



THE POCKET SCOPE



The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

Volume 55, Number 8

April 2005

SCOPE NOTES

April

Houston Section News

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

hen: Thursday, April 28., 2005
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!

IEEE WEB ADDRESS

[http://
\(www.ieee-houston.org\)](http://www.ieee-houston.org)

IEEE Houston Section
P.O. Box
460443
Houston, Texas
77056-8014



The Chairman's Message

Scott Ballew

The Chairman's Message

As I discussed in my March Chair Message, the IEEE Houston Section EXCOM sent Mr. Polo Gutierrez, Houston Section Secretary, in support of the IEEE-USA Career and Workforce Policy Committee which targeted Texas as part of their March 2005 Careers Workforce Congressional "Fly-In". This effort brought IEEE-USA's message on H-1B visas, offshoring and other employment issues to Congress. Polo shared his D.C. trip experiences with the Houston EXCOM at our March 24th meeting and stated that he had the opportunity to visit with many of the staff of several congressmen and that the overall exchange was very positive. I can also report that the IEEE-USA Staff stated that Polo represented himself, the IEEE-USA, and the Houston Section extremely well and they were very pleased to have him as a key part of the overall effort. A sincere thanks to Polo for investing the time in this most worthwhile endeavor and for representing the Houston Section so very well.

As far as other IEEE events in March, Gil Dolor – Houston Section Past Chair, Donald Dunn - Region 5 South Area Chair and Houston Section Treasurer, and myself – Houston Section Chairman, attended the IEEE PACE (The Professional Activities Committees for Engineers) 2005 Leadership Workshop in Tucson, Az. March 11th thru 13th. Gil, Donald, and myself attended many seminars on leadership, offshoring of US Engineering and technical jobs. Overall, we gained a lot of great ideas for incorporation into the Houston Section EXCOM.

In addition, the Region 5 Technical and Leadership Conference will be held in Denver, Colorado April 7 – 10, 2005. Your EXCOM will be attending this very important annual event. This annual conference is a very enjoyable experience, because you find out what the happenings are in IEEE Regional and National. And, I always find it very interesting at this Conference to hear what the other Sections are doing to add value to their membership, and how our Section can learn from that. I will report to you the results of the R5 Conference in May.

As a reminder to all of you, the Houston Section will be manning a booth at the Offshore Technology Conference (OTC) May 2 - 5, 2005 promoting IEEE. We have had a couple of people volunteer to help us man these booths and promote IEEE. This is a great opportunity to meet engineers from other companies and network. We still need more volunteers. If you are interested in volunteering, contact one of your EXCOM members.

CONTINUED ON PAGE 2

Chair Message-CONT

As always, the EXCOM and I look forward to your feedback and comments. If you have suggestions and/or are interested in becoming active within the section or a local society chapter, contact one of us. Your active participation and feedback is most welcome and very beneficial in ensuring that the programs and content of IEEE brings the most value.

Scott Ballew
Houston Section Chair

April 28 Section Meeting

Topic: An Update on Telematics and Emerging Design Architectures for Intelligent Transportation Systems - Challenging Opportunities for Electrical Engineers.

Intelligent transportation systems require the integration of communications systems, road sensors, vehicle information systems and weather conditions. This presentation will explore some of the latest techniques employed for bringing together all these technologies in building safer and more efficient vehicles and transportation systems.

Speaker: W. Ransom Siler - In February of this year, after more than 20 years in communications and IT for the energy industry, Ransom returned to private practice as a consulting engineer in communications and electronic systems. For many years he has researched emerging technologies and developed telecommunications strategies. Prior to concentrating on the energy industry, he was a consulting engineer in broadcasting, cable television and mobile telephone systems design. Ransom holds a B.S. degree in electrical engineering from Tennessee Technological University and a M.S. in Engineering Management from the University of Massachusetts. He has been active in the IEEE Houston Section and the Communications Society, and served as chair of the Houston Chapter for several years. Ransom is a senior member of the IEEE and a registered professional engineer in Texas and Tennessee.

