

# IEEE regions news

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<http://www.ieee.org/r8><http://www.ieee.org/r8>

## Region 8 Committee Meets in Iceland

Iceland is one of the newest Sections in Region 8 and although small has very active technical groups. The Chair, Prof Jon Benediktsson of the University of Iceland, invited the Region 8 Committee to hold their Spring meeting from 28/29th June in the capital city, Reykjavik. The regional meetings, held twice a year, present an excellent opportunity for the 41 Section Chairs in Region 8 to represent the views of their members in the development of regional policy and to voice concerns over problems being experienced in their Section. In turn, the Regional Director can transmit these concerns to the major boards of IEEE, including the Board of Directors.

In recent years, Region 8 has encouraged Section Chairs to participate in the policy making process through involvement in **Focus Groups** held at these regional meetings. The projects that emanate from these discussions are selected by the

Section Chairs for funding support from the regional budget. At present there are about 20 active projects being pursued in the Region, ranging from proposals to improve service to members, increasing interaction with industry, and efforts to bring student members together through conferences and competitions.

**Industry relations** are a current priority for Region 8 partly because academia tends to dominate many of our activities, and also because industry needs to be better informed about the benefits to their company of IEEE membership for their employees.

We need better contacts with managers and executives of electronics and computer companies in the Region.

One benefit is the workshops in leadership and management skills given in R8.

The **Chapter Co-ordination Sub-committee**, which meets each year, brought together the co-ordinators of several major

IEEE technical Societies. Region 8 has a very impressive record of achievement in the large growth of Chapters in recent years, many of which are extremely active. Chapter of the Year Awards, which were presented in Reykjavik is an example of the work of this committee.

The Student Activities Committee and the Conference Committee also met to plan future events in the region and to present their proposals for approval by the Section Chairs.

On this occasion we were joined by senior officers from



Iceland Troll being interviewed by the Editor of R8 News

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**Region 1 (North-eastern USA)** who were able to observe how Region 8 conducts its meetings and to offer suggestions and comments based on their own experience.

The next Region 8 meeting will take place in Zagreb, Croatia. Any member can contact their Section Chair to express their opinion on issues they would like to have raised at this meeting.

Charles Turner  
Secretary IEEE Region 8

## Section and Chapter News

### IEEE Benelux Section Eng Management Soc. Chapter

Feb. 3rd 2003,  
TU Eindhoven.

There were many plans, but then again there were many other priorities that required attention. Whereas the original plan of the chapter management was to organize a meeting and the end of January 2003, the typical business pressures made us deviate from our original plan once again. Still we organized a session around the same time frame.

At the superb facilities of the TU Eindhoven the agenda contained the following topics:

- Report on the Chapter Chair Workshop 2002
- Selected Readouts from the IEMC-2002
- Planned Sessions 2003  
Presentations by Robert Bierwolf and Bart Meijer. Summaries will be posted through the Benelux website.

#### Looking Ahead

The revised agenda for 2003 is now:

- October 6th 'Life Cycle Engineering' at the TU Eindhoven in cooperation with KIVI/BK
- December 8th 'Innovation and Startups' in cooperation with IEEE Computer Society at the TU Delft.

Please mark these dates in your diary.

#### Active Members

Members are invited to become part of the chapter management. Whereas due to the economic downturn business priorities may have changed, the need increases to network with your fellow practitioners.

All members are cordially invited to submit their suggestions and/or to step forward to become member of the chapter management team and help us organize interesting events for our members.

#### Address Details

All members are encouraged to enable their personal IEEE email alias. Too often email bounces while it would not be necessary if you used your email alias, e.g. [firstname.lastname@ieee.org](mailto:firstname.lastname@ieee.org).

#### Contact Us

IEEE Benelux has its own website: [www.ieee.nl](http://www.ieee.nl) <<http://www.ieee.nl>> and

[www.ieee.be](http://www.ieee.be) <<http://www.ieee.be>>. Of course you can also find us [www.ieee.org](http://www.ieee.org) <<http://www.ieee.org>> and look for region 8 or engineering management.

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### Division IX Region 8 Chapter Chairs

Region 8 is organizing a meeting in Barcelona, Spain, for Chairs of the Region 8 Chapters of all Division IX Societies (Signal Processing, AES, GRS, OE, UFFC, and VT Societies, on September 13, 2003, just before the IEEE International Conference on Image Processing (ICIP-2003), in Barcelona from September 14 - 17, 2003.

The Region 8 Committee and the Signal Processing Society are providing financial support for the meeting to cover the travel expenses of Chapter Chairs. Further information:

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### IEEE France Section

T.P. Pearsall (email : [pearsall@ieee.org](mailto:pearsall@ieee.org)) writes that the following lectures will be given at the headquarters of the FIEEC

Les Anciens de la Radio et de l'Electronique 17, rue Hamelin, 75016 Paris, Métro Iena

Telephone 01 45 85 37 40

Lecture time : 5 pm

Following each presentation, there will be a cocktail.

1. June 16th 2003

Dr. J.M. Colin, formerly Thalès

Technical Trades to Economize the Frequency Spectrum

2. October 21st 2003

J.M. Peter, formerly ST

Microelectronics

Evolution of Power Electronics

3. November 18th 2003

To be announced

« Wind Power »

4. December 2nd 2003 at 6 pm

Award Ceremony for the Grands Prix de l'Electronique

### IEEE Germany Section IEEE Joint IAS/PELS/IES

#### Infineon hosts Chapter Meeting

More than a hundred participants took part in the German joint IAS/PELS/IES chapter hosted in Regensburg facility of Infineon Technologies AG.

