




Components, Packaging, and Manufacturing Technology Society

Newsletter

The Global Society for Microelectronics Systems Packaging



Vol. 32 No. 1, Spring 2009 (ISSN 1077-2999)

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www.enh.ieee.org/soc/cpmt/newsletter

President's Column.....



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Greetings!!!

The world is going through the worst economic recession of all times. The electronic industry -- our industry -- is suffering together with many industries. Cutbacks are affecting research and educational institutions alike. Almost daily we read or hear of companies retrenching, implementing layoffs and job cuts. We expect that many in our profession are in the jobless situation or are facing such prospects. In my contacts with the CPMT community we learn and share a sense of this changing reality -- a new reality.

What is our society vision and strategy going forward? We have had good discussions on the CPMT value propositions in previous President's Messages in this newsletter. The value propositions for our society -- publications, conferences, education, technical committees, membership and chapters, recognitions and awards -- are well understood. As professional engineers, these CPMT value propositions revolve around some simple words describing tools of our trade: knowledge and learning, experience and judgment, and networking. In this changing reality, all of us need to sharpen and empower our tools of trade at all times.

One important topic that concerns all of us in the Society will be to broaden our professional and technology reach for our conferences, publications, technical committees, education, membership and chapter activities. While our nucleus has been electronic components technology and manufacturing, our CPMT Society Field of Interest is much broader. Our VP for Publications Wayne Johnson and his publications committee have been talking to me about increasing the journal coverage to electronic manufacturing. Rolf Aschenbrenner, VP Conferences, Rao Bonda, VP Technical and Al Puttlitz, VP Education are working towards organizing workshops, forming new technical committees and educational courses in new and emerging areas such as flexible electronics and print electronics, in medical and health electronics, and solar packaging. Our Strategic Director for Awards Kitty Pearsall has been exploring with her committee recognition of exceptional

achievement outside the traditional CPMT community. The Regional Strategic Directors and Strategic Director for Chapters and Membership have brought focus to CPMT activities across the globe.

For all of us, volunteers in the CPMT Society -- we have been held together by a strong tie -- belonging to and pride in the CPMT community, and commitment in the volunteer service. We have shared ideas, argued and fought over them over the years. We see that 2009 may be a changing period for our profession and our industry. An important question that we will need to address is how would IEEE and CPMT change to meet the changing times for our membership, our profession and our industry? How do we plan for this change together, in our vision, and direction for the coming years?

I expect that there will be downward trends for membership renewal and for new membership. I do want to pass the word out that those of our members who have become unemployed are eligible for 50% off IEEE and CPMT dues and subscriptions. They will be able to exercise this discount when it comes time to renew for 2010. This discount also applies to new membership as well. Additionally, IEEE has a number of career resources, including a job site listing to connect those who have jobs and who need jobs:

www.ieee.org/careers

As always, I welcome and encourage your feedback.

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