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En cette fin d'année, je suis heureux de vous annoncer que la revue canadienne de l'IEEE a su (encore une fois) réaliser son mandat. Ce numéro de la revue (ainsi que le suivant) est très dense, et j'ai même dû refuser un certain nombre d'articles. C'est certainement un excellent état de choses et je voudrais remercier tous ceux qui ont rendu cela possible. Nous avons une saine diversité d'articles dans ce numéro. Le premier article, qui traite du AESO, l'exploitant de réseau électrique en Alberta, est un bon indicateur de la situation de l'industrie canadienne en systèmes de puissance, spécialement à la lumière des récents développements en Ontario. Nous avons aussi des articles sur le génie du logiciel et sur les enjeux en éthique professionnelle; ces deux articles décrivent la situation ayant cours présentement en industrie.

Pour les prochains numéros de la revue, je recherche des articles traitant des sujets suivants :

1. Systèmes photovoltaïques et leurs applications,
2. Systèmes de télécommunications mobiles,
3. Comment écrire un rapport technique, et
4. Systèmes d'imagerie pour les applications médicales.

Les auteurs intéressés peuvent me contacter, ou bien contacter un des adjoints à la rédaction; les adresses apparaissent sur la deuxième page de ce numéro. De plus, si vous désirez suggérer des articles et/ou des items d'actualité, n'hésitez surtout pas à m'envoyer un courriel.

Et finalement, je tiens à souhaiter à vous et à vos proches:



As we close another year, I am pleased to report that the IEEE Canadian Review delivered (again) on its mandate. This issue (and the next issue) of the CR is full again, and I had to turn articles away. It is definitely a good situation to be in and I thank those of you who made that possible. We have a healthy mix of articles in this issue. The lead article from the Alberta Electric System Operator (AESO) is a good indication of the status of the Canadian power industry, specially in the light of recent developments in Ontario. We also have articles on software engineering and issues related to professional ethics; both articles reflect on current situations within the industry.

In forthcoming issues of the CR, I seek articles on the following topics:

1. Photo Voltaic systems and their applications,
2. Mobile Telecommunication systems,
3. How to write a technical report/specification, and
4. Imaging systems for medical applications.

Potential authors can contact me or any of the associate editors; our addresses are on page 2 of this issue. Furthermore, if you would like to suggest articles and/or news items, do not hesitate to email me.

And finally, I wish you and your close ones:



Opinion

I had the pleasure to attend the Fall meeting of IEEE Canada in Toronto during the Toronto Section Centennial Celebrations. I must say that the section did a marvellous job in hosting the Black-out panel session and the banquet afterwards (see page 9). My congratulations to all concerned. What struck me was that IEEE Canada is alive and well and on the right track as far as contributions to the community and professional networking are concerned.

However, where IEEE Canada is not yet upto-the-mark is in the lobbying to the government(s), job market demands and looking after new entrants to our profession. Consider the following:

1. Would Canadians be suffering blackouts if we, as an industry, were paying enough to engineers (not bureaucrats, lawyers and accountants) to look after the power infrastructure? Remember blackouts cost - a lot. Ask GM, for example.
2. Consider the roller coaster that Canadians lived through in the past 5 years in the telecommunication and information technologies sectors.
3. Why does it take a year after graduation for an above average Masters student in Electrical Engineering from a reputable Canadian University to land a job? Are the universities preparing these students adequately for the job market? Are the universities and industry in tune with each others demands and requirements?

IEEE Canada has a ways to go in these directions: promoting the profession, assisting the continuing education of members, and easing the integration of new entrants to the profession.

Cover picture / Photo de couverture

The System Coordination Centre (SCC) is the heart of Alberta's Interconnected Electric System. It opened in early 1999 and operates independently of market participants. The Centre features advanced technology, and is customized to meet the requirements of Alberta's competitive electricity market. It is staffed 24 hours a day, 365 days a year, by a team of 13 system controllers. Seen in the cover photo are Ralph Gruendel and Ken Gardner (seated).

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