Researchers from Infineon contributed to the technical program: Dr. Miller presented a survey of developments in power semiconductors, trench IGBTs with fieldstop, high voltage compensation MOSFETs, low voltage MOSFETs with buried trench structures or silicon carbide (SiC) Schottky diodes.

Dr. Mitlehner from SiCED explained technological challenges to build controllable switches using this high bandgap material: These were complemented by an overview about microcontrollers by Dr. v. Wendorff.

Distinguished lecturer Dr. Phil Hower, IEEE Fellow, from Texas Instruments linked both subjects, deriving the safe operating area (SOA) of lateral DMOS transistors, which are widely used as output drivers of integrated circuits.



Dr. Mitlehner giving a lecture on SiC technology and devices.

Prof. Alan Jack from University of Newcastle upon Tyne explained another indispensable component -Iron powder used as magnetic material for chokes replacing laminations in permanent magnet machines or actuators. The material allows shape to magnetic parts, optimizing performance or manufacturability.

As a contrast to "state of the art engineering technology", a guided tour through the old city of Regensburg with its Celtic and Roman roots was offered. The subsequent reception in a historical building with view toward the Dome was a memorable experience for everyone.

### Join Us

The meetings of German joint IAS/PELS/IES chapter take place on a regular basis three times a year. All members of IEEE are welcome.

International guests from Czech, Slovakian, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia, Croatia, Serbia and Montenegro, French and British chapters were present at Regensburg. Further, the attendance of members of European Center of Power Electronics (ECPE) and guests was highly appreciated. More detailed information about the Regensburg, previous and upcoming meetings can be found at [www.ewh.ieee.org/r8/germany/ias-pels](http://www.ewh.ieee.org/r8/germany/ias-pels).

*Dr.-Ing. Andreas Lindemann*

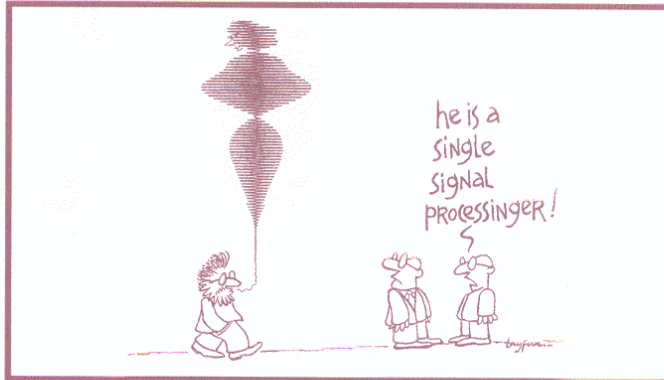
### IEEE Greece Section CSS Chapter

The Control Systems Society of the Greek Section was established in 1992 and until 2002, was active principally in organizing international conferences in the field of Systems and Control – MEDCON.

With the election of a new Chairman in 2002, the Chapter took on a radically different approach putting life and excitement into the Chapter through local activities and spreading the objectives of the IEEE Control Systems Society and the Greek Chapter worldwide using the Internet as the medium.

### Seeds for Membership Growth

A regular e-letter was established informing members of events as well as special items of common interest to the Greek Systems and Control community.



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More than 200 names of students and faculty at all technological institutions of higher learning in Greece as well as members of the Greek diaspora who are active in the field have been added.

It was very gratifying to note how many colleagues and students requested that their names be placed on the distribution list, with the direct result - enrollment of new members to IEEE and CSS. A forum was thus established through which the Greek Control Systems community could be informed and inform others of local activities and student branches.

### Informatics Draws 150 to Halkis

The first CSS-GR Meeting in 2002 was hosted by the Automation Department at the Higher Technological Institute in Halkis in November 2002 with Industrial Control and Industrial Informatics as the main theme.

The student response was especially moving and the vitality of the occasion was unmistakable, gaining a momentum that the Members of CSS-GR are committed to maintain for the new generation of Control Engineers.

### Undergrads enter the spotlight...

The second CSS-GR Meeting was held in March 2003 and was hosted by the Department of Electrical & Computer Engineering at the University of Patras. This meeting differed from the first in that the spotlight fell exclusively on undergraduate students. They presented results of their diploma, degree thesis or projects to their fellow stu-

dents and faculty specializing in Systems and Control. This was the first opportunity that these students ever had to meet, exchange ideas and compare their work.

Fifteen presentations were made and judged by a panel of faculty members. Prizes (monetary and textbooks) were awarded for the best presentations. More than 80 students and faculty members attended from throughout Greece.

### Athens under Control

The third CSS-GR Meeting will be hosted at the National Technical University of Athens (EMP) in June, 2003. The Quest for Autonomy in Engineering Systems: Intelligent Control, Hybrid Systems and Networking by Professor Panos Antsaklis of the University of Notre Dame, USA who is an IEEE Distinguished Lecturer. The lecture will be video-conferenced to institutions in Greece and simultaneously webcast worldwide. We believe that this is the first time that a CSS Distinguished Lecture will be webcast.

A significant step forward was the CSS-GR website [www.systems.tuc.gr/ieeccss](http://www.systems.tuc.gr/ieeccss), which is available to anyone. News of Current and Future Events in Greece and in Region 8; Job Opportunities in Greece and Cyprus; a Bibliography of Greek Books on Control Systems, Automation and Measurements, written by Greek authors in Greek and English; as well as a Spotlight on special items and events.

### Ancient's systems lead to today's Fusion

One goal of the website is to focus on Greek contributions from ancient times to the pre-