

Vijay K. Sood, *Hydro-Québec*

Avec la venue de la nouvelle année, il est temps de réfléchir sur les événements passés et aussi de regarder vers l'avant. J'ai été à la tête de ce magazine en tant que rédacteur en chef depuis plus de neuf ans et deux ans précédemment comme rédacteur adjoint.

Ce fut une expérience extrêmement enrichissante pour moi. J'ai appris énormément sur la rédaction, l'édition, les relations interpersonnelles et les heures de tombé à respecter. Produire un magazine tel que la revue canadienne de l'IEEE n'est pas une mince affaire. Cela demande dévouement, engagement, des connaissances techniques, des qualités en rédaction, des habiletés pour le réseautage, de la patience et un sens de persuasion plus que j'avais cru. La Figure 1 illustre quelques-unes des tâches du rédacteur en chef. Il était très important d'avoir une méthode d'opération très organisée et un sens de l'humour quand les choses ne tournaient pas rond. Et il y a eut plusieurs journées comme ça. Maintenant, il est temps de passer à autre chose. Je transmets donc le flambeau à une nouvelle équipe. Cette édition est ma dernière. Je serai rédacteur à titre honorifique pour le prochain numéro CR50. Ce cinquantième numéro de la revue canadienne constitue un événement marquant. Il rendra hommage à tous ceux qui m'ont précédé et ont eu pour vision de démarrer ce magazine. Nous rendrons hommage aux contributions de ces pionniers.



La rédaction de la revue canadienne n'est pas l'affaire d'un seul homme. J'aimerais remercier plusieurs personnes et j'espère seulement que vous allez me pardonner si j'oublie qui que ce soit par manque de concentration (mieux connu sous le nom de maladie d'Alzheimer). Je remercie premièrement Paul Freedman, ancien rédacteur en chef de la revue canadienne, qui m'a confié cette tâche. Ensuite, Dave Kemp (ancien président de IEEE Canada) et Marc Hung (ancien directeur de recherche à l'IREQ, Hydro-Québec) qui m'a permis d'effectuer cette tâche et octroyé un soutien en secrétariat en la personne d'Eileen Dornier (ancienne secrétaire du groupe de simulation de systèmes de puissance à l'IREQ) durant mes débuts en tant que rédacteur en chef.

Durant 9 ans, j'ai servi sous la gouverne des présidents de IEEE Canada: Dave Kemp, Linda Weaver, Celia Desmond, Mo El-Hawary et Bill Kennedy. Je les remercie tous pour m'avoir permis de publier ce magazine porte étendard de IEEE Canada. Ils m'ont donné tout le soutien nécessaire, le financement et m'ont permis d'accomplir pleinement le travail. Je remercie aussi les Publication Chairs avec qui j'ai eu le plaisir de travailler: Bruno Di Stefano et Om Malik.

Au cours des années, j'ai reçu le soutien de plusieurs bénévoles qui ont agi en tant que rédacteurs adjoints et auxiliaires. Ils ont apporté leur contribution dans la sélection des articles et ont attiré les auteurs possibles et les autres personnes qui ont contribué au magazine. Parmi eux (énumération sans ordre précis): Paul Freedman, Brunilde Sanso, Chela Vaidyanathan, Slawo Wesolkowski, Alexandre Abecassis, Isabelle Charbot, Shaowen Song, Terrance J. Malkinson, Samuel Pierre, Camille Alain Rabbath, Alain Zarka et Habib Hamam. Une brève mention pour remercier Cathie Lowell, administratrice de IEEE Canada, qui a mis à jour la liste des membres et a aidé à obtenir d'autres informations utiles. Aussi, merci à Marc Provencher pour son aide et assistance, entre

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Cover picture / Photo de couverture

The cover picture depicts the new thyristor-based valves used at Dorsey Converter Station in Manitoba, at the southern end of the HVDC Nelson River scheme. The previous mercury arc-based valves (shown in Figure 5 on page 25) were replaced as they were inefficient and manufacturers had stopped building and supporting them. Manitoba began use of HVDC lines in the early 1970s, first with connections to the Kettle Plant, and then in the mid 1970s with Long Spruce.

As another new year begins, it is time to reflect on past events and take stock of the future to come. I have been at the helm of this journal as Managing Editor for more than 9 years now and a couple of years as Associate Editor before that.

