



# THE POCKET SCOPE



The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

Volume 55, Number 3

November 2004

## SCOPE NOTES

### November 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  
770668014

## The Chairman's Message

**Gilroy Dolor**



### The Chairman's Message

The third annual Houston Section Golf Tournament October 8 at the Newport Golf Club was a great success. The weather cooperated, no doubt due to all the "rain, rain go away" dances performed by the EXCOM, and the golf tournament was able to proceed as planned. I would like to thank the Scholarship Chair, Scott Ballew, as well the volunteers for this tournament. And, a special thanks to all the companies that sponsored teams, holes, and donated door prizes. Without your support, this tournament would not have been a success. This tournament is turning out to be a premier event, and I look forward to seeing you all out there next year. Next month, we will post the pictures taken by Kristen Morrow, our photographer, on the website. If you have any recommendations or comments about improving this event, please don't hesitate to contact your EXCOM.

The December 2 Section Meeting will be our last meeting for this year. 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. Hope to see you all there.

At the last EXCOM meeting, Michael Hinkle gave a presentation on FIRST. FIRST stands for "For Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology". FIRST is an excellent and well-organized program designed to help youths from 12-18 years of age learn more about interests and opportunities in scientific and technical careers. It does this through an exciting robotics project that is completely revised each year. Described in several of the IEEE journals this year (including Spectrum), FIRST competitions have a high-energy atmosphere more like high-school basketball games than the "traditional" science fair. More than 1,000 teams in at least 6 countries will participate in FIRST this year, with about 40 of those teams here in the Houston area. See [www.usfirst.org](http://www.usfirst.org) for more information. Your EXCOM is seeking FIRST mentors and volunteers to assist teams in the Houston Area. This is just another great opportunity to "give back" to your profession. If you are interested, please contact one of the members from EXCOM.

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 become more active and see the rewards and benefits your membership gives

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## Chair Message-CONT

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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

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## CED Seminar News

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*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](mailto: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](mailto: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.

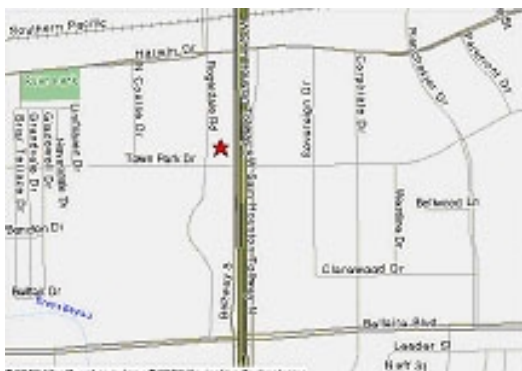
Instructors are application engineers, manufacturing specialists and expert consultants who provide a blend of diverse engineering perspectives.

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]

## 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**

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### **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 Houston Section Officer Nominations**

#### **EXECUTIVE OFFICERS NOMINATIONS FOR 2005**

The following Houston Section members have been nominated by the Nominations Committee to serve as Executive Officers during the year 2005

**Past Chairman - Gilroy Dolor**  
**Chairman - Scott Ballew**  
**Vice-Chairman - Charles Benard**  
**Secretary - Polo Gutierrez**  
**Director - Shannon Quadros**  
**Treasurer - Donald Dunn**

Be sure to attend the December 2, 2003, IEEE Houston Section Meeting to participate in the election of the Officers. Nominations for these positions can also be made from the floor that evening.”

The members of the Nominations Committee were: Donald Dunn, Justo Benitez and Dwayne Lowry.

# IEEE Career Alert

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IEEE CAREER ALERT for 3 Nov 2004

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

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. Google Searches for Talent
2. Engineering in Singapore
3. IEEE's Code of Ethics
4. Defining and Teaching Engineering Ethics

## 1. Google Searches for Talent

There is a reason Google is considered the smartest search engine — they're picky about who they hire. As the company's expanding business has created hundreds of new jobs, Google Inc. employs clever competitions and quirky aptitude tests to recruit the best programmers and engineers. Read about Google's nerdy talent hunt at

<<http://www.eweek.com/article2/0.1759.1683136.00.asp>>

Google's own site also has additional career info: <<http://www.google.com/jobs/index.html>>

