



THE POCKET SCOPE



The Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers, Inc.

Volume 55, Number 11

July 2005

SCOPE NOTES

July Houston Section News

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

hen: Thursday, October 27, 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 res-
ervations.



The Chairman's Message

Scott Ballew

The Chairman's Message

Scott Ballew
Houston Section Chair

See Page 3
for the Continu-
ing 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

New Senior Members

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

Kejan Lan

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

2005 Scholarship Selection Criteria

In order to promote the interests of the Institute of Electrical & Electronics Engineers (IEEE) - Houston Section, and in support of its dedication to Engineering and Science, scholarship(s) will be awarded annually to selected applicant(s). For 2005, due to the success of the 2004 IEE - Houston Section Annual Scholarship Golf Tournament, up to four (4) \$1,000 scholarships each, will be awarded to both incoming freshman and full time college students who meet the following criteria:

ELIGIBILITY: Limited to a full time student enrolled in an accredited college or university who:

- Is a IEEE - Houston Section member's child or relative
- **** OR ****
- Is a member of IEEE (Student Branch or other)

DISCUSSION: By restricting eligibility as above, scholarships are made available to those full time students who have an association with IEEE. This places applicants on a "level playing field" before selection criteria are applied to determine the scholarship recipients. All scholarships will be awarded on merit.

SELECTION CRITERIA:

Merit

- Candidate is enrolled / planning to enroll in an Engineering or Science Curriculum
- His/her cumulative GPA (High School GPA for entering college freshman), SAT or ACT scores
- Discussion paper

DISCUSSION PAPER:

This document will be a key element in the scholarship selection criteria. Topics should include, but not be limited to the following:

- Employment experience
- Activities/elected positions
- Career goals
- Honors/Awards
- Personal information
- Why you are seeking this scholarship

To apply, please complete the attached form and mail to:

IEEE - Houston Section
Attention: Scholarship Committee
P.O. Box 460443
Houston, Texas 77056-8014

Deadline for submitting application form and all supporting data is July 22, 2005.



IEEE - HOUSTON SECTION
2005 SCHOLARSHIP APPLICATION
(Applications due July 22, 2005)

Applicant's Full Name: _____ Home Phone No.: _____

Home Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Email Address: _____ College (or Mobile) Phone No.: _____

College Address: _____ City: _____ Zip: _____

Are you a member of IEEE: ? Yes ? No If so, are you a IEEE Student Chapter Member: ? Yes ? No

IEEE - Houston Section Member (Sponsor's Name): _____

Sponsor's IEEE Member No: _____ Your IEEE Member No. (If any): _____

Student Status: ___ High School Sr. ___ Jr. ___ Soph. ___ Fresh. ___

___ College or University Sr. ___ Jr. ___ Soph. ___ Fresh. ___

Cumulative Collegiate GPA (Based on 4.0 max.) substantiated by copy of transcript(s): _____

High School GPA - for applicant entering college as freshman: _____

- If High School Student - please provide SAT / ACT Scores: _____

College or University: _____ Location: _____

Major or anticipated major: _____

Attach one (1) page essay by student covering:

1. Employment Experience
2. Activities/Elected Positions
3. Personal Information
4. Honors/Awards
5. Career Goals
6. Reasons for seeking this scholarship

Attach up to three (3) letters of endorsement from former teachers, employers, family and friends.

The information provided herewith is correct to the best of my knowledge.

Student's Signature

Date

IEEE USA Eye On Waashington

What's New @ IEEE-USA - Eye On Washington, Vol. 2005, No. 12 (1 July 2005)

Dear Readers –

The latest issue of EOW is now available for viewing at

<http://ieeusa.com/policy/eyeonwashington/2005/05eow13.asp>

The web site version contains comprehensive text and links related to the following items:

UPDATE: ENERGY POLICY ACT OF 2005

28 JUNE: Despite previous uncertainties, the Senate showed overwhelming support for the Energy Policy Act of 2005 by passing the bill 85-12 today. The bill now heads into conference committee. The Speaker of the House will appoint his conferees and the Senate will elect theirs. Each side will likely fight persistently for their respective chamber's version of the bill – but while keeping in mind that it is now in the interest of both chambers to meet the President's deadline of 1 August.

