Houston Scholarship Golf Tournament is scheduled for October 8 at the Newport Golf Club in Crosby, Texas. Proceeds go to the Scholarship Fund. It's not too late to sign up so come join us for a wonderful time. We hope to do even better this year than we did last year.

Remember, if you are interested in getting involved in the local IEEE section, e-mail or call one of the EXCOM members. There are a lot of opportunities for volunteer members. I encourage all of you to

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Chair Message-CONT

become more active and see the rewards and benefits your membership gives you. It is a great way to network with professionals within the electrical engineering community. Join us at one of the upcoming meetings; we look forward to meeting you.

Gilroy Dolor
Houston Section Chair

CED Seminar News

CED Houston announces the following revised registration fee schedule for its new 2004-2005 technical seminars.

The registration fee for IEEE members is \$70. The fee for non-members is \$140. The registration fee for student IEEE members will be \$50

Seminar registration and payment must be received the Friday before the seminar. Seminar registration closes at 5:00 p.m. the Friday before the seminar. No exceptions.

Pre-registration with "payment at the door" is acceptable under certain circumstances. Anyone promising to pay at the door and failing to show up will be debited and invoiced for the full amount of the registration fee.

IEEE CONTINUING EDUCATION ON DEMAND

2004-2005 REGISTRATION FORM

Name:
 Company:
 Mailing Address:
 City/State:
 Zip:
 Email:
 Telephone:
 Fax:
 IEEE Membership Number:

Mail a copy of your completed registration form along with your check payable to **IEEE CED SEMINARS** at the following address:
 IEEE CED SEMINARS

PAT ROGERS
 SOUTHWEST POWER
 425 BLUEBERRY STREET
 HOUSTON, TX 77018
progers@swpower.com

Registration receipts will be available upon request at the seminars.
 For a cancellation refund, telephone Pat Rogers by the Friday before the seminar at:

Phone: 713.696.9922
 Fax: 713.696.9983
 Email: progers@swpower.com

IEEE Continuing Education on Demand Completion Certificate with Continuing Education Units (CEUs) is provided after receipt of both nightly questionnaires and seminar evaluation sheets.

Please direct seminar questions to Paul Barrett at 713.598.0790

Please check the IEEE Houston Section website for the latest schedule and course information.

<http://www.ieee-houston.org>

IEEE CONTINUING EDUCATION ON DEMAND

The purpose of IEEE Houston Section Continuing Education on Demand is to provide modern practical industrial power application topics that supplement the daily work activities of the practicing graduate electrical engineer.

The seminars are intended to stimulate further study and discussion for learning continuance throughout the working career. Topics apply to heavy industries: oil and gas, petro-chem, cogen, pulp and paper, etc.

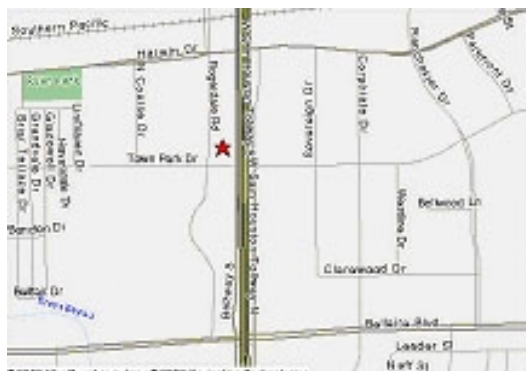
Instructors are application engineers, manufacturing specialists and expert consultants who provide a blend of diverse engineering perspectives.

The cost of each seminar is \$70.00 for IEEE members. The check must be received the Friday before the Seminar start date. The cost for non-IEEE members is \$140.00. The cost for student members is \$50.00.

Registration closes at 5:00pm the Friday before each seminar.

The following 2004-2005 seminar schedule defines the topics, dates and times. A course syllabus is available on request. Minimum class size is twenty for each seminar. Seating is limited and filled on an as received basis. Presentation documents are provided. A buffet is served from 5:00PM-6:00PM.