## 2. Engineering in Singapore

Kids in Singapore are losing interest in engineering, despite strong job prospects, and officials are getting worried. To help promote engineering as a career, the country's five polytechnic universities are sponsoring their first-ever Engineering Week, with workshops, talks, and demonstrations about the discipline. The government has also launched a web site called Aspirations, to provide information about various engineering fields. See

<<http://www.aspirations.com.sg/>>

## 3. IEEE's Code of Ethics

For engineers, a key step to professional success is the ability to balance individual and team goals. To help them strike this balance, many organizations have a code of ethics. The IEEE is no exception. As a professional organization, the IEEE requires its members to adhere to its ethical code. Read more about the IEEE's Code of Ethics at

<<http://todaysengineer.org/Oct04/ethics.asp>>

## 4. Defining and Teaching Engineering Ethics

"Everyone wants the engineer to do what he or she ought to do, but ought implies ethics, and the study of ethics is in a mess." So wrote Billy V. Koen, an engineering professor at the University of Texas, Austin, who is well-known in engineering education circles. To help give engineers and educators some guidance in defining and teaching engineering ethics, Koen recently participated in an online Q&A arranged by the IEEE Education Society. The in-depth discussion can be found at

<<http://www.ewh.ieee.org/soc/es/koen.html>>

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 Career Alert

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IEEE CAREER ALERT for 10 Nov 2004

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

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. Fundamentals of Intellectual Property
2. Source Code for Sale?
3. Babies and Bosses
4. Extraordinary Women Engineers

## *1. Fundamentals of Intellectual Property*

Today, many employers and managers expect their engineers, designers, and scientists to be sources of innovation that can be protected as a valuable asset. Additionally, engineers, scientists and business managers often enhance their career opportunities and gain prestige when they have a history of obtaining patents on inventions. Led by their ideas, many engineers establish technology-based companies, with intellectual property the principal assets. So what do you really need to know about securing and maintaining your IP rights? Read this recent article in Today's Engineer at

<<http://www.todaysengineer.org/2004/Nov/IPfundamentals.asp>>

And for other IP-related articles of interest to engineers, see IEEE Spectrum's archive at

<<http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/careers/intel.jsp>>

## *2. Source Code for Sale?*

Speaking of IP, a number of articles in recent weeks have featured the alleged exploits of a mysterious group of hackers called the Source Code Club, who claim to be peddling the proprietary source code to various commercial products. Among the products on offer is an older version of Cisco's PIX firewall software for \$24,000. One expert quoted in E-Commerce Times says the club is probably a hoax but doesn't rule out the possibility that the Cisco code was leaked or otherwise hacked. Read on at

<<http://www.ecommercetimes.com/story/Source-Code-Club-Hacker-Hoax-or-Cisco-Headache-37842.html>>

## *3. Babies and Bosses*

To get a better handle on what governments and employers are doing to promote family-friendly policies, the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development has been publishing an ongoing series of reports, the third of which has just been released, covering New Zealand, Portugal, and Switzerland. Among the trends uncovered so far are that declining fertility rates are now a concern in most countries, and that men typically earn from one-third to two-thirds more than women. To read more about the OECD series, see

<[http://www.oecd.org/document/13/0,2340,en\\_2649\\_201185\\_33844621\\_119690\\_1\\_1\\_1,00.html](http://www.oecd.org/document/13/0,2340,en_2649_201185_33844621_119690_1_1_1,00.html)>

The page also links to specific findings from the latest report.

## *4. Extraordinary Women Engineers*

Women make up 46% of the U.S. workforce yet hold only 12% of the jobs in science, technology, engineering, and math. Hoping to attract more women to careers in engineering, a coalition of engineering associations and societies, together with the WGBH-TV Educational Foundation in Boston and a number of engineering societies, have established the Extraordinary Women Engineers Project. The project will kick off with a book, expected to be published in the fall of 2005, that focuses on what women engineers from around the world have contributed to the development of innovative technologies. To find out more about the project, see this recent article from the Institute,

