

TC-1 News from 2004

TC-1: Technical Committee on Electrical Contacts, Connectors, and Cable

The scope of this Committee is to be the focal point within the IEEE CPMT Society for electrical contacts, electrical connectors, and interconnecting cable. Its membership consists of individuals having an interest in the research, development, manufacture, and utilization of electrical contacts and devices that contain them. The Committee holds regularly scheduled meetings and functions through the Holm Organization and through task forces having specific objectives. The Committee sponsors or supports conferences, publications, educational, standardization, and other activities.

Highlight in 2004 included the following:

1. The Joint 2004 IEEE 50th Holm Conference on Electrical Contacts and the 22nd International Conference on Electrical Contacts was held in Seattle, Washington on September 20 to 24. After 2 years on low attendance due to the slow economy, the 2004 conference was a great success with over 170 attendees from many countries.

The technical program was very successful with 79 papers in 16 sessions. This included 21 from North America, 37 from Europe and 21 from Asia. Papers were presented on electric contacts in switches, relays and connectors, new contact materials and coatings, arc fundamentals, thermal models, finite element analysis and corrosion. New technology areas on MEM and high frequency contacts were special topics organized by the TC1 sub-committees to focus the importance of contact physics. More details of the program and abstracts can be found in our web site.

The Ragnar Holm Scientific Achievement Award Lecture was done by Professor Koichio Sawa of Keio University, and the Morton Antler Lecture was done by Dr. Robert Mrockowski. Again their expertise in the electrical contacts area made the lectures most informative for everyone.

On Wednesday night, we also had a successful social event to the Kiana Lodge. This was a true Northwest experience with a cruise through Puget Sound to taste the world famous salmon fish and steamed clams, and more importantly, the opportunity to mingle among international friends and colleagues.

2. At the conference, a standing ovation was also given to Professor Werner Reider for his being recognized by the Austrian government for his scientific contributions with a special Dr. Werner Reider stamp. A real rare feat for any engineer.

3. TC1 also completed a DVD project with Dr. Thomas Schoepf as editor. The DVD contains all the technical papers of 50 Holm Conferences. This dates from 1953 to 2004. A must have information source for anyone in the field of electrical contacts.

The 2005 IEEE Holm Conference will be back to Chicago on September 26-28. The International Committee also announced that the 23rd ICEC will be on 6-9 June 2006 in the beautiful city of Sendai, Japan.

For more information on many special events organized by this committee such as annual IEEE Holm conference, intensive course, international conference, DVD library and link to other societies, please visit our web site at www.ewh.ieee.org/soc/cpmt/tc1.

Photo Gallery – Joint 22nd International Conference on Electrical Contact and 50th IEEE Holm Conference in Seattle, Washington.



Austrian stamp of Professor Reider and being congratulated by Dr. Williamson. Professor Sawa, Ragnar Holm Scientific Achievement Awardee



Phil Wingert, Armington Awardee; Technical Chair Pat Lees with Antler Lecturer Bob Mroczkowski; 2003 Prize Paper Award Xin Zhou and Michael Little



A Happy International crowd at the Monday Awards Ceremony and Conference Reception