

## ***CHAIRMAN'S MESSAGE***

### **Now is the time.**

Here's the plan. Join IEEE. Sign the Product Safety Society Petition to affiliate with IEEE. Return the form to John McBain, Secretary /Treasurer. We are over half way towards reaching our goal of 120 signatures, but your support is still needed

Some of you have provided input regarding the activities that you would like to see the Product Safety Society pursue. I encourage you to keep those comments coming so that we can make this organization work for you. It's never too late to let your officers know what you would like.

Brian Claes, your Vice-Chairman and Program Committee chairman, is busy setting up presentations that will, based on the comments received, be of general interest. As announced in this newsletter, our next presentation will give you a charge, so I hope to see you there.

This will be the first presentation that is based solely on engineering principles, rather than aspects of product liability or certification. The presentation should be of interest, not only to product regulation folks, but to engineers, engineering managers, and others who have an interest in the phenomenon of electric shock. Please feel free to make copies of the meeting announcement and post them around your place of employment.

Again, I hope to see you at our next meeting. And remember: **Now is the time.** Keep those petitions and 'Comments corning.

Rich Pescatore  
Chairman

P.S. I will be out of the area a great deal of April and May. Please contact Brian Claes or John McBain if you are unable to reach me. RP

## **PRODUCT SAFETY SOCIETY NEWS**

### **ASQC Offers Short Course on Safety and Regulations**

The Santa Clara Valley Section of the American Society for Quality Control will be presenting a one day seminar April 16, 1988 to overview various Safety and Regulatory requirements that should be reviewed prior to product shipment. The course, scheduled for 8 am to 4 pm at Hewlett-Packard (5301 Stevens Creek Blvd., at Lawrence), will overview areas such as Quality, Reliability, Testability, Traceability, Servicability, Manufacturability and Liability. Agencies throughout the world dealing with Safety, RFI/EMI, ESD, and telecommunications will be also be reviewed. The course is intended to make individuals aware of the groups that must be dealt with before selling a product both domestically and internationally, without risking lawsuits or endangering the user. Persons interested in attending may contact Marie Gibson at 415-490-9100, extension 312.

**Society News, Continued****IEEE GRID Covers Product Safety Society Meeting**

The following article appeared in the March edition of the *IEEE GRID*:

The start-up group that is working towards affiliation with the IEEE as a Society for Product Safety (PSS) held its first meeting of 1988 on January 28. More than 70 product safety engineers from across the country attended the meeting, which was held at Apple Computer in Cupertino.

According to John McBain, who reported on the meeting, the large turnout was largely a result of the tremendous enthusiasm with which news of the PSS formation has been received by product safety engineers. In addition, the industry advisory committee for UL 478, the Underwriters Labs standard for information processing equipment, was meeting in San Jose the same week, and many of the council members attended the PSS meeting. Finally, the guest speakers, Serge Bousquet and Jim DeVries of the Canadian Standards Association, addressed significant concerns about safety certification in Canada.

A short business meeting established a permanent meeting time and place at Apple Computer, 10500 N. DeAnza Blvd., Cupertino, on the fourth Tuesday of each month, starting at 7:00 pm. Participants were also pleased to hear that more than 40 signatures of IEEE members have been gathered towards the 100 needed to affiliate with the IEEE as a member society. Perhaps the most exciting news was notice of the initial meeting of the Pacific Northwest chapter near Portland on February 2.

If you would like more information on PSS, call Rich Pescatore at 408-447-6607, Brian Claes at 408-725-5173, or John McBain at 408-447-0738. Or simply plan to attend the next PSS meeting at Apple on February 23.

*Editorial*

Last month I listed several possible topics that might be included in future issues of this newsletter. Now one question that might be raised is "where are we going to get all the great material for these topics?" The answer of course is you, our readers. While we want to do all that we can to provide an excellent source of information for the Product Safety Professional, we must depend on our readers to help supply the suggestions and materials. Have you read anything or heard a speaker that you thought would be good for your fellow engineers to read or hear. If so, drop us a line with some references and we'll do all we can to follow it through and thereby keep our society up to date and informed.

As our experience in this newsletter grows, we'll know how to better meet your Professional information needs. Until that time, I hope each of you will consider yourselves co-editors with me in this endeavor.

Roger Volgstadt  
(408-942-4020)

## LETTERS FROM OUR READERS

The following letters were received from our readers since the last issue of the *Product Safety Society's* *NeK'steller*:

### Telecom Answer Clarified

At the last meeting of (the) Product Safety Society on January 28, 1988, Mr. John Reynolds asked the following question:

"Will there be any additional test done if equipment is already Certified to Standard No.154 and Standard No.0.7, when it is re-certified to Standard No.220 (1986)?"

