



Chairman's Message



Friends,

We are deeply obsessed with interactions at a higher plane – on the latest in technologies, management etc. Of course, we can not stay away from it, as it brings in our daily bread and butter. But with natural resources dwindling and oil price hovering around \$140, more attention needs to be bestowed to nature with its flora, fauna, and fellow human beings, as otherwise the life on our earth will increasingly become difficult for all – we also

included. In this connection, can we consider practicing some acts of kindness in daily life and enjoy the pleasure of giving a timely help or an unexpected friendly gesture to some unknown person?

1. Stop and help someone replace a flat tyre.
2. Leave a coin in a payphone for some needy person to use the phone.
3. Give up your seat for some one, not only an elderly person.
4. Hold the train door open for someone rushing to get in.
5. Write notes of appreciation at least once a week.
6. Pick up stones or such obstacles from the road, if found sure to cause accidents.
7. Recommend a competitor to a potential client.
8. Give another driver your parking spot.
9. Give a piece of cake or fruit to the person who delivered it.
10. Do a job for a person in trouble, when he needs it most.
11. Spend a few minutes with your elderly neighbour enriching his days. Some time in future you will also be like him thirsting for the company of some one.
12. Send a thank you note to a person who has helped you *years back*.

It is actually a Win/Win/Win situation. The person you are being kind to, benefits. You feel good for having helped someone. And the world becomes a better place to live through such contagious acts of kindness.

Some might see it as out of place in this newsletter, but let us be aware that professionals will have to be more involved and concerned about the problems of their brethren, as the new world order calls for an end to isolated living.

In IEEE India scene, there is the heart warming news of the student branch of Shri Sant Gajanan Maharaj College of Engg., Maharashtra, winning the prestigious 'IEEE Reg.10 Membership Growth Award 2007' under the inspiring leadership of Prof U A Rane. Congratulations to all volunteers behind this achievement at international level.

Hectic activities are underway at the respective Sections to make TENCON 2008 (Hyderabad), INDICON 2008 (UP) and ASIC 2008 (Kharagpur) successful events. Let us extend all support to the people behind them.

NDLP is picking up momentum, and we are hopeful of IEEE programmes in every nook and corner of India. We appeal to all Sections to do their part to lead NDLP to success

With best regards,

Trivandrum
10 July '08

N T Nair

Chairman, IEEE India Council
ntnair@ieee.org

From India Council Secretary



IEEE India Council has recently designed a sticker for the use of IEEE members in India. The design was circulated among the Sections in India and several Sections gave suggestions for improvement. Now the design is ready and a manufacturer has also been identified in Chennai with the help of the Madras Section.

There will be two types of stickers - one for cars, with glue on the front, and the other for two-wheelers, brief cases, laptops etc with glue on the backside. The front-glue type is about 10 cm in dia and the other one is 5 cm in dia.

The Kerala Section has already placed orders for 5000 pieces of each type and the Madras Section is also taking a decision shortly. Other Sections are also expected to place their orders soon.

On another note, the National Distinguished Lecturer Programme (NDLP) is gathering momentum with the Gujarat Section inaugurating the NDLP activities in the Section with a programme in Rajkot. In the words of Deepak Mathur, the NDLP coordinator for the Section, "The selection of Rajkot is as per the objective of NDLP to give visibility to IEEE in new areas of the Section. A talk on IEEE will be also given by Dr Anil Roy, Chair of IEEE Gujarat Section in the program. All efforts will be made to enroll new members. We are looking forward to more Sections launching NDLP at the earliest.

Further, as we enter the second half of the year, all IEEE entities in the country would now be moving from the planning phase to activity phase as regards annual events like seminars and conferences. Please use the IEEE Newsletter, IEEE Infoway for giving wide publicity to these events. As members may be aware, the UP Section is organising Indicon 2008 at IIT Kanpur during 11-13 Dec 2008.

Finally, let me once again remind all members to exercise their votes at the IEEE Annual Election 2008, which will be open from 01 Aug to 01 Oct 2008. Members will be getting election notifications by email, but need not wait for that. Please exercise votes in August itself. There are two candidates for the R10 Director-Elect position: Lawrence Wong and R. Muraleedharan. For the Candidates' biographies, please see R10 Newsletter at:

http://www.ewh.ieee.org/reg/10/Newsletter/2008/R10_eNewsletter-June2008.pdf

Cheers!

K G Satheesh Kumar

Secretary, IEEE India Council
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Editorial



IEEE's Core Values

IEEE has recently come out with an Envisioned Future Statement and the byline states that "IEEE's core purpose is to foster technological innovation and excellence for the benefit of humanity". Of the listed 8 Core Values, Service to humanity occupies the apex position. This is in fact a welcome stance from the largest professional body in the world.