<[http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/site/tionline/menuitem.130a3558587d56e8fb2275875bac26c8/index.jsp?pName=institute\\_level1\\_article&TheCat=2201&article=tionline/legacy/inst2004/nov04/11w.fproj.xml](http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/site/tionline/menuitem.130a3558587d56e8fb2275875bac26c8/index.jsp?pName=institute_level1_article&TheCat=2201&article=tionline/legacy/inst2004/nov04/11w.fproj.xml)>

And visit the project's Web site at

<<http://www.engineeringwomen.org/>>

## IEEE NEWS

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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. Michael Lightner Wins President-Elect Race
2. Standard Unveiled for Motor Vehicle Black Box
3. Vijay Bhargava Recognized by Royal Society of Canada
4. IEEE Upgrades E-Mail Alias Spam Filter
5. Marketplace of Ideas: A Technology Crystal Ball
6. Renovations Make Shopping Online Store Faster
7. Share Your E-Week Celebration Plans
8. Member Digital Library Offers Incentive to New Subscribers

Subscription info and member number are at the end of the e-mail. Complete URLs are contained between the < > symbols.

#### 1. Michael Lightner Wins President-Elect Race

IEEE Fellow Michael Lightner is the 2005 IEEE President-Elect. He will succeed 2005 President W. Cleon Anderson on 1 January 2006. Lightner is a professor at the University of Colorado, Boulder, USA, the current IEEE Vice President of Publication Services and Products, and a member of the IEEE Board of Directors. For more election results, visit <http://www.ieee.org/portal/pages/newsinfo/index.html>

#### 2. Standard Unveiled for Motor Vehicle Black Box

So-called black boxes have been so reliable at gathering critical data from plane crashes that the devices have found their way, with little or no fanfare, into millions of cars and trucks. And in September, IEEE Standard 1616 was completed for black boxes or, as they are known more formally, motor vehicle event data recorders. This is the equipment that collects, records, stores, and has ready for readout data about a vehicle's operation. Find out more at <http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/pages/online/legacy/inst2004/nov04/11w.fblackbox.html>

#### 3. Vijay Bhargava Recognized by Royal Society of Canada

When IEEE Fellow Vijay Bhargava journeyed from his native India to Canada as an 18-year-old to study engineering at Queens University in Kingston, Ont., he had no intention of staying in North America. But 38 years later, he's still there. He's become a renowned educator and wireless technology pioneer. Recently, Bhargava's adopted country recognized his contributions to wireless technology by presenting him with the Royal Society of Canada's Thomas W. Eadie Medal. Read more at <http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/pages/online/legacy/inst2004/nov04/11w.profilebhargava.html>

#### 4. IEEE Upgrades E-Mail Alias Spam Filter

Members who use the IEEE's personal e-mail alias service now have a tighter filter against spam. The filter allows users to create lists of e-mail addresses and domains from which they never want to receive mail

## IEEE NEWS - Cont.

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(the black list), and addresses from friends and business associates (the white list) whose mail will always come through. Read more at <<http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/pages/tionline/legacy/inst2004/nov04/11w.prodspam.html>>

### 5. Marketplace of Ideas: A Technology Crystal Ball

For its 40th-anniversary issue in November, IEEE Spectrum editors looked at 10 soon-to-be-hot start-ups, analyzed electrical engineering's identity crisis, and sized up the magazine's past technology predictions to see which hit the bull's-eye and which missed the mark. In addition, a host of engineering pioneers, executives, and other luminaries were asked what new technologies they expected to see play important roles in the next 40 years. What important innovations do you think we'll see in the next four decades? Weigh in at <<mailto:institute@ieee.org>> Read the luminaries' answers at <<http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/WEBONLY/publicfeature/nov04/1104lumi.html>>

### 6. Renovations Make Shopping Online Store Faster

Upgrades made to ShopIEEE, the online store, make finding and buying products easier and quicker. Although shoppers could always search for publications using key words like title or author, the new search engine allows for hazier queries such as a phrase or even a copyright year. Learn more at <<http://www.theinstitute.ieee.org/portal/pages/tionline/legacy/inst2004/nov04/11w.prodshop.html>>

### 7. Share Your E-Week Celebration Plans

How will your Section or Chapter celebrate the 2005 U.S National Engineers Week from 20-26 February? Let The Institute know. Send a description of your group's E-Week events, by 15 November to Editor Kathy Kowalenko at <<mailto:k.kowalenko@ieee.org>> so we may include your activities in an article.