When I answered the question that there are different requirements for communication cables in Standard No.220 (i.e. V-I flame rating and minimum size No.26 AWG), I was talking about the parts related to telephone network as covered by G.I. No.2 (1987). I did not mean to exclude G.I. No 1, i.e. 220 (1986). (The) Rest of the requirements of Standard No.220 still apply as applicable, especially Clause 4.4.3 and others as covered in Notice 521A.

However, if the computer equipment having connection to phone lines is already Certified to Standard 154 (1983) and Standard

0.7 (1985), it will not require re-evaluation to Standard No.220 till September 30, 1993 A.; covered in Electrical Notice 521B).

Lal Bahra, P. Engineer  
 Seruor Engineer  
 Commurucations and Information Certification Programs, CSA

### More Great Support for PSS

I recently reviewed a copy of the newsletter for the Product Safety Society and was very pleased to see you (Rich Pescatore -- Ed.) are its first chairman. In that regard, I have signed a petition for establishment for an IEEE society and hope that my signature assists you in obtaining the minimum number needed in this regard.

I would appreciate being included on your mailing list and was wondering if there is any membership dues for the society. Additionally, I want to offer the support of UL in this regard and if at any time we can assist in providing speakers or other support please let me know. If you are interested it might be very interesting to provide one of the folks from our Research Department to speak on shock hazard as the work recently done for telephone equipment is both interesting and complex.

SG. Roll  
 Assistant Cruet Engineer  
 Electrical Division  
 Underwriters Laboratories Inc.

{We are always glad to add people to our mailing list, especially when they support the Product Safety Society like Mr. Roll! There are no membership dues for the Society this year, but we are requesting interested people to join the IEEE and help us with our petition -Ed.}

### Oops Dept.

Good meeting Report in V011, Issue 1 of the PSS Newsletter.

One nitpicky detail in the 6th paragraph of your report. The distinguished guests from Canada included Jim Duncan, CSA Technical Services, Toronto Chairman of CSA subcommittee 220, member of ITAC, and chairman of IECTC WG 8. Jim and Lal are CSA employees, Conrad is not! The reference to IAC in Canada is not appropriate, as IAC's do not exist in the Canadian context. IAC turns out to be mostly a UL term

Keep up the good work.

Dave Adams  
 Hewlett Packard

The Wizard of Id



## Chapter Activity Reports

### Northwest Chapter Plans Next Meeting

Al Van Houdt reports that the Northwest Chapter of the Product Safety Society is making plans now for its next quarterly meeting some time in May. Because of the long distances between members, the chapter has arranged for quarterly as opposed to monthly meetings. Additionally, it is planned to extend the meeting times to permit two or three speakers, ending with a long general discussion among members and speakers.

Officers of the chapter will be meeting in the near future to arrange the details of the next session. The results of that meeting will be published in this newsletter.

NEWSFLASH from the Pacific Northwest -Gary McInturff, PNW Chapter Vice-Chairman & Program Committee Chair, reporting:

Our first meeting was held with 30 people attending. The response of the group to the Society was enthusiastic, and we expect to grow! The next step is to get more information about ourselves and our goals to those who have not yet heard of us and to those who want to know how we pertain to their professional interests.

Most of the activity this month has been in establishing our current membership and defining our future activities. PNW Chapter members will be receiving more information through the mail from Richard Nute (PNW Chapter Chairman) of HP Vancouver. Included in the mailing will be a list of suggested topics that should be reviewed and commented on by members. Remember, this is only a beginning, and in order for our Chapter to be successful we must all put forth our suggestions and requests for topics and speakers!

We are also looking *for* volunteers from our group to present topics. We already have experts on transformer construction and European approvals strategy available, from among the many possible topics. One area that could really help us would be advance notice of any "in house" seminars. If you keep the Chapter officers informed about subjects and dates for any such presentations, we may be able to schedule the PNW Chapter meetings at a time and place that will allow us to invite your speakers to address our group.

### SANTA CLARA VALLEY CHAPTER REPORT

The February 23 meeting was called to order by the Chairman (Rich Pescatore), who reviewed the Agenda and made some brief announcements. There will be a course on product safety presented by the ASQC (details are announced elsewhere in this newsletter). A report was received that the iron-constantin type of thermocouples may give incorrect readings in the presence of fluctuating magnetic fields (such as in a switching power supply). Has anyone further information about this?