Seminar location:
Jacobs Engineering
 5995 Rogerdale Road
 Houston, TX. 77072



Seminar Title	C code	Date	Amount
Arc Flash / Arc Resistance	705	Oct. 12/13	\$
Protective Relay 1 Beckwith	311	Oct. 26/27	\$
IEC Electrical Equipment	802	Nov. 9/ 10	\$
Protective Relay 2 Multilin	312	Feb. 1/2	\$
IEC - NEC Area Classification	803	Feb. 15/16	\$
Protective Relay 3 Basler	313	Mar. 1/2	\$
Field Testing of Large Power Transformers	904	Mar. 15/16	\$
Protective Relay 4 SEL	314	Mar. 29/30	\$
National Electric Code	920	Apr. 12/13	\$
Advanced MV Switchgear and Breaker Stds	307	Apr. 26/27	\$
Total Paid:			\$

Enter amount for each seminar:

IEEE member registration: \$ 70.00
 Non-member registration: \$140.00
 Student member registration: \$ 50.00

Fall of 2004 IEEE Seminar Schedule

Arc Flash / Arc Resistance (705)

James Bowen, Powell Electric Mfg. Co.
 Oct. 12/13, 2004 6:00-8:50PM
 Review of fundamentals and design theories. Post event forensic observations and lessons learned.
 [0.5 CEU]

Protective Relay 1 - Beckwith (311)

Wayne Hartmann, Beckwith Electric Co.
 Oct. 26/27, 2004 6:00-8:50PM
 Review of Beckwith relay design fundamentals and application considerations
 [0.5 CEU]

IEC Electrical Equipment (802)

Tom Malone, Areva T&D Corp.
 Nov. 9/10, 2004 6:00-8:50PM
 Reviews IEC guidelines and standards for electrical distribution equipment. Presentation will focus on power transformers and switchgear.
 [0.5 CEU]

Spring of 2005 IEEE Seminar Schedule

Protective Relay 2 - GE Multilin (312)

Jackov Viko, GE Multilin -Canada
 Feb. 1/2, 2005 6:00-8:50PM
 Review of GE Multilin Relay design fundamentals and application considerations. [0.5 CEU]

IEC / NEC Area Classification (803)

Bob Johnson, Source IEC
 Feb. 15/16, 2005 6:00-8:50PM
 A detailed presentation on IEC's approach to hazardous area classifications and related international standards. [0.5 CEU]



IEEE

IEEE
 Houston
 Section

2004-2005

Continuing
 Education
 On Demand



Protective Relay 3 - Basler (313)

Gerald Dalke, Basler Electric Co.
 Mar. 1/2, 2005 6:00-8:50PM
 Review of Basler relay design fundamentals and application considerations. [0.5 CEU]

Field Testing of Large Power Transformers (904)

Randy Slaybaugh, Substation Services, Inc.
 Mar. 15/16, 2005 6:00-8:50PM
 A detailed presentation on field testing techniques and considerations for large power transformers. [0.5 CEU]

Protective Relay 4 - SEL (314)

David Costello, SEL Inc.
 Mar. 29/30, 2005 6:00-8:50PM
 Review of SEL relay design fundamentals, set-up, programming and application considerations.
 [0.5 CEU]

National Electric Code (920)

Eddie Guidry, Fluor Corp.
 April. 12/13, 2005 6:00-8:50PM
 Review and update on current NEC. Lecture will focus on design issues and application considerations.
 [0.5 CEU]

Advanced MV Switchgear and Breaker Stds. (310)

James Bowen, Powell Electric Mfg. Co.
 Apr. 26/27, 2005 6:00-8:50PM
 Reviews advanced theories and application considerations related to MV Swgr and Ckt Bkr design.
 [0.5 CEU]

Houston Section CED Seminar on the East Side



**IEEE
Houston
Section**

2004-2005



**Continuing
Education
On Demand**

IEEE CED Digital Communications Seminar

IEEE CED Houston will be presenting an 8 hour technical seminar on Digital Communications for industrial plants. The all day seminar is scheduled for October 22 and will held at the Powell Electric training facility, 8550 Mosley Road. (8:00 a.m.-5:00 p.m.) (Coffee and rolls will be available 7:00 – 8:00)