### 8. Member Digital Library Offers Incentive to New Subscribers

IEEE members who become new subscribers to the IEEE Member Digital Library during the member renewal period ending 31 December will receive their first month of service free. The monthly fee is US\$35. To start your IEEE Member Digital Library subscription or to renew your IEEE membership for 2005, visit <<http://ieee.org/renewal>> All memberships renewed online by 15 November will be entered into a drawing for a Dell notebook computer.

# IEEE USA NEWS

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From Washington, D.C.: IEEE-USA NEWS & VIEWS E-MAIL UPDATE for 31 October 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 Fundamentals of Intellectual Property, Skills for Lifelong Learning, Voice Over Internet Protocol
2. IEEE-USA Leads Efforts for Senate Approval of L-1 Visa Reform Bill
3. EWeek Future City Competition Recruiting Engineer Mentors
4. IEEE Student Members Encouraged to Apply for 2005 WISE Program
5. Applications Open for Engineering and Science E-Mentors
6. Volunteers Needed for IEEE E-Merit Badge Booth at the 2005 National Scout Jamboree

1. THIS MONTH'S TODAY'S ENGINEER WEBZINE COVERS FUNDAMENTALS OF INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY, SKILLS FOR LIFELONG LEARNING, VOICE OVER IP

Also, catch a "Backscatter" feature on "The Hat Trick: Having It Both Ways," a "Capitol Shavings" member opinion column on high-tech visas, a "Your Engineering Heritage" feature on the Voting Technology Evolution, a "World Bytes" column on Golden Handcuffs, and a new "Students' Corner" column on IEEE-USA's Mass Media Fellows.

Read the latest edition of IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER online at: <<http://www.todaysengineer.org/>>.

2. IEEE-USA LEADS EFFORTS FOR SENATE APPROVAL OF L-1 VISA REFORM BILL

On 30 September, the Senate unanimously approved the "L-1 Visa (Intra-company Transferee) Reform Act of 2003," S. 1635, which prohibits the placement of L-1 (intra-company transfer) visas at work sites owned, operated and controlled by unaffiliated employers. IEEE-USA opposed the exemption and hundreds of U.S. IEEE members sent letters to their Senators to help achieve Senate approval for this bill.

To learn more about this immigration issue, go to: <<http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/issues/>>.

3. EWEK FUTURE CITY COMPETITION RECRUITING ENGINEERING MENTORS

EWeek's Future City Competition is recruiting engineer volunteers interested in working as technical advisers to middle-school teams entering the competition. Engineer mentors act as part of the team, and students learn firsthand how to turn ideas into realities.

To sign up, or learn more, visit: <<http://www.futurecity.org/>>.

4. U.S. IEEE STUDENT MEMBERS ENCOURAGED TO APPLY FOR 2005 WISE PROGRAM

Next summer, the IEEE will sponsor three outstanding student members to participate in the 2005 Washington Internships for Students of Engineering (WISE) program. The select candidates will spend nine weeks in Washington, D.C., learning how engineers can contribute to the legislative decision-making process. Application deadline is 10 December.

For more information, visit: <<http://www.wise-intern.org/>>.

5. APPLICATIONS OPEN FOR ENGINEERING/SCIENCE E-MENTORS

MentorNet, an e-mail-based mentoring network, is currently accepting applications from U.S. engineering and science faculty members interested in mentoring some of the best and brightest women college students in the country. These students benefit from online advice and insight often unavailable to women students in these fields.

To find out more or apply, visit: <<http://www.mentornet.net/>>.

6. VOLUNTEERS NEEDED FOR IEEE E-MERIT BADGE BOOTH AT 2005 NATIONAL SCOUT JAMBOREE

The IEEE's [emeritbadges.org](http://emeritbadges.org) program needs more than 100 volunteers for the IEEE Electronics Merit Badge Booth at the 2005 U.S. National Scout Jamboree, to be held next year in Caroline County, Va., from 25 July to 3.

For more information, visit: <<http://www.ieeeusa.org/communications/notable/emeritbadges.asp>>.