The Constitution Committee (Mike Harris) has drafted a Chapter Constitution based on an IEEE format. A Copy may be able to be sent out with the next newsletter for review. [Maybe next time! -JM] The National Society Constitution will start to be worked on now. The Membership Committee (Scott Barrows) again asked attendees to fill out a member information form. Any interested persons will be added to our mailing list upon request. The Program Committee (Brian Claes) reported that speakers are being recruited for future meetings. Please return the questionnaire about meeting topics that was sent out with the last newsletter!

The Chapter Communications Committee {Roger Volgstadt} reported that plans are started to expand the PSS Newsletter coverage to keep members informed of Society activities and other news. However, to be able to provide this service, members are encouraged to send in information, interesting articles {with the source}, letters of comment, original reports, and even cartoons. This is your Society and your Newsletter!

The Secretary (John McBain) repeated his appeal to return the petitions for joining the IEEE. If you are becoming a member of IEEE and need someone to sign the application form then just let one of the officers know and we will arrange it. People interested in forming PSS Chapters outside the San Francisco Bay Area are requested to contact the PSS Chairman, Rich Pescatore.

The guest speakers were from TUV Rheinland of North America: Dr. Klaus Spiegel, President, and Laszlo Hasenau, General Manager of the Western Region (San Ramon office). Dr. Spiegel spoke about the future of German Standards and the European Norm, as well as describing a little of the history and position of the TUV organizations in Germany. One interesting point was that the EEC countries are trying to create a free trade area by 1992, which means that Harmonization of Standards must proceed without delay!

The comparison of two Ergonomics Standards -ZH1/618 and the new draft ISO 9241/3 - was the topic covered by Mr. Hasenau. The one largest difference is perhaps the approach to the topic of ergonomics. The ZH1 tries to avoid long term hazards and the ISO looks for better task performance, not really for safety. Note that comments on the draft ISO Standard must go through ANSI. Special thanks to Laszlo for making it to the meeting rather than the hospital with his fever - hopefully the thought of speaking to the PSS didn't make it worse!

The next meeting will be the fourth Tuesday of March, the 22nd, 7:00 p.m. at Apple Computer, 10500 De Anza Boulevard, Cupertino (2 blocks south of Hwy. 280). The guest speaker will be Rich Nute, from the Vancouver, Washington, division of Hewlett Packard, speaking on the physiology of electric shock. Please feel free to copy and post the Notice included with this newsletter!

Over forty people attended the meeting. The meeting adjourned at 9:15 p.m., but, as usual, the janitors had to sweep us out.

-John McBain

PRODUCT SAFETY SOCIETY OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES

Rich Pescatore - Chairman	Hewlett Packard MS42LS 19447 Pruneridge Ave Cupertino, CA 95014 408-447-6607
Brian Claes - Vice-Chairman -Program Committee	Tandem Computers 19333 Vallco Pkwy Cupertino, CA 95014 408-725-5173
John McBain - Sec./Treasurer	Hewlett Packard MS42LS 19447 Pruneridge Ave Cupertino, CA 95014 408-447-0738
Scott Barrows - Membership Committee	Versatec 2805 Bowers Ave Santa Clara, CA 95051 408-988-2800 X5030
Mike Harris - Constitution Committee	Teccom Co 699 Baffin Street Foster City, CA 94404 415-345-9403
Roger Volgstadt - Chapter Communications Committee	Qume Carp 500 Yosemite Drive Milpitas, CA 95035 408-942-4020

PACIFIC NORTHWEST CHAPTER OFFICERS AND COMMITTEES:

Rich Nute - Chairman	Hewlett Packard P.O. Box C-006 Vancouver, WA 98668 206-254-8110 X2691
Gary McInturff - Vice-Chairman - Program Committee	ISC Systems Corp. E. 22425 Appleyway Liberty Lake, WA 99019 509-927-5105
Al Van Houdt - Sec./Treasurer	SpaceLabs 4200 150th Ave. N.E P.O. Box 97013 Redmond, WA 98073
Walt Hart - Membership Committee (Seattle area)	John Fluke Mfg Co Ltd P.O. Box C9090 Everett, WA 98206 206-356-5177
Art Henderson - Membership Committee (Portland area)	Western Transformers 6701 S.E. Alberta St. Portland, OR 97206 503-777-5636

PETITION FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF AN IEEE SOCIETY

Date \_\_\_\_\_

We, the undersigned, who are currently members of the IEEE, hereby petition for approval to form a Product Safety Society affiliated with the IEEE. The proposed field of interest, scope and objectives of the Product Safety Society are shown on the back of this form in the Charter and Strategy statements.