This presentation will be an in-depth technical review of relay communication protocols, data networks, serial data communications, and related subjects. The subject material will be presented by Mark Adamiak, P.E., a GE engineer with an outstanding reputation for expertise in digital communications. All attendees will receive an IEEE CED certificate for 0.7 CEU (7 hours). Cost for this all day seminar is \$70 for IEEE members, \$140 for non-members. Fee includes lunch and presentation study materials. Seating is limited so send in your reservations early. Seminar registration will close at 5:00 p.m. , Tuesday Oct 19th.

The following information is required with your reservation:

Name: _____ Company: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____ Fax: _____

Email _____

IEEE Membership Number: _____

Make Checks payable to IEEE CED Seminars. Send to:

IEEE CED Seminars

Pat Rogers

Southwest Power

425 Blueberry St., Houston, TX 77018

progers @swpower.com 713.696.9922 Fax 713.696.9983

Seminar questions: Contact Paul Barrett 713.598.0790

December 2 Section Meeting

December 2, 2004 Section Meeting

Topic: Building Six Sigma- Based Process Improvement Systems

Consensus Strategies partner with organizations to build customized systems tailored to meet the unique company needs and culture. It integrates into your organization the concepts of:

- a measurement system
- a process orientation
- customer focus
- team-oriented management
- continuous performance improvement

Speaker: Mona K. Draper, the only GE certified six sigma consultant in the Houston area, worked 20 years in industry prior to becoming a consultant. While working in the energy arena as an internal consultant, she designed and implemented a process improvement system that demonstrated increased profitability and reduced operating costs. She is one of a group of seven consultants selected out of 500 applicants by GE Capital Services to train their leaders in GE's Six Sigma process improvement philosophy. She consults with both service and manufacturing companies in six sigma-based process improvement systems as well as all facets involved in organizational change management. Pete Pande acknowledges her contribution to the best selling management book *The Six Sigma Way*. Ms. Draper holds a MS in Statistics and has published papers in regression analysis, forecasting, facilitation and six-sigma based process improvement.



New Senior Members

Congratulations to the recently elected Senior Members from the Houston Section. For a complete list of the new Senior Members see the attached link. www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/md/smupdates.html

**Carl L. Benner
Edward W. Knightly
James E. Bowen
Hyeokho Choi
Carlos A. Coello Coello
Vincent G. Ernst
Dick A. Kabell
Robert S. Oshana
Karl M. Williams**

Looking for Senior Member Nominations

READ THIS SECTION TO BECOME A SENIOR MEMBER IN THE IEEE.

A goal of our Region is to sponsor as many Senior Members as possible and I am asking your help. The IEEE criteria for Senior Member status is ten years of professional practice including five years of significant performance, and references. (See the nominator letter and application form for clarification on the IEEE website.) If you know an IEEE member who qualifies for Senior Membership, I would like you to nominate him or her by forwarding their nomination to one of the Houston Section Excom members. If you qualify and are not a senior member please reply to one of the Section Excom members. If your are retired and have met the criteria at one time lets get you nominated. Section meetings are the best networking tool to achieve Senior membership.

As an alternative process, you can direct the prospective Senior Member to one of the Houston Section Excom Members. We have a list of several Fellows and Senior Members which we can use for references. The Section will nominate all those qualified who provide a resume and significant performance vita.

Senior Membership in IEEE promotes the value of membership and enhances the status of the member. The is an achievement award lets honor our deserving members.