Where: HESS Building, 5430 Westheimer at Yorktown

Time: 6:00 - 6:30 PM Social - 6:30 - 7:30 PM Dinner - 7:30 - 8:30 PM Presentations

Cost: Dinner \$15.00 for members who register 48 hours prior to the event, \$20.00 for members who do not register 48 hours prior to the event and for non-members; \$5.00 for students.

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.

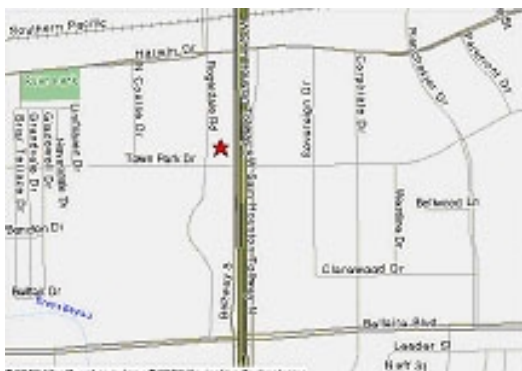
Instructors are application engineers, manufacturing specialists and expert consultants who provide a blend of diverse engineering perspectives.

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
 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]

Conference for Protective Relay Engineers

CONFERENCE FOR PROTECTIVE RELAY ENGINEERS TEXAS A&M UNIVERSITY College Station, Texas April 5-7, 2005

The Planning Committee of the 58th Annual Conference for Protective Relay Engineers invites you to attend the conference at Texas A&M University on April 5-7, 2005. The Protective Relay Conference provides a forum for engineers to discuss protection technology and related subjects. Both tutorial presentations on fundamental concepts and papers on new technology are included. The program will include the following:

- ◆ New protection equipment descriptions
- ◆ Relay application ideas and new concepts
- ◆ Case Studies and "Horror Stories"

(When the relays worked - and when they didn't!)

Registration Information: Pre-Registration: \$250 (begins January 10, 2005)
After March 7, 2005: \$300

Manufacturers: For hospitality suites, please contact Lydia Godfrey at the College Station Hilton and Conference Center at (979) 694-4903

Special offerings: In conjunction with the 58th Annual Conference for Protective Relay Engineers special pre-conference offerings are available Monday, April 4, including a tutorial, ethics seminar, and manufacturer's presentations. Please see the website for more details.

This conference offers **Continuing Education Credits**

Website: <http://engineering.tamu.edu/prorelay/>
For Registration: Ms. Sharon Loe
Conference Registration
238 Wisenbaker Engineering Research Center
Texas A&M University
3128 TAMU
College Station, TX 77843-3128
Phone: (979) 845-7912
Fax: (979)458-1139
s-loe@tamu.edu

For Information: Dr. B. Don Russell
Regents Professor
College of Engineering
Texas A&M University
College Station, TX 77843-3128
(979) 845-7912

New Senior Members

Congratulations to the recently elevated Senior Members from the Houston Section (April). For a complete list of the new Senior Members see the attached link.

www.ieee.org/organizations/rab/md/smupdates.html

Erzsébet Merényi

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 USA News

News from IEEE-USA

1828 L Street N.W., Suite 1202, Washington, D.C. 20036-5104

Congressman Rohrabacher and Former IEEE-USA Board Member Head 2004 IEEE-USA Award Recipients

WASHINGTON (9 February 2005) — Rep. Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.), former chairman of the House Science Committee's Subcommittee on Space and Aeronautics; and Dr. Charles P. Rubenstein, a 2003 member of the IEEE-USA Board of Directors and Operating Committee, will receive IEEE-USA professional awards.

Rohrabacher and Rubenstein join fellow IEEE-USA award recipients in recognition of their professionalism and technical achievements, as well as literary contributions to public awareness and understanding of the engineering profession in the United States.