DEMOCRATS WORK TO STEM SCIENCE AND TECH JOB LOSSES

CAT FIGHT: THE PET MICROCHIP WAR HEATS UP

THE U.S. PATENT SYSTEM: REFORM WILL REQUIRE ELUSIVE COMPROMISE

We've all been taught that there are 2 sides to every story, that listening in an argument is more important than talking, and that compromise is reaching an agreement between something good, and something else that's also good. However, in the current patent reform battle, it appears that both sides see themselves as good and the other as bad. If so, is compromise in this situation possible if neither side perceives good on the part of the other?

NASA ADMINISTRATOR TESTIFIES ON THE FUTURE OF HIS AGENCY

28 JUNE: In his first appearance as the new administrator, Dr. Michael Griffin of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA), testified before the House Science Committee at a hearing examining the future of NASA. He was immediately dealt the weight of the world when the Committee's Chairman Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY) said, "Indeed, much is riding on Mike's tenure at NASA." Griffin's prepared testimony, the hearing charter, and an archived webcast of the hearing are available at: <http://www.house.gov/science/hearings/full05/june28/index.htm>

SENATE BILL PROHIBITS "ORBIT-GAP"

The Commerce, Science and Transportation subcommittee that oversees NASA threw a kink into the Administration's space exploration plan by approving S. 1281, a bill that prohibits NASA from retiring the space shuttle before a replacement vehicle is ready to retain U.S. access to space.

MORE FLESH & BLOOD 007s AND LESS SPY SATELLITES

The House Tuesday almost unanimously (409-16) passed the largely classified annual intelligence authorization bill (HR 2475) a bill that recommends cutting expensive satellite and airborne surveillance systems and hiring more spies, analysts and linguists.

HOUSE SCIENCE COMMITTEE HEARING: 'U.S. LEADERSHIP IN NANOTECH IS THREATENED'

In its second hearing on nanotechnology, the House Committee on Science Research Subcommittee was told by a top Presidential advisor and a panel of industry leaders that the U.S. is facing increasing competition in nanotechnology from foreign competitors. Read the Committee's full press release here: <http://www.house.gov/science/>

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[press/109/109-104.htm](http://www.ieeeusa.com/press/109/109-104.htm).

To listen to the hearing - Nanotechnology: Where Does the U.S. Stand? – and read full witness testimony, please visit: <http://www.house.gov/science/hearings/research05/june29/index.htm>

ITER SITE CHOSEN: US PARTICIPATION NOW LIKELY

29 JUNE: Representatives of the U.S., European Union, Japan, the Russia Federation, China and Korea ended a long-running controversy by announcing that they have agreed on a location for the International Thermonuclear Experimental Reactor (ITER) – Cadrahe, a town in southern France. By finally choosing a location, the parties have resolved a major difficulty surrounding the U.S. participation in ITER.

U.S. HOUSE CELEBRATES “END DEPENDENCE DAY”

This week, Congressmen Charlie Dent (R-PA), Bob Inglis (R-SC), John Larson (D-CT) and Albert Wynn (D-MD) announced the formation of the new House Hydrogen and Fuel Cell Caucus. To read a first hand account of the End Dependence Day event at <http://ieeusa.com/policy/features/dependence.asp>

NEW LEGISLATION OF INTEREST

—THE PENSION PROTECTION ACT: “STRENGTHENING RETIREMENT SECURITY, PROTECTING TAXPAYERS BY FIXING OUTDATED WORKER PENSION LAWS Chairman Boehner’s Committee maintains a summary of the bill at <http://edworkforce.house.gov/issues/109th/workforce/pension/ppasummarylong.htm>

The Committee also maintains a fact sheet at

<http://edworkforce.house.gov/issues/109th/workforce/pension/ppafactsheet.htm>

—Dana Rohrabacher (R-Calif.) has sponsored a bill, HR 2364, “establish a Science and Technology Scholarship Program to award scholarships to recruit and prepare students for careers in the National Weather Service and in National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration marine research, atmospheric research, and satellite programs.”