Technical excellence has always been the key strength of this august Society, and we in India can also be proud of being in the forefront of modernizing the 'traditional India' and leaping into an era of cutting edge technologies. The global forays into the IT domain and harvesting the benefits from it for our lay public also to enjoy, have been the hall mark of India recently. More than that, the volunteers from India who could be in IEEE's top bodies have always shown their commitment to the values of this kind.

The summary of the 3-5 year goals of IEEE is:

1. To Industry, a major resource to succeed
2. To Students and professionals, through education improve their competencies
3. To Global community, a catalyst for balanced dialogue on technological issues
4. To the Public, helping to enhance the quality of life and the environment
5. To the members, able to find value and enjoyment through their involvement in the IEEE activities
6. As a model organization to the world, showcase aligned purpose, energy and infrastructure to facilitate development and execution of coordinated strategy

We have done well in items 1, 2 and 6. The task now for we IEEEians in India apparently is to raise our contributions through actions on 4, 3 and 5 - in that order. We would welcome your views on these.

Trivandrum
10 July 2008

Prof V K Damodaran
Editor
vkd@ieee.org

Cast Your Vote

As soon as you get your election notification by e-mail, at any rate before 01 Oct 2008 to choose your next R10 Director. This time the R10 Director-elect candidates are R. Muralidharan and Lawrence Wong. For their credentials, please visit **the IEEE Election web site:** <http://www.ieee.org/web/aboutus/corporate/election/reg10.html#muralidharan>

Update Your Profile, Get Ready to Vote

You can access your profile at myIEEE (<http://www.ieee.org/myieee>) or through the Update Profile application (<http://www.ieee.org/coa>).

Forthcoming Events

IMSAA-2008

December 10-12, 2008 . Bangalore

The Second International Conference on Internet Multimedia Services Architecture and Applications (IMSAA) Jointly organized by **IEEE Bangalore Section** and International Institute of Information Technology-Bangalore (iiit-b). For details: <http://www.iiitb.ac.in/imsaa2008/index.html>

Technology Awareness Contest 2008

This program being conducted by Bombay section for the last six years is now extended to all IEEE Sections in India for Students of Engineering and Science.

Registration 21 July 2008

Organized by: IAS/PES Chapter of Bombay Sn & IEEE Student Branch of Pune Institute of Computer Technology.

Convener

Prof. Rajesh B. Ingle
ingle@ieee.org

Renewable Energy India 2008 Expo

Showcasing innovations in the renewable sector, it is a platform to provide value for the domestic industry, and it offers opportunities in the global market for Indian and international players. It has attracted more than 200 exhibitors from 18 countries and is likely to attract 5000+ trade visitors. A **3-day International Conference** will be held concurrent to Renewable Energy India 2008 Expo. Supported by MNRE, Govt. of India

Contact:

Sandhya Dhir

Executive Communications

Event Website: www.renewableenergyindiaexpo.com **Metering, Billing/CRM India**

14 - 16 October 2008, Mumbai

METERING, BILLING/CRM INDIA 2008 will consist of a three-day conference and exhibition, showcasing local and international technologies. For the first time, the event will also present 'SMART GRIDS INDIA', focusing on modernizing ageing infrastructure as well as the latest technologies available. More detailed event information can be found on www.metering.com/india

IEEE Energy 2030 Conference

17-18 Nov 2008. Atlanta, Georgia

To provide a forum for the exchange of ideas amongst experts on the technology, policy and economic framework required for the creation of a global sustainable energy infrastructure by 2030.

For details: <http://ewh.ieee.org/conf/energy2030/callforpapers2.pdf>
Prof. Deepak Divan, Chair

Congrats Gajanan Maharaj!

IEEE Region 10 (Asia Pacific) Membership Growth Award 2007 has been conferred on our IEEE SSGMCE Branch, Shri Sant Gajanan Maharaj College of Engineering, Shegaon, Maharashtra. This is the fourth International award conferred by the IEEE on this branch. This is an honour for IEEE India Council and IEEE Bombay Section. The Branch membership strength in 2006 was 264 and in 2007 it was 302.

The College Management regularly awards concessions for IEEE membership fees. This is a welcome suggestion for other colleges also to help the students who are enthused by IEEE association. Bombay Branch Membership Development Committee is also supportive of growth in student strength.

The Staff Advisor Prof. U. A. Rane of Department of Electronics deserves special mention for sustained advice to the Branch.

NDLP Screening Committee

India Council Chair has constituted the following Screening committee for NDLP:

Prof. V. K. Damodaran (Chairman)
Anthony Lobo (Member)
Dr. Sureshchander Pal (Member)
S. Gopakumar (Convener)

NDLP Launching for Gujarat

Gujarat Section launches NDLP activities.