This has been a most enthralling experience for me as I learned a tremendous amount about editing, desktop publishing, interacting with people and delivering on-time and on-schedule. Producing a journal like the IEEE Canadian Review is not a trivial job, and requires dedication, commitment, technical knowledge, publication skills, networking, patience and arm-twisting skills far beyond I imagined. Figure 1 on the next page illustrates some of the duties of the Managing Editor. Above all else, it was most important to keep an organized method of operating and a sense of humour when things did not work. And there were many days like that. It is now time for me to move on and hand over this task to a new team. This is my pen-ultimate issue and I will serve as Honorary Editor for the next issue CR50; it will be the fiftieth issue of the CR and will mark a milestone. This issue will honour all those who preceded me and had the vision to launch this journal in the first place. We will pay homage to the contributions of some of those pioneers.

Publishing the CR is not a job that I performed alone. There are many people to thank, and I only hope that you will forgive me if I forget anyone for lack of concentration (normally known as a bout of Alzheimer's). I thank first Paul Freedman, former Managing Editor of the CR, who entrusted me with this task. Next in line are Dave Kemp (former President of IEEE Canada) and Marc Hung (formerly Director of Research at IREQ, Hydro-Quebec) who permitted me to take on this

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Mission Accomplished? Maybe.

In 1996, when I first took over the helm of the CR, I undertook an overhaul of the journal focusing on four aspects. How well I fared is left upon the readers to judge. Below, I provide some comments and statistics on a post-mortem on my tenureship.

1.0 Improving the quality, content and profile of the journal

In 1996, it was a magazine with, on average, some 20-24 pages of printed content. The magazine was published on glossy paper, in 2-color format to reduce costs; occasionally, 4 pages in full 4-color format would be added where the graphics demanded better presentation. Since then, the number of articles has gone up by almost 50%, thanks to the use of a smaller font size and closer control of content presentation. The quality has been considerably improved, I hope. And the number of pages has increased from 24 to 32 pages. As in any catch-22 condition, an improved quality of production has resulted in more authors willing to submit articles which, in turn, improves the content. In turn, this provides better articles for our readers. A measure of success in this aspect is that I have not had a shortage of submitted articles, and I have not had to solicit articles. Advertising revenues progressed as well, as advertisers saw the value of reaching our highly educated membership.

2.0 Increasing the French content of the journal

In 1996 in general, the French content of the magazine was limited to translation of the Abstracts of the technical articles, and the editorial column. Full articles in French were hardly ever presented. Today, a full article (two in issue CR48) is almost always included in the hardcopy version; furthermore, the English articles are translated and are available online - not always on-time, but the intent is there. We are limited in terms of funds and volunteers who are able to do this job. Today, we follow a policy of "Publish in the language selected by the author". However, space in the printed copy is often at a premium, and we must be cognizant of this fact that full translation of articles is prohibitively expensive.

3.0 Providing an on-line version of the journal in English and French (see www.ieee.ca)

In the late 1990's, the increasing presence of the Internet and its reducing costs made it feasible to consider an online version of the journal, along with other News letters etc. See www.ieee.ca/can-rev. The assistance of our webmaster, Bob Alden, in this venture is noteworthy.

4.0 Reducing production costs and improving the commercial viability of the journal

The total operating budget increased from some 60 K\$ p.a. in 1996 to about 75 K\$ p.a. in 2004. These increased costs resulted from:

- Increased number of printed pages per issue from 24 to 32 i.e. a 33% increase,
- Augmenting from 2-color to full 4-color production, and
- Increased mailing costs (due to increased Canada Post charges and a 33% increase in posted weight).

In reality, due to improved advertising revenues, these costs were reduced by about 10 K\$ p.a. on average. So a very tight handle on costs was maintained over the 9 years, and a high value-for-money production criteria was achieved.

In closing, of the 50 issues of the CR over its lifespan, I will have edited exactly 25 issues i.e 50% of the issues. On my retirement, I will have been the longest serving Managing Editor of the CR. It was a task that was very meaningful to me and **I thoroughly enjoyed the experience in its entirety.** I can only hope that you, our members/readers, gained something from this effort. Till the next time when I get the opportunity to serve you, I wish you all Au revoir.

Vijay K. Sood

task and provided secretarial support in the form of Eileen Dornier (former Secretary of the Power System Simulation Group at IREQ) in my early years as Managing Editor.

Over the 9 years, I served the following 5 Presidents of IEEE Canada: Dave Kemp, Linda Weaver, Celia Desmond, Mo El-Hawary and Bill Kennedy. I thank them all for allowing me to continue in this task of publishing this the flagship magazine of IEEE Canada. They provided all the necessary support, funding and allowed me to get on with the job at hand. I thank also some of the Publication Chairs with whom I had the pleasure to work with, namely Bruno Di Stefano and Om Malik.