NASA’s DEEP IMPACT: A 4th OF JULY WITH SOMETHING BETTER THAN FIREWORKS

After a voyage of 173 days and 431 million km, NASA’s Deep Impact spacecraft will collide with comet Tempel 1 – which is hurtling through space at approximately 37,100 km per hour – on July 4. During the early morning hours of July 3, the Deep Impact spacecraft - about the size of a VW Beetle - will deploy a 1-metre-wide impactor - about the size of your coffee table - into the path of the comet - about half the size of Manhattan Island, NY - creating a first of its kind, hyper-speed impact. The potentially spectacular collision will be observed by the Deep Impact spacecraft, and ground and space-based observatories. The Deep Impact website, which includes interactive features and web casts, is:

http://www.nasa.gov/mission_pages/deepimpact/main/index.html

U.S. SUBMITS REVISED SERVICES TRADE OFFER IN WTO NEGOTIATIONS – NO NEW

COMMITMENT ON TEMPORARY VISAS FOR FOREIGN WORKERS

Just before a 31 May deadline, U.S. Trade Representative Rob Portman announced that the U.S. had submitted an expanded offer on trade in services in the World Trade Organization (WTO) negotiations. At the urging of U.S. services industries, and after consultation with Congress and state and local governments, the U.S. offered to improve its GATS commitments in

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targeted services sectors. On the controversial issue called "mode 4," which concerns temporary entry for foreign service workers, the revised offer apparently makes no new commitment to expand the numbers of temporary visas.

NEW ACLU REPORT CHASTISES ADMINISTRATION'S SCIENCE POLICIES

Science Under Siege - You either love them or you hate them, but the ACLU has joined the bandwagon of folks stressing the importance of a strong scientific community to the continued success of the U.S. A PDF of the report is available here:

<http://www.aclu.org/Privacy/Privacy.cfm?ID=18534&c=39>

NATIONAL ACADEMIES: U.S. ENGINEER SHORTAGE BY 2020??

The U.S. National Academy of Engineering has released a report saying that by 2020, U.S. universities will not be turning out enough engineers to meet the needs of the profession. Read on at: <http://www4.nationalacademies.org/news.nsf/isbn/0309096499?OpenDocument>

BOEHLERT PRAISES NIST REPORT ON WTC COLLAPSE

House Science Committee Chairman Sherwood Boehlert (R-NY) praised the National Institute of Standards and Technology's (NIST) draft report on the collapse of the World Trade Center (WTC) and the three-year investigation that preceded the release of the report.

PUBLIC WINS: SUPREME COURT ADOPTS IEEE-USA INDUCEMENT TEST IN GROKSTER CASE

27 JUNE: The Supreme Court unanimously ruled that internet file-sharing services are responsible if they intend for their customers to use software primarily to illegally swap songs and movies. In a USA Today Letter to the Editor, IEEE-USA Intellectual Property Committee Chair Andrew Greenberg says, "I believe that the Supreme Court's decision in Metro-Goldwyn-Mayer

v. Grokster fairly balances the public's interest in unimpeded access both to creative talent and the technology to enjoy it." IEEE-USA filed an amicus brief in January 2005 in which we recommended that the Supreme Court adopt an inducement test for copyright infringement. This test was adopted. To read the IEEE-USA amicus brief in the case, visit our resource page at

<http://ieeusa.com/policy/issues/INDUCE/index.html>.

SPECIAL LEGISLATIVE SESSION IN TEXAS MAY OFFER NEW OPPORTUNITY FOR FAILED TELECOM REFORM

LATEST IEEE-USA ACTIVITIES - NEW! TRACK IEEE-USA'S PROGRESS Review IEEE-USA's year-to-date progress in working for the IEEE's U.S. members at the new IEEE-USA Year-in-Review Web page. Check out what IEEE-USA activities and programs helped the IEEE's U.S. members in 2004 at the new IEEE-USA Annual Report online. And find out what's on IEEE-USA's agenda through 2009, with the new, online IEEE-USA Strategic & Operational Plan.