# IEEE ONLINE NEWS

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## Online Communities

IEEE is moving the IEEE Online Community login account maintenance from our provider's database to the IEEE system. This move is necessary to enable the Web Account login to take place in the online communities. The enhancement is in response to requests for an IEEE single sign-on feature in our online applications. In 2005, when the single sign-on feature is completed across the IEEE Web site, users will be able to login via an IEEE Web Account to the Online Communities and then have access to all IEEE online areas where their rights allow.

Previously, we announced that the IEEE Web Account login would be enabled in the Online Communities on 15 November. Due to additional technical requirements, we will be enabling the Web Account login on 14 December. This means you still have time to register for an IEEE Web Account and make the required changes (below) to your Online Community account, if you haven't done so already. The required changes and the Web Account registration take a maximum of 10 minutes to complete.

Please remember that ALL Online Community members, whether they are IEEE members or otherwise, must register for an IEEE Web Account. Guest accounts are enabled for non-IEEE members. IEEE staff must use their Staff Web Account.

After the enhancement is in place, if users need to update their password and primary email address, they will do that using their IEEE Web Account. User names may not be changed in the Web Account. All other changes to Online Community account information may be made as usual.

In the event that you are unable to make the changes in advance of 9 December, an IEEE Web Account will be issued to you via your primary email address. We will preserve your user name to its fullest extent, however, some exceptions may occur. For example, if two users have identical user names, a simple suffix will be added to the newer user name. Your email address will be preserved and included in the new IEEE Web Account. Then, you will be required to change the password and security identifiers for the Web Account before logging back in to the Online Community.

\*\*\*Important note: The new service change requires a short service interruption from noon est. 13 Dec. to noon est. 14 Dec. Please plan accordingly. Additionally, there will be a freeze on new accounts as well as changes to the user name and primary email address in the main community profile between 9 and 14 Dec.

Required changes:

If you do not have an IEEE Web Account, first please register for one at <http://shop.ieee.org/IEEEStore/signin.aspx>. Once you have an IEEE Web Account, please proceed as follows:

1. Go to the main page of the IEEE Online Communities. <https://www.ieeecommunities.org/>

## IEEE ONLINE NEWS-Cont

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2. Login as you normally would, then click the “Edit Profile” link on that main page.
3. Add your IEEE Member Number to the “Profile” field. This is not a required field, so non-IEEE members can skip this step. Make sure that the number itself is the first data that appears in the field. There is no need to identify it with the words “IEEE Member Number.” Just separate it from any other text with a space.
4. Change your Online Community User Name to match your new IEEE Web Account user name.
5. Check to see if the primary email address you’d provided for the community is the same as the one you use for your IEEE Web Account. If it is not, please update the email address in your community profile. [Please note that secondary email addresses are now supported by the community. If you have additional email addresses from which you conduct business, you might wish to add them at this time. Secondary addresses are NOT visible to other community members.]
6. Click on the “Update Account” button at the bottom of the page.
7. Now, back at the main page, click on the “Change Password” link.
8. Enter your current community password, then your new IEEE Web Account password in the designated fields. Click the “Change Password” button.

IEEE member numbers entered into the “Profile” area of the Main profile may be kept private by entering the Preferences area and updating “Privacy Setting” to “show name and email only.” At that point, you can add a custom profile for that community and keep your Main profile private. Remember, you must do this in each community of which you are a member.

From then on, use your IEEE Web Account user name and password to login to your IEEE Online Communities. Making the profile changes now will ensure a smooth transition when the community enhancement is enabled.

For further questions, please contact Debra Schiff at [d.schiff@ieee.org](mailto:d.schiff@ieee.org).  
IEEE 445 Hoes Lane, Piscataway, NJ 08854

# First Texas Electric Forum

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## 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.

COMMIITTEE MEMBERS: Mladen Kezunovic, Texas A&M University (Chair); Ross Baldick, The University of Texas at Austin; Paul C.W. Chu, University of Houston; Michael Giesselmann, Texas Tech University; and Wei-jen Lee, The University of Texas at Arlington.

<<Oct11-04-TxEEF brochure.pdf>>

Available subevents:

[REGISTER - Partnership for Electricity Research](#)

<http://www.peopleware.net/1542a>

(11/18/04 - 11/20/04)

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