Rohrabacher is being honored with the IEEE-USA Distinguished Public Service Award "for long-term support of IEEE-USA's Congressional Fellowship program and leadership on federal policy issues of concern to the engineering community." Steve Watkins served as an IEEE-USA Congressional Fellow last year in Rohrabacher's office, and Randall Brouwer holds the position in 2005.

Rubenstein, who lives in Massapequa, N.Y., is receiving IEEE-USA's highest honor, the Robert S. Walleigh Distinguished Contributions to Engineering Professionalism Award. An IEEE senior member and active volunteer, Rubenstein works as a tenured professor of information science at New York's Pratt Institute graduate School of Information and Library Science. He is being recognized "for sustained leadership and inspiration in professional activities within the IEEE Divisions and Regions."

IEEE-USA's distinguished awards are administered under its Awards and Recognition Committee and approved by the IEEE-USA Board of Directors. They will be presented at a 12 March awards ceremony held in conjunction with the IEEE-USA Leadership Workshop in Tucson, Ariz.

(<http://www.ieeeusa.org/calendar/conferences/2005workshop/default.asp>).

Here's the complete list of 2004 award recipients:

Professional Awards

ROBERT S. WALLEIGH DISTINGUISHED CONTRIBUTIONS TO ENGINEERING PROFESSIONALISM AWARD

Charles P. Rubenstein

"For sustained leadership and inspiration in professional activities within the IEEE Divisions and Regions"

DISTINGUISHED PUBLIC SERVICE

Dana Rohrabacher

"For long-term support of IEEE-USA's Congressional Fellowship program and leadership on federal policy issues of concern to the engineering community"

PRECOLLEGE EDUCATION COMMITTEE TEACHER-ENGINEER PARTNERSHIP

Mark R. Rognstad & William G. Speed, Jr.

"For providing mentorship, support, and encouragement to students interested in science, technology, and mathematics through engineering competitions at the local, regional and national levels"

CITATION OF HONOR

Donald W. Hill

"For sustained leadership in PACE activities at the national level"

Philip Holmer

"For leadership in providing analysis and guidance regarding technology policy to Congress"

IEEE USA News-Cont

as Chair of IEEE-USA's Committee on Transportation and Aerospace Technology Policy"

Glenn S. Tenney

"For increasing the visibility of the IEEE-USA Intellectual Property Committee, and contributing to testimony presented to the Senate Judiciary Committee regarding the Inducing Infringement of Copyrights Act of 2004"

George W. Zobrist

"For enthusiastic service on behalf of the professional needs of U.S. members and students as Editor of IEEE Potentials Magazine and Member Activities Editor for IEEE-USA Today's Engineer and News & Views"

REGIONAL PROFESSIONAL LEADERSHIP AWARD

Parviz Famouri (Region 2)

"For organizing and executing PACE training sessions for Sections in Region 2 having limited PACE activities"

Robert H. Gauger (Regional)

"For efforts to improve professional standards, integrity and business practices of U.S. IEEE consulting engineers"

Tarek Lahdhiri (Region 4)

"For providing professional training to Sections, Chapters and PACE leaders within Region 4"

William Marshall (Region 3)

"For championing new programs within the Atlanta Section, in areas such as PACE, GOLD, K-12 Outreach, and Industry Relations"

Winnfort J. Myles (Region 6)

"For effectively communicating professional ideas, and educating and training other leaders in Region 6"

Hamid Vakilzadian (Region 4)

"For efforts in promoting PACE activities within the Nebraska Section and the West Area of Region 4"Hamid

PROFESSIONAL ACHIEVEMENT AWARD

Luke R. Maki

"For significantly improving the IEEE-USA Committee on Communications and Information Policy's effectiveness and image in the technology policy areas of broadband communication and improved spectrum use"

George F. McClure

"For pioneering the research and dissemination of information concerning the outsourcing of engineering jobs to other countries, and its effects on U.S. engineers"

