

Components, Packaging, and Manufacturing Technology Society



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President's Column



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Greetings

The World Cup

We live in interesting times. Many of you who have stayed up until the wee hours of the morning to watch the 2006 World Cup soccer matches can testify to the dynamism and energy of these exciting games. It is clear that from the sheer skill, teamwork, and physical conditions, that the final eight teams have all played superbly. The differences between these frontrunner teams are razor thin. They have all been expertly trained and meticulously prepared for their chance at World Cup Championship glory. They were exciting games indeed.

A Time of Change

We live in a time of change. The CPMT Society is changing to reflect the global nature of the CPMT professionals in industry and academia. And our value propositions are changing to help members and professionals meet challenges arising from the industry's increasing globalization. What are these challenges? Let me give you my personal view. As technical professionals, we practice our trade with our intellectual capital, i.e., our technical knowledge, learned from formal education in schools, universities and later on, "on the job", whether research, development, or manufacturing. We learn that engineering is a team sport. We learn to think and act in a multi-disciplinary fashion. We regularly build up this intellectual capital when new technologies are introduced, or when we take on new responsibilities.

(Continued on Page 3)

The CPMT Society Rolls Out the Red Carpet for its 2006 Award Winners

Lights! Cameras! Action! A Hollywood theme set the stage for this year's CPMT Society Awards luncheon, held during the 56th Electronics Components and Technology Conference (ECTC) in sunny San Diego, California. Almost 800 attendees were on hand to celebrate individuals who personify the goals of the Society as well as the profession itself.

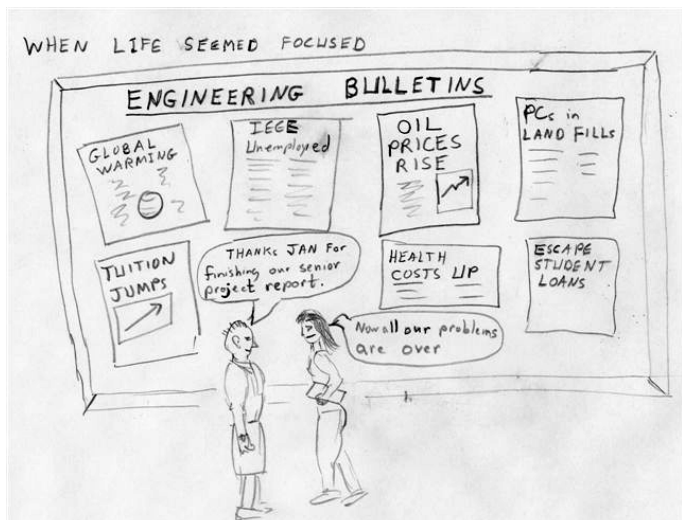
(Continued on Page 11)

IEEE CPMT Society Newsletter

March, 2006

Index

• Presidents Message:	1
• New Strategic Directors for Awards, Region 10	4
• Meet the Editors-In-Chief for our Transactions	4
• Interviews: Bonda, Aschenbrenner, Palmer	6
• Conference Review: ECTC in San Diego	9
• Award Winners	1 and 10
• Call for Board candidates	13
• Two Book Reviews; Workshop report	14
• Chapter and Conference News	15
• Conferences: ECTC, IEMT, EPEP, ICEPT, etc	19



... Dave Palmer

President's Column (continued from Page 1)

Two global forces are leading the change: the fast-changing consumer market and the geographically wide-spreading manufacturing facilities across the globe. In addition, IC technology is churning out more advanced dies at each decreasing technology node. Our professionals must understand what technology advancements and new innovations are happening, and how they are being implemented into the product market space. We are challenged to get our intellectual capital in tiptop condition ahead of global changes in the same way that these soccer players have to get their skill and physical condition into tiptop condition ahead of the World Cup competition.