For the IEEE-USA Year-in-Review, go to: <http://www.ieeeusa.org/about/yearinreview.asp>

For the IEEE-USA Annual Report, go to: http://www.ieeeusa.org/about/Annual_Report/2004.pdf

For the IEEE-USA Strategic & Operational Plan, go to: <http://www.ieeeusa.org/volunteers/strategicplan/index.html>

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Also, full listing of IEEE-USA lobbying activities can be found on our web site at: <http://ieeusa.com/policy/policy/index.html>

IEEE-USA RESPONDS TO BLS STATS: STEEP INCREASE IN JOBS AMONG COMPUTER

SCIENTISTS AND SYSTEMS ANALYSTS, BUT DROPS IN OTHER AREAS

"While we are encouraged by the employment growth among computer scientists and systems analysts, the continuing shrinkage of other technical specialties signals that all is not well in electrotechnology professions," IEEE-USA President Gerard A. Alphonse said. See the full press release at: <http://ieeusa.com/communications/releases/2005/061505pr.asp>.

NEW OFAC RULING HELPS RESOLVE IEEE MEMBERSHIP ISSUES

IN MEMORIAM: THE MAN WHO USHERED IN THE INFORMATION AGE 20 JUNE: If it were not for the integrated electronic circuit, where would you be now? Almost 50 years ago, Jack St. Clair Kilby, who failed the college entrance exam at the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, revolutionized the way that the world computes, calculates and communicates by inventing the integrated electronic circuit. Thus making personal computers, satellite navigation systems, cell phones and the \$200 billion field of microelectronics possible. He also invented the handheld calculator and held more than 60 other patents. Forced to spend his summer working at Texas Instruments because he didn't have enough vacation time, he came up with the idea that a circuit could be made without the wires. Kilby's work and contributions inspired the IEEE to name one of their most prestigious awards after him. The award is given to those who, like Kilby, make outstanding contributions to the field. Not being an engineer myself, I am impressed by his invention when someone explains his contributions to civilization this way – if Kilby had chosen a different career path, my very small, very stylish iBook would require a Mac truck for hauling around. At the age of 81, Kilby died of cancer at his home in Dallas.

What's New @ IEEE-USA's Eye on Washington highlights important federal legislative and regulatory developments that affect U.S. engineers and their careers. In addition to this biweekly newsletter, subscribers receive legislative bulletins and action alerts on IEEE-USA priority issues, including: retirement security, employment benefits, research & development funding, computers and information policy, immigration reform, intellectual property protection and privacy of health/medical information.

EDITOR:

Erica Wissolik, IEEE-USA, 1828 L Street, N.W., Suite 1202, Washington, DC 20036-5104, Email: ewissolik@ieee.org

IEEE USA News

From Washington, D.C.: IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER E-MAIL UPDATE for 1 July 2005
Your Monthly U.S. IEEE Member E-Mail Update on "Building Careers & Shaping Public Policy"
<http://www.ieeeusa.org>

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. July 2005 IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER Webzine Covers "Pulling the American Energy Industry Out of the 20th Century"; "Hidden Job Market Secrets: 10 New Commandments for Career Success"; and an online "Extra!" on the Grokster Supreme Court file-sharing decision
2. Five U.S. Technical Job Classifications Show Employment Drop, One Shows Steep Increase: U.S. Department of Labor
3. P.E. Review Breadth Course Geared to New P.E. Exam Format
4. Senate Passes Energy Bill; IEEE-USA Supports Ensuring U.S. Electric Energy Reliability System
5. IEEE-USA's New E-Book on Consulting Now Available to Members at Special Discount
6. CD-ROM Packages PACE Resources for U.S. IEEE Members
7. IEEE-USA 2005 Awards Nominations Still Open — Until 31 July

EXTRA "Public Is Winner" in Supreme Court's Electronic File-Sharing Case; Court Protects Technological Innovation in MGM vs. Grokster, Says IEEE-USA

"The public wins in the Supreme Court's unanimous decision in the electronic file-sharing case announced on Monday," according to IEEE-USA Intellectual Property Committee Chair Andy Greenberg. Greenberg, who filed IEEE-USA's amicus curiae brief in the MGM vs. Grokster case last January, said that the Court achieved a balance between protecting against copyright infringement and promoting technological innovation. According to IEEE-USA's Greenberg, the Court recognized "the interests of artists in their work and the interests of the public to have access to dynamic and innovative technologies for obtaining and enjoying those works." As a result, IEEE-USA asserts, the public is ensured continued access to music, art and technology.