Over the years, I have had the voluntary support of many Associate and Assistant Editors who provided the article leads and sought out potential authors and other contributors to the journal. Amongst them are (in no particular order) Paul Freedman, Brunilde Sanso, Chela Vaidyanathan, Slawo Wesolkowski, Alexandre Abecassis, Isabelle Chabot, Shaowen Song, Terrance J. Malkinson, Samuel Pierre, Camille-Alain Rabbath, Alain Zarka, and Habib Hamam. A short note to thank Cathie Lowell, administrator of IEEE Canada, who helped in providing the updated rosters, membership lists and other information. Also, to Marc Provencher for aiding and assisting, and his contributions towards the French translation of articles. Thanks to Bob Alden for setting up the CR website and doing such a great job with it. And thanks to Bruce Van Lane and his team for their support with the publication side.

Finally, a huge Thank You to **Vina** for spending long hours on doing the desktop publishing, typing and re-typing, proofing, mailing and generally organizing of the CR. It certainly would not have been possible without her support and skills. Also, for putting up with me during those long hours when I was away from home and neglecting my other duties. **She was the backbone of this whole endeavor.**

It has been a privilege and an honour for me to serve as the Managing Editor of this prestigious magazine. I thank all the readers and IEEE Canada members who emailed or wrote to me with messages of encouragement and suggestions for improvement.

To the new Editors of the CR (see their profiles on page 14 in this issue), I wish them luck and success on undertaking this endeavor. To all you readers/members, I wish you a very Happy New Year.

Vijay K. Sood

Managing Editor of the IEEE Canadian Review

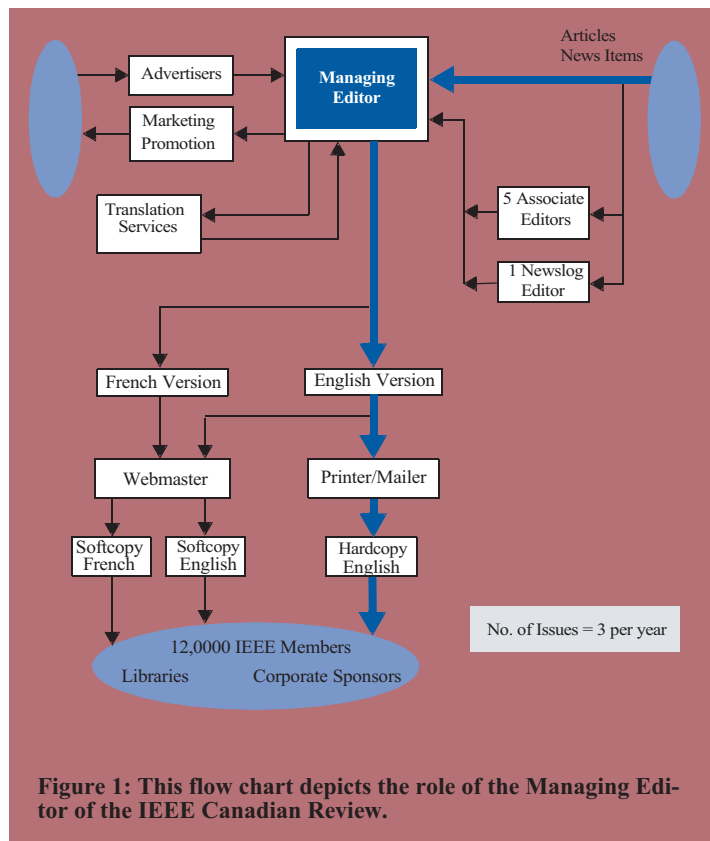


Figure 1: This flow chart depicts the role of the Managing Editor of the IEEE Canadian Review.

Quelques mots du rédacteur en chef

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autres, pour la traduction d'articles en français. Merci à Bob Alden pour avoir implanté le site Internet de la revue canadienne et avoir réalisé un si bon travail. Et merci à Bruce Van-Lane et son équipe pour leur soutien à l'édition.

Finalement, un gros merci à Vina pour avoir passé de longues heures à réaliser l'éditique, taper et re-taper, finaliser, expédier et organiser en général la revue canadienne. Ça n'aurait certainement pas été possible sans son soutien et habiletés. Aussi, pour m'avoir enduré durant ces longues heures quand j'étais loin de la maison et je négligeais mes autres tâches. Elle a été la colonne vertébrale de tout ce travail.

Ce fut un privilège et un honneur de servir en tant que rédacteur en chef de ce prestigieux magazine. Je remercie tous les lecteurs et les membres d'IEEE Canada qui m'ont rejoint par courrier électronique ou par la poste, et m'ont livré des messages d'encouragement et des suggestions pour améliorer la revue.

Je souhaite bonne chance et beaucoup de succès aux nouveaux rédacteurs de la revue canadienne (voir leurs profils dans ce numéro). A vous tous lecteurs et membres, je souhaite une bonne et heureuse année.

Vijay Sood
Redacteur en chef