IEEE Career Alert

IEEE CAREER ALERT for 22 Sep 2004

Your weekly report on jobs, education, management, and the engineering workplace, from the editors of IEEE Spectrum

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. H-1B Hiring Still Going Strong
2. Rejection Doesn't Always Mean 'No'
3. A Presentation for all Seasons
4. Engineering Expressiveness

1. H-1B Hiring Still Going Strong

Though the U.S. high-tech job market remains sluggish, U.S. companies continue to bring in temporary help from abroad, according to Business Week. Companies reached the 65,000 cap on H-1B visas, the temporary work permits for skilled foreigners, back in April, and now are close to using up next year's allotment as well. Read on at

<http://www.businessweek.com/careers/content/sep2004/ca20040920_0995_ca004.htm>

2. Rejection Doesn't Always Mean 'No'

Fear of rejection can be a significant inhibitor in a job search. Many job seekers become stuck, rendered immobile. After all, it's human nature to want to be accepted. But if a hiring company tells you "no," it could be just a phase you go through on your way to "maybe" and eventually "yes." How to turn rejection to your advantage? Read on at

<<http://www.careerjournal.com/jobhunting/strategies/19990927-cassiani.html>>

3. A Presentation for all Seasons

Just like a good story-teller, a capable presenter needs to convey her message in a straightforward way. The best kind of presentation has just three simple parts: an introduction, a body, and a summary. Deviate too far from this tried-and-true structure, and you risk losing and confusing your audience. Unfortunately, too many presenters underestimate the complexity of their own presentations. For tips on how to keep your message simple, see

<<http://www.todayseengineer.org/Aug04/presentations.asp>>

4. Engineering Expressiveness

IEEE Spectrum columnist Robert W. Lucky contemplates how computers have changed the way engineers communicate. Gone are the days of send memos to the typing pool or Vu-graphs to the art department. Now we have personal computers, word processors, and LCD projectors. Yet, even as computers empower our ability to express ourselves, they also plot to take it away, Lucky argues. Read on at

<<http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/careers/careerstemplate.jsp?ArticleId=n090604>>

ANNOUNCEMENT

The IEEE Job Site, available exclusively to IEEE members, can help you locate career opportunities easily and confidentially. Just complete a profile of your qualifications and requirements, and you'll be notified via email when a suitable job becomes available. IEEE Job Site was named one of the top online recruitment sites by Weddle's Guide to Employment Web Sites. And top employers know that IEEE members are the most qualified electrotechnology and information-technology professionals in the world. Take a few minutes to register with the IEEE Job Site and check out your career options today!

<<http://www.ieee.org/jobs>>

IEEE Career Alert is prepared weekly by the editors of IEEE Spectrum, the flagship magazine of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, read by more than 360,000 people worldwide. You'll find IEEE Spectrum's homepage at

<<http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/>>

IEEE Career Alert

IEEE CAREER ALERT for 29 Sep 2004

Your weekly report on jobs, education, management, and the engineering workplace, from the editors of IEEE Spectrum

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. How to Bounce Back from Getting Fired
2. Making Networking as Simple as 1-2-3
3. Picking a Winner
4. Conference on Ethics and Changing Energy Markets

1. How to Bounce Back from Getting Fired

Getting fired is never fun, but it's not the end of the world. People are pushed out for various reasons, according to a recent Wall Street Journal article: poor performance, power struggles, personality or culture clashes. "One of the biggest stumbling blocks people face is how to characterize a firing in future job interviews," the article says. "Take the blame for your own poor performance, if necessary, and then demonstrate that you have become stronger through the experience." Read on at

<http://www.careerjournal.com/jobhunting/jungle/20040922-jungle.html?home_whatsnew_minor>

2. Making Networking as Simple as 1-2-3

We all know the importance of networking when looking for a new job and advancing one's career. But building relationships with new people isn't always easy. Jeff Colvin, cofounder of management consulting firm Link, has a simple, three-step process that takes the pain out of networking. Start by doing something for the other person before asking for anything in return. Read on at

<http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/index.jsp?pageID=institute_level1_article&TheCat=2202&article=tionline/legacy/inst2004/sep04/9w.bestprac.xml>

3. Picking a Winner

As any bookie will tell you, picking a winner isn't easy. When it comes to technology, trying to forecast which ones will be successful, and how and when they will be incorporated into commercially viable products is a daunting challenge. In Today's Engineer, columnist Donald Christiansen looks at why technology forecasting so often goes awry.