C. Lee Stogner

"For reestablishing the IEEE-USA Government Activities Committee, and focusing its activities on member interaction with state legislatures and Congress"

IEEE USA News-Cont

Technical Awards

HARRY DIAMOND MEMORIAL AWARD

Robert K. Parker

"For leadership in radio frequency vacuum electronics, and pioneering technical contributions in the fields of intense relativistic electron beam technology, free electron lasers and gyro-amplifiers"

ELECTROTECHNOLOGY TRANSFER AWARD

David O. Patterson

"For spearheading development of advanced lithographic approaches and tools that foster exceptional advances in Department of Defense system capabilities and their transfer to commercial application"

Literary Awards

DISTINGUISHED LITERARY CONTRIBUTIONS FURTHERING PUBLIC UNDERSTANDING OF THE PROFESSION

William J. Mitchell

"For increasing public understanding of information technology in everyday life through his book, Me++: The Cyborg Self and the Networked City"

Terri Spitz, Steven Cooper and Scott Schroeder

"For increasing public understanding of the impacts on engineering employment due to the H-1B and L-1 visa programs through their TV news series, Stolen Jobs"

For more information, visit the IEEE-USA Awards and Recognition Web page at <http://www.ieeeusa.org/volunteers/committees/awards/>, or contact Sandra Kim at sandra.kim@ieee.org. Nominations are being accepted for the 2005 awards. The deadline is 31 July 2005.

IEEE-USA is an organizational unit of the IEEE. It was created in 1973 to advance the public good and promote the careers and public policy interests of the more than 220,000 technology professionals who are U.S. members of the IEEE. The IEEE is the world's largest technical professional society.

For more information, go to <http://www.ieeeusa.org>.

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Contact: Chris McManes

Senior Public Relations Coordinator

Phone: + 1 202 785 0017, ext. 8356

E-Mail: c.mcmanes@ieee.org

IEEE Career Alert

NEWS from IEEE-USA

1828 L Street, N.W., Suite 1202, Washington, D.C. 20036-5104

U.S. Technical Employment Falls by More Than 220,000 Workers from 2000 to 2004

WASHINGTON (3 March 2005) — The number of employed U.S. technical workers has fallen by 221,000 in six major computer and engineering jobclassifications from 2000 to 2004, according to data compiled by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS).

The largest drops occurred among computer programmers, followed by electrical and electronics engineers, then computer scientists and systems analysts. These declines were offset by substantial employment increases for computer and information systems managers, computer hardware engineers and computer software engineers.

"The drop in computer programmers and rise in managers reflects the trend toward offshoring of programming jobs and the resulting need for professionals to manage outsourced projects," IEEE-USA President Gerard A. Alphonse said.

According to the BLS, computer programmers have taken the biggest hit, with a drop of more than 24 percent — from 745,000 in 2000 to 564,000 in 2004. In addition, the number of employed electrical and electronics engineers shrunk by 101,000, from 444,000 in 2000 to 343,000 last year, a decrease of nearly 23 percent. Computer scientists and systems analysts have experienced similar losses, dropping more than 16 percent, from 835,000 in 2000 to 700,000 in 2004.

However, employed computer and information systems managers have jumped from 228,000 in 2000 to 337,000 last year, a dramatic increase of almost 48 percent. Computer hardware engineers rose from 83,000 in 2000 to 96,000 in 2004, a nearly 16 percent increase. Employed computer software engineers have risen by 74,000, from 739,000 in 2000 to 813,000 in 2004, a 10 percent increase.