Date: 19th July 2008

Venue: V V P Engineering College, Rajkot

Speaker: Dr V K Thakar

Topic: Recent Trends in Control

Selection of Rajkot is as per the objective of NDLP to give visibility of IEEE in new areas of the Section. A talk on IEEE will be also given by Dr Anil Roy, Chair, IEEE Gujarat Section. Special efforts will be on, to enroll new members.

Contact **Dr. Deepak Mathur** for taking NDLP to your area!
"Deepak Mathur (IEEE)" <deepakmathur@ieee.org>

Letters

Dear Nair Ji and all Friends:

Heartiest Congratulations (*on Growth Award*)! Proves all of us can achieve with concerted efforts. Let us now gear ourselves for annual election for Region 10 Director Elect and President Elect; **let us all pledge to cast our votes.**

Harbans L. Bajaj
(Former R 10 Director & IC Chair)

Dear Prof. Rane!

Hearty Congratulations from Bangalore Section. It's nice to hear that Indian Performance is duly receiving the credit essentially required to form a strong Indian IEEE community.

Dr. K. Ramakrishna

Solid State Circuits Society

Solid State Circuits Society as a new chapter under India Council was initiated by Dr KS Chari, Senior Director at Department of Information Technology, New Delhi and Senior Member IEEE and past Chair of India ED/MTT Chapter. After recommendation from India Council and approval from R-10 Director at IEEE HQ, the chapter came to operations in April 2008. The Chapter being All India in nature will be promoting the activities in Solid State Circuits area for the benefit of the members of the society spread across the country all over India (except the Karnataka Region covered by separate SSCS Bangalore chapter).

Solid State Circuits Society (SSCS) formed in 1997 is the IEEE's newest and fastest growing society with more than 11,000 members in 25 countries. SSCS India Chapter presently has over 135 members coming under its jurisdiction. The Chapter so far in the current year had aggressively added new enrolments of over 25 SSCS members and around 30 full IEEE members and is on an expansion course.

The country is witnessing a rapid growth in electronics and IT fields; and expected to see a semiconductor design and hardware market projection around US \$ 8 billion by 2012. Already over 130 Semiconductor Design companies have bases in the country with more coming. Leading institutions in the country are involved in R&D, manufacture, Product evolutions and HR creations. With more developments, the country is poised to take bigger leaps soon.



Volunteers and members interested in the subject area and want to associate with the chapter efforts may contact **Dr KS Chari**, India SSCS Chapter Chair

(e-mail: chari_kandala@yahoo.com).

Tech News

Nanoelectronics Facilities Open

The Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay and IISc Bangalore have set up "Centres of Excellence in Nanoelectronics" with a total funding of Rs. 99.8 crores from the Ministry of Communication & Information technology (MCIT), Government of India. In addition, MCIT is also funding a project titled "Indian Nanoelectronics Users Program" (INUP) to open up facilities for users outside of these Centres with an outlay of Rs. 25 crores.

These facilities can be used for Nanoelectronics R&D by scientists and engineers from academia, research labs and industry. Those interested, please write to inup@iitb.ac.in.

Often a silent face has voice and words – Ovid

Aerogel – A miracle material

We engineers are on the verge of handling a wonder material in the 21st Century – soon of course. It is called aerogel. It is the lowest density, lightest solid material known to be in existence. It is 50-99.5% air, but it can hold 500-4000 times its weight in applied force. It is strong, light, translucent, and is excellent for sound-proofing. It insulates 37 times better than fiberglass.

Aerogels can have surface areas ranging from 250 to 3000 sq. m. per gram. That means a cubic inch of aerogel flattened out will have more surface area than an entire foot ball field. It is however, not a new material. It is produced by extracting the liquid component of a gel and then replacing it with a gas such as carbon dioxide, through super critical drying.

To know what is on the cards in construction, air conditioning, medicine, pollution control etc – contemplated by several companies and agencies – one has to go to <http://homepages.cae.wisc.edu> or <http://en.wikipedia.org> or www.aerogel.com

But, to get introduced, read June 2008 issue of Executive Knowledge Lines (www.knowledgelines.com)

Courtesy: (Abridged) EKL

Every innovation begins with a thought.

ThinkLABS is an educational training and product company in the field of robotics & embedded systems incubated at SINE, IIT Mumbai. With strong R&D focus and technical backing we have reached out to over 18,000 students in 35 cities across India by providing them resources through a wide variety of development boards, sensors, robotic kits, software-based resources, basic and advanced level training sessions.

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