

The Future Isn't What It Used to Be

By George W. Welles

As Minnesota moves into its second century, what will the future hold? We know our future will likely be very different than our past. The presenter will use various examples to illustrate a few of the ways our future "won't be like it used to be".

We are all likely to see more change in the next ten years than our parents saw in the last half-century.

Learn what an Internet-enabled refrigerator shares with a robotic cat. See a green-haired virtual broadcaster, a "stealth" raincoat, and a car that might eliminate traffic jams. Find out what the ultimate couch potato will use to surf the net in the future, and how the very nature of work may change. See an example of a machine controlled by thinking.

Find out why the future is now!

IEEE Region 4 Electro/Information Technology Conference in Indianapolis, June 5-6

Region 4 is happy to announce the third IEEE *eit* conference, to be held June 5-6 in Indianapolis, Indiana. More information about the conference is available at www.cis-ieee.org/eit2003.

This year's conference will feature keynote speakers Dr. Lotfi Zadeh, UC Berkeley (soft computing), and Dr. Hojjat Adeli, Ohio State University (neural networks). Dr. V. Varadan, director of the National Science Foundation's Electrical and Communications Systems Division, will deliver the Thursday lunch speech, "NSF Perspective on Challenges and Opportunities in Engineering Research and Education".

The conference organizing committee is working hard to finalize a technical program which will include paper presentations, professional activities sessions and several other presentations and panel discussions.

IEEE Section Meeting

George W. Welles
Imaging Futures

The Future Isn't What It Used to Be

Monday, **June 2**, 6:30 pm
Mayo Medical Sciences Building
(321 3rd Avenue SW, Rochester)

► Pizza at 6:30; Meeting at 7:00 ◀

George W. Welles III is principal and founder of Imaging Futures, an enterprise that helps leaders develop a vision of their organization's future, and then develop new products and services based on that vision. Imaging Futures also conducts best-practice audits and guides emerging-technology, early-stage companies.

Welles retired in 1996 as manager of broadband applications at US WEST Communications (now Qwest) Enterprise networking services group, where he managed advanced communication research and development projects. He also served as an advanced technology consultant to US WEST leadership and customers, and led a cross-disciplinary team to develop business cases for two multi-million dollar strategic opportunities.

He also serves as president and CEO of Allargeo, Limited, a Minnesota-based international creator of "environments of the future".

Mr. Welles is co-founder of the Defense department's Digital Imaging Symposium, and he serves as a senior advisor to Academic Investments, Inc. (Minneapolis) and Pancom, Ltd. (Dublin, Ireland).

He is an active member of the Minnesota High Technology Association, the Armed Forces Communication and Electronics Association, the Minnesota International Center, and the Communications Media Management Association (CMMA). He is CMMA-accredited.

Mr. Welles has received six international awards for his work in electronic media, including a gold medal from the New York International Film and Television Festival and a gold Hugo from the Chicago Film Festival. In 1996 he received CMMA's first award for lifetime achievement in communications. He serves on the advisory board of the University of Minnesota Computer Science Department and on the Minnesota Future Work Task Force.



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