CPMT Technical Conferences & Workshops

How does one learn what is going on technically in our field? I know no better way than to go to a high quality technical conference covering one's particular field of interest. We have just completed two of the most successful conferences: the 56th ECTC Conference and the 29th IITHERM Conference co-located in beautiful San Diego from May 26th to June 1st. Without a doubt, ECTC is the best place to understand the latest technology developments in the industry. In addition to the six parallel Paper Sessions, Panel Sessions, Poster Sessions, Professional Education Courses and Technical Exhibits, there were technical committee meetings and special workshops. IITHERM is the best specialty conference on Thermal and Thermo-mechanical developments in our industry. From the statistics that I have heard, this was the most successful ECTC ever. From my own observation, it was certainly the most participative. The energy, the vibration, the excitement and the electricity in the air for these four days in San Diego were simply overflowing. Let us thank Patrick Thompson (general chair of ECTC), and Baghat Sammakia (general chair of IITHERM) the respective organization committees, as well as the program committees and authors for giving us superb conference experiences in San Diego last month.

Well, what makes a "very good" conference experience become a "superb" conference experience? Is it the quality of the papers? The quality of the professional courses? The panel sessions? Or perhaps all of these combined? I asked a few attendees randomly what they liked about the conferences. Yes, the papers were very important. Yes, they enjoyed the panel sessions. Yes, the professional courses were on target. But, ultimately, it was the "people" factor that created these superb conference experiences. In this internet-driven technical community, meeting people and talking shop face-to-face are becoming so very important to the people-to-people relationship building process. The practice of engineering today requires us to work along and across many layers of supply chain. As we think about the "intellectual capital" that we talked about earlier, the breadth and reach of our network is an integral part of adding a crucial edge to our professional intellectual capital.

Unfortunately, not everyone in our profession was able to go to San Diego for these conferences. This is especially true for those people living outside the United States. However, in our globalization effort, we are sponsoring high quality

technical conferences to benefit people in all regions around the world. Also, there are other technical conferences and workshops in the United States besides ECTC.

Members from the CPMT European chapters have come together to organize the Electronic Systemintegration Technology Conference (ESTC), scheduled to take place in Dresden, Germany during the month of September. The goal is to have a high quality technical conference in Europe to serve the professional community there. The result is a collaborative effort by the CPMT chapters in Europe, and the conference itself has been years in planning. Please check the Web (www.estc-conference.net/) to review the ESTC program and you will agree with me that this is going to be a first class technical conference.

In the coming months there will be technical conferences organized or sponsored by CPMT in the Asia region (www.cpmt.org/conf/).

There is the ICEPT'06 in Shanghai August 26th to 29th sponsored by your CPMT Society. The CPMT Malaysia Chapter is organizing the 31st IEMT in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia (November 8 – 10). The 8th VLSI Packaging Workshop to be held in Kyoto (December 4-5), is organized by members of our CPMT Chapter in Japan. The IEEE Rel/CPMT/ED Singapore Chapter will again organize the 8th EPTC in Singapore (December 6-8). Finally the 8th EMAP will come back to Hong Kong (December 11-14) under the auspices of Hong Kong CPMT Chapter and HKUST. Each of these conferences is organized by the regional CPMT chapter members for the professional and technical communities of their own regions.

In Phoenix Arizona, a hotbed of professional activity, the IEEE Section, with the CPMT and Wave & Devices Chapters, will present an all-day workshop on Convergence in Communication and Computing on November 17th. This is a great example of a high quality technical event on a really hot topic. As this report is going to press, the Santa Clara Valley Chapter is planning for the next IEMT conference in co-location with the Advanced Materials Workshop in Northern California for the fall of 2007.

CPMT conferences and workshops are organized by our CPMT chapter members. They volunteer countless hours to make the conferences vital, relevant, and enjoyable. They are the heroes behind the many successful conferences. I urge you to consider supporting them through participating in these conferences. It is a great way to brush up your technical knowledge and to expand your personal network systems. Please turn to the next pages of this newsletter to learn about other CPMT sponsored technical conferences and workshops. At the same time there are many Section and Chapter activities not listed in this newsletter. Please check out the CPMT web sites as well as your own local chapter websites for further information. If you cannot find exactly what you would like to see, how about volunteering to organize a technical event -- seminar/workshop -- on a topic that you are passionately interested in?

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