	<u>Signature of Petitioner</u>	<u>Membership Grade and Number</u>	<u>Printed Name</u>
1)			
2)			
3)			
4)			
5)			
6)			
7)			
8)			
9)			
10)			
11)			
12)			
13)			
14)			
15)			
16)			

The following individual is serving as Organizer for the Society.

Richard L. Pescatore, P.E. (tel. 408-447-6607)  
 M/S 42LS  
 19447 Pruneridge Avenue  
 Cupertino, CA 95014 U.S.A.

PRODUCT SAFETY SOCIETY

## CHARTER

The Product Safety Society is an organization concerned with the safety of electronic products. Its members strive to advance the knowledge and awareness of product safety through:

- \* Study of product safety engineering principles and applications.
- \* Promotion of a consistent understanding and interpretation of applicable product safety standards.
- \* Understanding of the contribution of test houses and certification processes.
- \* Study of product safety management principles and applications.

## STRATEGY

The Product Safety society intends to meet the Charter statement. through enhanced communications and education. The following methods may be used to this end:

- \* Host presentations by technical experts.
- \* Provide a forum for presentations to and from test houses.
- \* Host panel discussions on selected topics.
- \* Provide information that is predicated on principles of product safety engineering to standards writing groups and other professional organizations.
- \* Provide information based on Industry practices to third party certification agencies.



***THE PRODUCT SAFETY SOCIETY***

***PRESENTS***

**A SHOCKING EXPERIENCE**



**BY**

**RICH NUTE**



**THIS IS A PRESENTATION ON THE  
PHYSIOLOGY OF ELECTRIC SHOCK  
AND THE DYNAMIC ASPECTS OF  
BODY IMPEDANCE.**

***WE HOPE THAT YOU WILL JOIN US FOR  
THIS FREE ELECTRIFYING EXPERIENCE***

**Rich Nute is a Product Regulations Engineer employed by  
Hewlett Packard. He has extensive experience in the study  
of electric shock, including the publication of papers on  
the topic and serving as Chair of an International  
Electrotechnical Commission Working Group charged with the  
development of techniques to simulate the human body when  
measuring electric currents.**

**WHERE: APPLE COMPUTER**

**TIME: 7:00 PM**

**10500 De Anza Blvd.**

**CUPERTINO, CA**

**DATE: MARCH 22, 1988**

**RLP/NUTE1.GAL**

Qume Corporation  
500 Yosemite Drive  
Milpitas, CA 95035

*IN THIS ISSUE...*

\* *Letters From Our Readers*

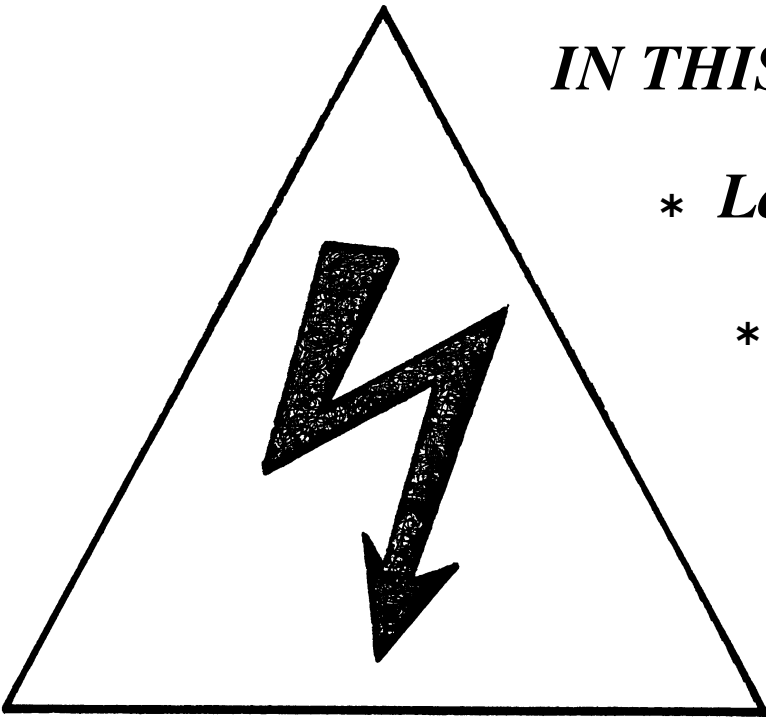
\* *Chairman's Message*

\* *Chapter Reports*

\* *AND MORE !*

March, 1988

VOL. 1, NO. 1



**PRODUCT SAFETY SOCIETY NEWSLETTER**