



### Press Release

## Outstanding IEEE Workshop and Meetings at Berlin

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 URL: [www.ewh.ieee.org/r8/germany/ias-pels](http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r8/germany/ias-pels)  
 Foundation: December 18, 1997  
 IEEE Awards: Region 8 Chapter of the Year 2003  
 IAS 2002 Outstanding Large Joint Chapter  
 PELS 2001 Best Chapter Award

## Have You Ever Seen Anything Like That?

German capital Berlin recently has been the site for a unique sequence of international inter-society IEEE chapter activities to take place:

The **IEEE Region 8 IA IE PEL PE Inter-Society Chapter Workshop** has given concentrated opportunities for exchange and networking between

- IEEE sister societies, i. e. IAS, PELS, IES and PES:

The workshop has been the first time for the respective German chapters to meet jointly. Presence and presentations of chapter members and officers from the societies and several other Region 8 chapters have further made this inter-society event also international. In this respect it is has been a particular pleasure to celebrate foundation of Hungarian IAS chapter on the first day of workshop, which had been supported by the joint IAS/PELS/IES German chapter. It this way did not content with its current positive membership development regarding increase of the number of members and a successful senior member program but additionally served as some multiplicator.

- IEEE and VDE, i. e. the Association for Electric, Electronics and Information Technologies, who hosted the first part of the workshop in their Berlin headquarters:

Introductions of VDE and IEEE Germany section by General Manager of Information Technology Society and Chairman respectively gave a valuable insight into the complementary organisation's activities and resources. This knowledge being widely spread between some 40 participants — comprising many officials — is particularly valuable to trigger possible new cooperative projects.

Considering the aspect of networking, the social program — comprising a guided tour through the city with sightseeing as VIPs in the new-old parliament building German Reichstag and kind receptions by the industrial and scientific hosts — is worth to be mentioned. Within a sequence of three joint chapter meetings of the IEEE Joint IAS/PELS/IES German Chapter and the IEEE PES German Chapter these hosts offered an interdisciplinary technical program comprising in depth presentations and company or lab tours, giving insights into their current industrial and scientific work:

**Siemens AG — Power Transmission and Distribution – High Voltage Division** — presented state of the art and R&D activities regarding the use of power electronics in high voltage transmission systems, e. g. HVDC and FACTS. The challenge of high voltage high power switching is faced using actual dedicated thyristors as semiconductor valves, taking into consideration functionality like device light triggering or indispensable converter short circuit current limitation.

**Alstom Power Conversion GmbH — General Drives** — gave an insight into drive systems in the Megawatt range, comprising power electronics e. g. a multi level medium voltage converter and machines e. g. a 5MW permanent magnet generator. The systems have been designed for applications as different as offshore wind parks, pump storage plants or railway traction.

Besides leading industry, **Berlin University of Technology — Faculty IV – Electrical Engineering and Computer Science** — had invited for a third meeting: The participants could learn about main activities of Electrical Machines, Drives and Renewable Energies Group and Power Electronics Group, where machines or converters for renewable energy and medium voltage drive systems play an important role, proving the relevance of the subjects of current scientific research also for industrial development projects.

Let's conclude — none of the over 100 participants is known to ever have seen such a combination of IEEE chapter workshops and meetings at one time; their extent even made them resemble more to a conference. Further related documentation — however still without the claim to constitute proceedings — can be found under [www.ewh.ieee.org/r8/germany/ias-pels](http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r8/germany/ias-pels). In this context last but not least gratitude must be expressed to all contributors who made this great event a great success.



*Most trains circulating on the arcs of Berlin Stadtbahn use power electronic traction converters: but maybe not all attention of the participants of the social meeting in Café Odeon under one of those arcs - sponsored by SIEMENS AG. Power Transmission and Distribution - has been concentrated on such technical issues...*



*Introduction of IEEE Power Electronics Society by Prof. Dr. Ing\_ R.W. De Doncker – IEEE PELS President Elect - during IEEE Region - IA PEL IE PE inter society chapters workshop held at VDE headquarters Berlin.*



*Pulse width modulated converter used in power electronics group of Prof\_ Dr. -Ing. S. Bernet at Technical University of Berlin for student education.*