<<http://www.todaysengineer.org/Aug04/backscatter.asp>>

4. Conference on Ethics and Changing Energy Markets

For those of you interested in power and energy, IEEE-USA is cosponsoring a conference at the University of Notre Dame, 28-29 October, to explore the ethical, market, and regulatory issues in the shift from regulated to competitive markets in the electric and gas utility industries. Speakers include Vernon Smith, Nobel Laureate in Economics, and Pat Wood III, chairman of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. For more information, read the media alert at <<http://www.ieeeusa.org/releases/2004/070204ma.html>>

ANNOUNCEMENT

The IEEE Job Site, available exclusively to IEEE members, can help you locate career opportunities easily and confidentially. Just complete a profile of your qualifications and requirements, and you'll be notified via email when a suitable job becomes available. IEEE Job Site was named one of the top online recruitment sites by Weddle's Guide to Employment Web Sites. And top employers know that IEEE members are the most qualified electrotechnology and information-technology professionals in the world. Take a few minutes to register with the IEEE Job Site and check out your career options today!

<<http://www.ieee.org/jobs>>

IEEE Career Alert is prepared weekly by the editors of IEEE Spectrum, the flagship magazine of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, read by more than 360,000 people worldwide. You'll find IEEE Spectrum's homepage at <<http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/>>

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IEEE NEWS

Here's your report on news around the IEEE, from the editors of The Institute. The most current version of The Institute can always be found at <http://www.ieee.org/theinstitute>

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. Dan Senese to Retire
2. Getting a Handle on Hydrogen
3. Companies Play New Role in Standards Development
4. Two New IEEE Journals Debut in 2005
5. Seeking Student-Run Web Radio Stations
6. IEEE Members Receive Discount on TECHXNY Registration
7. Water, Water Everywhere at Conference
8. New Proceedings Cover Latest Research in Parallel and Distributed Systems

1. Dan Senese to Retire

At the end of the year, IEEE executive director Daniel Senese will retire. For the past nine years, Senese has been responsible for overseeing all operations of the IEEE. His last day will be 31 December. Read more at http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/index.jsp?pageID=institute_level1_article&TheCat=2202&article=tionline/legacy/inst2004/sep04/9w.newssenese.xml

2. Getting a Handle on Hydrogen

Is hydrogen, and a hydrogen economy, the answer to air pollution and the world's dwindling reserves of fossil fuels? The industrialized countries are committing billions of dollars to find out, which is why four IEEE societies have united to help policymakers with accurate, objective information about the technology in the hope that they will be better equipped to make sound decisions. Find out more at http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/index.jsp?pageID=institute_level1_article&TheCat=2201&article=tionline/legacy/inst2004/sep04/9w.fhydro.xml

3. Companies Play New Role in Standards Development

When a new IEEE standard for rechargeable batteries was announced in April, few people realized it represented a new way of doing things. For the first time, the IEEE Standards Association had opened its standards development process to include formal participation by companies, instead of by individuals alone. Find out why at http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/index.jsp?pageID=institute_level1_article&TheCat=2202&article=tionline/legacy/inst2004/sep04/9w.stand.xml

4. Two New IEEE Journals Debut in 2005

Next year two new publications will be introduced that focus on emerging technologies: IEEE Journal of Display Technology and IEEE Transactions on Industrial Informatics. Find out more at http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/index.jsp?pageID=institute_level1_article&TheCat=1010&article=tionline/legacy/inst2004/sep04/9w.newjournals.xml

5. Seeking Student-Run Web Radio Stations

IEEE NEWS - Cont.

If your university has a student-run Web radio station, IEEE Spectrum wants to hear from you. Contact Editor Susan Hassler at [<mailto:s.hassler@ieee.org>](mailto:s.hassler@ieee.org)

6. IEEE Members Receive Discount on TECHXNY Registration

IEEE members who register for the TECHXNY conference, to be held 5-7 October 2004 in New York City, will receive a 15 percent discount on registration. TECHXNY covers business technology subjects, including computer security and networking systems.