The table below summarizes the BLS data:

Job Classification	2000	2004	Change	Pct.
Computer Hardware Engineers	83,000	96,000	+13,000	+15.7
Computer & Info. Systems Managers	228,000	337,000	+109,000	+47.8
Computer Programmers	745,000	564,000	-181,000	-24.3
Computer Scientists & Systems Analysts	835,000	700,000	-135,000	-16.2
Computer Software Engineers	739,000	813,000	+74,000	+10.0
Electrical & Electronics Engineers	444,000	343,000	-101,000	-22.7
Total	3,074,000	2,853,000	-221,000	-7.2

IEEE-USA is an organizational unit of the IEEE. It was created in 1973 to advance the public good and promote the careers and public policy interests of the more than 220,000 technology professionals who are U.S. members of the IEEE. The IEEE is the world's largest technical professional society. For more information, go to <http://www.ieeeusa.org>.

Contact: Chris McManes
 Senior Public Relations Coordinator
 Phone: + 1 202 785 0017, ext. 8356
 E-Mail: c.mcmanes@ieee.org

IEEE-USA Needs Help!

IEEE-USA Needs Help!

Early this year, Congress will begin debating legislation that could profoundly effect American engineering professionals. We Need IEEE Members to Come to Washington on March 8th and 9th to Help Us Defend Your Profession!

IEEE engineers face an unprecedented challenge, and an equal opportunity, this year. Done right, pending legislation could strengthen America's long-term competitiveness and prosperity. Done wrong, these proposed reforms could undermine job opportunities and retirement security for many American professionals, including engineers and scientists. It all depends on what Congress decides to do.

Among the many important issues that Congress will debate this year the most important for engineers include proposals to:

- Expand the country's temporary work visa program. Although it will target low-skill workers, this proposal could substantially increase the number of temporary visas available for foreign professionals.
- Partially privatize Social Security and strengthen the nation's defined pension system.
- Change the processing of visas international students need to study in the U.S. Some proposals would make the student admissions process more restrictive. Others will expedite student admissions.
- Make it easier foreign engineers and scientists to permanent residents of the U.S.

IEEE-USA will be working aggressively to protect the interests of IEEE members, but we can't do it alone. We need help from individual IEEE members who are concerned about the future of their profession.

On the afternoon of March 8th, 2005 we invite all concerned engineers to meet us on Capitol Hill for an intensive training session on key professional careers issues. Then on March 9th, you will visit with your legislators to discuss the state of engineering in America and practical ways Congress can improve it.

All IEEE members in Regions 1 – 6 are encouraged to participate, including students and retired engineers. No experience is necessary. All you need is a willingness to try to make the country better. IEEE-USA will provide you with background on pending legislation and tips on holding successful meetings with members of Congress.

IEEE-USA held a very successful similar event last year. Only two of the participants had ever met a lawmaker before, yet all were able to successfully communicate personal concerns and practical recommendations to their legislators.

More information on the 2005 IEEE-USA Careers Fly-In, including how to register, can be found here: www.ieeeusa.org/policy/Careerflyin. Limited support for a few IEEE members from key legislative districts will also be available.

Questions? Contact Vin O'Neil or Russ Harrison at (202) 785-0017 or e-mail Russ at r.t.harrison@ieee.org.

IEEE Career Alert for March 30 2005

IEEE CAREER ALERT for 30 Mar 2005

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

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. The Overworked American
2. Fair Treatment for Europe's Young Researchers
3. German Companies Told to Stay Home
4. Protecting Your Privacy at Work

1. The Overworked American

Are you working too hard? If so, you're not alone. A new study by the nonprofit Families and Work Institute, reports that one in three U.S. employees are chronically overworked, while 54 percent have felt overwhelmed at some time in the past month by how much work they have to do. Overwork notwithstanding, more than a third of employees did not plan to take all of the vacation they're entitled to take, the report notes. To read the report, "Overwork in America: When the Way We Work Becomes Too Much," visit the institute's web site:

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

2. Fair Treatment for Europe's Young Researchers

Many junior-level scientists and engineers feel themselves to be an ill-used underclass in the research world, working long hours for low pay and few benefits and under poorly defined terms of employment. To address such concerns, the European Commission recently issued a charter which encourages higher standards for the treatment of younger researchers. Among other things, the charter recommends that employers and funders guarantee stable employment and an attractive salary and also encourage co-authorship so that all researchers who contribute to a paper or patent, including early-stage researchers, are recognized. The charter and a related code of conduct can be downloaded, in 19 languages, at <http://europa.eu.int/eracareers/index_en.cfm?l1=15&CFID=6671776&CFTOKEN=193251b-00044756-5d0a-11b8-9c6e-8307fc480000>

3. German Companies Told to Stay Home

German chancellor Gerhard Schröder has called on companies to stop moving jobs and factories outside of the country in search of cheaper labor and lower taxes and to invest in Germany to provide badly needed employment. Recent figures show that early this year unemployment reached more than five million people, 12.6 percent of the population, the highest number since the years before World War II. German businesses have long complained that German taxes and labor costs have left the country uncompetitive. The German government recently cut the corporate rate from 25 percent to 19 percent and has also reduced unemployment benefits, cut back on social welfare, and given employers more flexibility in hiring and firing. <<http://www.iht.com/articles/2005/03/28/news/Germany.html>>

4. Protecting Your Privacy at Work

"Workers of the world are exposed to many types of privacy-invasive monitoring while earning a living," notes the Workplace Privacy page maintained by the Electronic Privacy Information Center. These methods include closed-circuit video, Internet monitoring and filtering, e-mail monitoring, instant message monitoring, and keystroke logging. While employers "have an interest in monitoring in order to address security risks, sexual harassment, and to ensure the acceptable performance of employees," the page notes, "these activities may diminish employee morale and dignity, and increase worker stress." The page includes links to other sources of information on workplace privacy. Go to

<<http://www.epic.org/privacy/workplace/>>

IEEE USA-NEWS

NEWS from IEEE-USA

1828 L Street, N.W., Suite 1202, Washington, D.C. 20036-5104

IEEE-USA Intellectual Property Committee Chair and Copyright Attorney

Available for Interviews on MGM vs. Grokster Electronic File Sharing Case Before Supreme Court

WASHINGTON (30 March 2005) ? IEEE-USA Intellectual Property Committee (IPC)

Chair Andrew Greenberg is available to assist journalists working on the "MGM Studios vs. Grokster" electronic file sharing case now before the U.S. Supreme Court. Oral arguments were heard Tuesday.

Greenberg, an intellectual property attorney with Carlton Fields, P.A. in Tampa, Fla., helped draft the amicus curiae brief IEEE-USA filed in the case in January. IEEE-USA proposed that artists' works and technological innovation can both be accommodated by holding a manufacturer of a technology having non-infringing uses liable only when the manufacturer had actively induced its customers to infringe. Active inducement solutions were raised by the Court during oral arguments.

"File-sharing technology serves as the basis for the Internet and should be unrestricted to produce future revolutionary digital products," Greenberg said. "On the other hand, copyright owners must not be left to the mercy of those who set out to knowingly and intentionally induce third parties to infringe. The fact that neither party has embraced the Court's suggestion confirms that active inducement may be the middle ground the Court is seeking."

Greenberg testified before Congress on the "Inducing Infringement of Copyrights Act of 2004" (<http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/issues/INDUCE/index.html>) and worked with former IEEE-USA IPC Chair Glenn Tenney to amend the failed legislation.

The final version of IEEE-USA's friend-of-the-court brief is accessible at <http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/POLICY/2005/MGMvGrokster.pdf>. The 24 January news release is available at <http://www.ieeeusa.org/communications/releases/2005/012405pr.asp>.

The Supreme Court is expected to release its decision in June. IEEE-USA is an organizational unit of the IEEE. It was created in 1973 to advance the public good and promote the careers and public policy interests of the more than 220,000 technology professionals who are U.S. members of the IEEE. The IEEE is the world's largest technical professional society. For more information, go to <http://www.ieeeusa.org/>.

Contact: Chris McManes - Senior Public Relations Coordinator
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