For more on inducement, visit IEEE-USA's website at <http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/issues/INDUCE/index.html>.

1. July IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER Webzine Covers "Pulling the American Energy Industry Out of the 20th Century"; "Hidden Job Market Secrets: 10 New Commandments for Career Success"; and an online "Extra!" on the Grokster Supreme Court file-sharing decision
Also catch a feature article on "The BEST Things in Life: Boosting Science, Engineering, Technology"; a "World Bytes" column on "Disneyland at 50"; a feature article on "Power System Basics"; a "Reader Poll" on "First-to-Invent, First-to-File, and Other Patent Issues"; and an "Engineering Hall of Fame" feature on "The Bass Drum Heard 'Round the World: Telarc, Frederick Fennell, and an Overture to Digital Recording."

2. Five U.S. Technical Job Classifications Show Employment Drop, One Shows Steep Increase: U.S. Department of Labor

Five major engineering and computer job classifications showed a drop in employment in the first quarter of 2005 vs. the 2004 average, while one showed a large increase, according to data compiled by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS). The biggest drop was among computer hardware engineers (18,000), followed by computer software engineers (13,000), computer programmers (8,000), electrical and electronics engineers (8,000), and computer and information systems managers (5,000). Contrasted with this loss of 52,000 jobs, the BLS reported a gain of 54,000 jobs among computer scientists and systems analysts. "While we are encouraged by the employment growth among computer scientists and systems analysts, the continuing shrinkage of other technical specialties signals that all is not well in electrotechnology professions," IEEE-USA President Gerard A. Alphonse said. For more, read the news release at <http://www.ieeeusa.org/communications/releases/2005/061505pr.asp>

IEEE USA News

3. P.E. Review Breadth Course Geared to New P.E. Exam Format

IEEE-USA's new CD-ROM P.E. review course is the first IEEE-produced course created for the P.E. exam's new format. It features detailed analysis and discussion of sample tutorial practice problems in electrical and computer engineering. The presentation gives insights into proper approaches to problems covering computers, electronics, controls, communication and power — the types of problems found in the morning breadth portion of the restructured exam. The course will help reinforce theory and focus on concepts required to analyze and design complex systems. Go to https://salaryapp.ieeeusa.org/rt/salary_database/shop and look for product No. UH3100.

4. Senate Passes Energy Bill; IEEE-USA Supports Ensuring U.S. Electric Energy Reliability System

On 28 June, the Senate passed the 2005 Energy Bill. As with the House version passed in April, the bill includes measures to ensure the reliability of the U.S. electric power system. Specifically, both versions call for creating electric reliability organizations and standards, modernizing transmission infrastructure, and establishing IEEE Interconnection Standards. According to IEEE-USA's "Principles for a Restructured Electric Industry" position statement, "means and incentives for the effective planning, construction, operation and maintenance of transmission system infrastructure should be incorporated into all market structures. Coordinated generation, transmission and distribution development is essential to assure reliable operation and enable minimization of costs." For information on a recent Electric Reliability Hearing, go to <http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/issues/electricreliability/June05hearing.html>.

5. IEEE-USA's New E-Book on Consulting Now Available to Members at Special Discount

IEEE-USA has released its first e-book for members, THE BEST OF IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER: ON CONSULTING. In a downloadable PDF format, members can access consulting information in one concentrated source that includes how to start a local consultants network; how to make sure you get paid for your work; making the transition from marketing to paid consulting; IEEE-USA's 2004 Profile of Consultants; and a sample consulting contract. Members pay a special discounted price of \$4.95; non-members pay \$14.95.

Go to https://salaryapp.ieeeusa.org/rt/salary_database/shop. Enter your member login information, and look for product number UH3010.

6. CD-ROM Packages PACE Resources for U.S. IEEE Members

IEEE-USA's PACE Committee has prepared a CD to aid U.S. IEEE members in planning and conducting professional activities in their Section, Branch, Chapter, Society or Region. The CD includes sample projects, forms, contact information, the 2005 PACE Handbook, slide presentations from the 2005 IEEE-USA Leadership Workshop, and more. To request a copy, contact Sandra Kim at sandra.kim@ieee.org.