Register at

[<http://www.techxny.com/registration.cfm>](http://www.techxny.com/registration.cfm) and use the promotional code "agthwl".

7. Water, Water Everywhere at Conference

Technical and social issues share the spotlight this year in Kobe, Japan, where the Oceans and Techno-Ocean 2004 conferences will be held together from 9 to 12 November at the Kobe Convention Center. Whether the subject is optical sensors or underwater vehicles, coastal management or Earth observations, participants will enjoy a strong undercurrent of international cooperation and interdisciplinary research. Learn more at

[<http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/index.jsp?pageID=institute_level1_article&TheCat=2203&article=tionline/legacy/inst2004/sep04/9w.conf.xml>](http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/index.jsp?pageID=institute_level1_article&TheCat=2203&article=tionline/legacy/inst2004/sep04/9w.conf.xml)

8. New Proceedings Cover Latest Research in Parallel and Distributed Systems

The proceedings of the 10th International Conference on Parallel and Distributed Systems are now available. Finite state processes, spatial data, database resource binding, and heterogeneous computing environments were just some of the research topics presented. To purchase, visit ShopIEEE at

[<http://shop.ieee.org/store/product.asp?prodno=PR2152>](http://shop.ieee.org/store/product.asp?prodno=PR2152)

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Or if you need assistance with your membership, contact IEEE Member Services by e-mail at [<mailto:member-services@ieee.org>](mailto:member-services@ieee.org) or by telephone +1 800 678 IEEE (+1 800 678 4333) from within the U.S. or +1 732 981 0060 outside the U.S. or fax +1 732 562 5445.

If you have questions or comments about The Institute Online Alert, please send a message to: [<mailto:tialert@ieee.org>](mailto:tialert@ieee.org)

IEEE USA NEWS

From Washington, D.C.: IEEE-USA NEWS & VIEWS E-MAIL UPDATE for 30 September 2004

Your Monthly U.S. IEEE Member E-Mail Update on "Building Careers & Shaping Public Policy" <http://www.ieeeusa.org/>

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. This Month's *IEEE-USA Today's Engineer* Webzine Covers Pensions, Ethics, Offshore Outsourcing, Software Piracy, Visa Processing Delays
2. IEEE-USA Urges Congress to End Patent Application Fee Diversion
3. Conference at University of Notre Dame to Explore Ethics and Changing Energy Markets, 28-29 October
4. IEEE-USA Consultants Fee Survey to Gauge Market Rates for Professional Services
5. Read the IEEE-USA Candidates' Statements in Your September Issue of *IEEE-USA News & Views*
6. Host an Engineering Reality TV Show, Audition 5 October

1. THIS MONTH'S *IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER* WEBZINE COVERS PENSIONS, ETHICS, OFFSHORE OUTSOURCING, SOFTWARE PIRACY, VISA PROCESSING DELAYS

Also, catch the final installment of the "Engineering in Pop Culture" feature on the Straphanger Centennial, a "Capitol Shavings" column on the Hubble Telescope, and a "World Bytes" column on striving for your personal "Everest." Read the latest edition of *IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER* online at: <<http://www.todaysengineer.org/>>

2. IEEE-USA URGES CONGRESS TO END PATENT APPLICATION FEE DIVERSION

In a 16 September letter to Senate Commerce-State-Justice Appropriations Committee members, IEEE-USA President-Elect Gerard Alphonse urged Congress not to pass an increase in patent application fees without ending the diversion of fees from the United States Patent and Trademark Office to other government programs.