7. IEEE-USA 2005 Awards Nominations Still Open — Until 31 July

IEEE-USA's Awards and Recognition Committee is still accepting nominations for its 2005 awards for professionalism, technical achievement, and literary contributions that increase public awareness and understanding of the engineering profession. Recipients are honored each year at an awards ceremony held during the annual IEEE-USA Leadership Workshop. U.S. IEEE members still have time to nominate a colleague; the nomination deadline is 31 July.

For more information on awards, as well as nomination forms, visit <http://www.ieeeusa.org/volunteers/awards/index.html>.

IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER E-MAIL UPDATE is prepared monthly in Washington, D.C., by the staff of IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER, a multimedia source for helping the IEEE's U.S. members build careers and shape public policy. U.S. members who have provided an e-mail address are automatically subscribed to the UPDATE as a member benefit.

IEEE Career Alert

NEWS from IEEE-USA

1828 L Street, N.W., Suite 1202, Washington, D.C. 20036-5104
IEEE-USA Launches Employment Navigator to

Enhance Members' Career Vitality

WASHINGTON (1 July 2005) — The IEEE-USA Employment Navigator allows IEEE members to connect quickly with hiring employers, build and send effective resumes and link to salary benchmarking and other career resources. Employment Navigator collects 5 million job leads from 160,000 Web sites and places them in a single searchable database. The information comes from corporate Web sites, job boards, government and newspaper sites, and niche job sites (geography, industry and occupation specific). With this tool, IEEE-member subscribers get access to unpublished job opportunities that never leave an employer's Web site (an estimated 30 percent of jobs in the database).

The portal also provides tools for resume creation and distribution, and links to other IEEE resources like the IEEE Job Site (<http://careers.ieee.org/>) and the IEEE-USA Salary Service (<http://www.ieeeusa.org/careers/salary/>).

In a recent survey of Employment Navigator users, more than two-thirds rated the tool valuable or very valuable; 75 percent log in daily or weekly to search for jobs; and two-thirds reported finding leads not found on any job board.

A six-month subscription is just \$50 for IEEE members. See <http://www.ieeeusa.org/careers/employmentnavigator> for more information.

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

IEEE CAREER ALERT for 30 Jun 2005

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

IEEE Spectrum

IN THIS ISSUE:

1. Best Places to Work in IT
2. Make the Grass Greener Where You Are
3. U.S. Engineer Shortage By 2020?
4. A Time To Network

On 20 September 2005, IEEE Spectrum will host an online Career Accelerator Forum. Get insight and advice on getting an advanced degree, staying ahead in your field, landing your dream job and even

changing your career. Plus, this interactive event makes it possible for you to question our expert panel — all from the convenience of your desktop!

For more information and a list of panelists, visit: <http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/cef_info>

To sign up, go to: <<http://www.spectrum.ieee.org/cef>>

1. Best Places to Work in IT

Is your paycheck your only tangible reward for a job well done? Are your contributions overlooked? Then you probably don't work for one of the companies that made ComputerWorld's top 100 best places to work in IT. "Although they want to be competitive, most companies [on the list] are concentrating on creating engaged work environments to let [IT workers] feel like they're creating value, sharing responsibility, and working in a community that's an enjoyable place to spend 8 or 10 hours of the day," said Jo Ann Boylan, chief technology officer at Ohio Savings Bank, which ranked 33rd on the list. A special report featuring the top 100 list is at: <<http://www.computerworld.com/careertopics/careers/report/0,11188,06272005,00.html>>

2. Make the Grass Greener Where You Are

Not happy at work? The problem may not be the job, but what you bring to it. At a recent IEEE-USA Leadership Workshop, Nigel Bristow, author of "The Beyond Job Satisfaction Fieldbook," told attendees

that the key to career fulfillment may not be switching jobs but making things better where you are. Bristow offered three keys to engagement and happiness at work that he calls "greening up your own grass." For other advice offered by Bristow, read on at: <<http://www.todayseengineer.org/2005/Jun/beyond.asp>>

3. U.S. Engineer Shortage By 2020?

The U.S. National Academy of Engineering has released a report saying that by 2020, U.S. universities will not be turning out enough engineers to meet the needs of the profession. The report noted that engineering is not as attractive a career choice as it once was. Recommendations in