Read the full news release at:

<<http://www.ieeeusa.org/communications/releases/2004/091604pr.asp>>

3. CONFERENCE AT UNIVERSITY OF NOTRE DAME TO EXPLORE ETHICS AND CHANGING ENERGY MARKETS, 28-29 OCTOBER

IEEE-USA is cosponsoring a 28-29 October conference at the University of Notre Dame to explore ethical, market and regulatory issues in the shift from regulated to competitive markets in the electric and gas utility industries. Speakers include Vernon Smith, Nobel Laureate in Economics, and Pat Wood III, chair of the Federal Energy Regulatory Commission. The early registration rate of \$250 will remain in effect through the conference.

For more information and to register, read the media alert at:

<<http://www.ieeeusa.org/communications/releases/2004/070204ma.asp>>

4. IEEE-USA CONSULTANTS FEE SURVEY TO GAUGE CURRENT MARKET RATES FOR PROFESSIONAL SERVICES

If you do at least half of your work as an independent consultant, please

IEEE USA NEWS-Cont

help us determine the prevailing fee levels in the United States for electrotechnology and information-technology consultants. By participating in this year's IEEE-USA Consultants Fee Survey, you will help U.S. IEEE member consultants — including yourself — optimize their revenue by avoiding shortchanging or overselling themselves in negotiations with clients.

Click here to begin: <http://www.ieeeresearch.org/consultants_fee_survey_2004.htm>

5. READ THE IEEE-USA CANDIDATES' STATEMENTS IN YOUR SEPTEMBER ISSUE OF *IEEE-USA NEWS & VIEWS*

Read statements from the candidates for 2005 IEEE-USA President-Elect and 2005-2006 IEEE-USA Member-at-Large in your September issue of *IEEE-USA NEWS & VIEWS,* in the polybag with *IEEE SPECTRUM* and *THE INSTITUTE.*

For more online information, visit: <<http://www.ieeeusa.org/elections/>>

6. HOST AN ENGINEERING REALITY TV SHOW, AUDITION 5 OCTOBER

WGBH Boston is holding auditions for hosts of a new, engineering reality TV show, based in Boston, Mass. The show will feature teams of teens interested in engineering, who compete by solving problems and building machines. Hosts will provide humorous running commentary.

For more information, or to schedule an audition, interested parties should e-mail schreuer@comcast.net; or call Nancy Doyle at +1 978 468 4487.

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If you have questions or comments about IEEE-USA NEWS & VIEWS E-MAIL ALERT, please send a message to <<mailto:newsandviews@ieee.org>>.

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PHONE: +1 202 785 0017 FAX: +1 202 785 0835
WEB: <http://www.ieeeusa.org/>

First Texas Electric Forum

First Texas Electric Energy Forum – TxEEF

11/19/04 – 11/20/04

The inaugural meeting of TxEEF is organized by Texas universities that have an electric power and power electronics (EPPE) program. The purpose of such an event is to provide and facilitate an independent forum for exchange of ideas and issues surrounding the development of the state's electricity sector through the year 2030. The forum is expected to attract representatives from the state and Federal governments, utility companies with Texas service areas, and vendors and consultants with Texas business interests. Institutions of higher education, as well as other government and private interest groups, are also invited.

THE FORUM WILL ADDRESS THE FOLLOWING MAJOR ISSUES:

- * The goals for future development of the state electricity sector and those goals' relation to the DOE vision of the National Grid 2030.
- * The human resources, technology developments, and regulatory issues that need to be pursued to accomplish the vision of the Texas Grid 2030.
- * The role of Texas universities with related educational and research programs in achieving the future developments of the state electricity sector.
- * The way state resources can be combined with Federal and private resources to develop both research and development partnerships that will benefit all the stakeholders in the state and beyond.

THE FOLLOWING PRIMARY OUTCOMES OF THE MEETING ARE EXPECTED:

- * Articulated series of research needs and objectives related to the electricity sector in the state and beyond.
- * Preliminary sketch of a possible research roadmap for the development of the state electricity sector.
- * List of future efforts to be undertaken by the Federal and local governments, the private sector, and academia to develop a comprehensive vision for the state.
- * Ideas for future research and develop partnerships leading to a national technology test-bed located in Texas, as well as participation from local universities and ERCOT.

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