IEEE CAREER ALERT

the report include the creation of more interdisciplinary programs combining engineering and computer science with coursework in medicine, business, finance, or law. Read on at:

<<http://www4.nationalacademies.org/news.nsf/isbn/0309096499?OpenDocument>>

4. A Time To Network

"I'm so busy doing my job that I don't have time to network." If that's your take on the effort needed to know and be known by people who might help advance your career, then you don't know what networking is. According to Karen Susman, a networking expert, networking can and should be done during your daily activities. The secret is to be open to the people you meet — you never know who they know — and to keep in touch with them. For example, you can set aside a few minutes every day to call contacts. For more about networking on a tight schedule, go to:

<<http://www.careerjournal.com/jobhunting/networking/20050622-capell.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>>

IEEE Career Alert is part of the What's New @IEEE email news service. For more information on subscribing to other What's New newsletters, visit <<http://whatsnew.ieee.org/>>

IEEE Career Alert

NEWS from IEEE-USA, 1828 L Street, N.W., Suite 1202, Washington, D.C.
20036-5104

“Public Is Winner” in Supreme Court’s Electronic File-Sharing Case; Court Protects Technological Innovation in MGM vs. Grokster, Says IEEE-USA WASHINGTON (30 June 2005) — “The public wins in the Supreme Court’s unanimous decision in the electronic file-sharing case announced on 27 June,” according to IEEE-USA Intellectual Property Committee Chair Andy Greenberg. Greenberg, who filed IEEE-USA’s amicus curiae brief in the MGM vs. Grokster case last January, said that the Court achieved a balance between protecting against copyright infringement and promoting technological innovation. According to IEEE-USA’s Greenberg, the Court recognized “the interests of artists in their work and the interests of the public to have access to dynamic and innovative technologies for obtaining and enjoying those works.” As a result, IEEE-USA asserts, the public is ensured continued access to music, art and technology.

In the Court’s 9-0 opinion, Justice David Souter wrote that “one who distributes a device with the object of promoting its use to infringe copyright, as shown by clear expression or other affirmative steps taken to foster infringement, is liable for the resulting acts of infringement by third parties.” The Supreme Court adopted an active inducement standard as advocated by IEEE-USA in its amicus brief filed with the Court. The decision imposes liability on companies that actively encourage or “induce” customers through words and deeds to infringe on copyrighted material, which focuses legal scrutiny on the company’s infringing conduct rather than restricting its technology.

According to Justice Souter, the active inducement rule “does nothing to compromise legitimate commerce or discourage innovation having a lawful promise.” He added that patent law’s commerce doctrine, now codified, “leaves breathing room for innovation and a vigorous commerce.”

Innovation will not be stifled, according to Justice Souter, who said: “We are, of course, mindful of the need to keep from trenching on regular commerce or discouraging the development of technologies with lawful and unlawful potential...The inducement rule...premises liability on purposeful, culpable expressions and conduct, and thus does nothing to compromise legitimate commerce or discourage innovation having a lawful promise.”

IEEE-USA’s Greenberg noted: “Active inducement has been part of patent law for more than 100 years, and has stood the test of time. In all that time, the sky has not fallen for technology companies in patent law,” and it can be assumed “that a parade of ‘horribles’ will not follow under copyright principles.”

To read the Court’s opinion, see <http://wid.ap.org/scotus/pdf/04-480P.ZO.pdf>.

To view IEEE-USA’s amicus brief in the case, go to <http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/POLICY/2005/MGMvGrokster.pdf>.

For more on inducement, visit IEEE-USA’s website at <http://www.ieeeusa.org/policy/issues/INDUCE/index.html>.

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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The Pocket Scope is the newsletter of the Houston Section of the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineer (IEEE). The Houston Section address is: IEEE Houston Section, P.O. Box 460014, Houston, Texas 77056-8014.

The Pocket Scope is published eight times a year (monthly, September to May, except December). It is distributed to over 3000 professionals in the electrical engineering field in the greater Houston area.

Advertising rates are listed on the IEEE Houston Section website and include publishing in The Pocket Scope, ad on the website, and within the monthly e-mail update.

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