

With this last issue of the year, it is usual to try to draw some conclusions about the past year's activities.

2002 saw two important events: the successful EPE-PEMC 2002 conference held from 9 to 11 September in Cavtat and Dubrovnik and the submission of an Expression of Interest for a Network of Excellence (AECCTECH_NET, see EPE Journal Vol 12 no 3 pp 5 to 8) in the 6th Framework Programme of the European Union.

The conference in Dubrovnik is a very nice time to remember. On p. 5 of this issue there are some comments over the event and two selected papers are published in this issue as well (p. 7 and p. 37).

The Expression of Interest was submitted in June. It was the aim of the European Commission to identify the research actions ready for proposed Integrated Projects and Networks of Excellence which show a high relevance for Specific Programme topics and which may be used as a possible basis for the preparation of the Work Programme and first calls. As a conclusion of this exercise, the European Commission organised from 11 to 13 November a large conference with an exhibition. The conference named "European Research 2002" (http://europa.eu.int/comm/research/conferences/2002/index_en.html) informed the scientific community about the goals of the European Commission for the 6th Framework Programme. EPE Association was present on the exhibition on a booth shared with CITELEC and AVERE. The partners have been duly informed of the conclusions of the conference. The Call for proposals of Integrated Projects and Networks of Excellence will be issued early December. AECCTECH_NET will then be officially proposed according to the issued priorities. This work will take us to the spring of 2003.

2003 will also see the organisation of the EPE Conference in Toulouse. The deadline for submission of synopses has passed. It is still possible to upload a very late and very important synopsis, after a contact with the secretariat. About 1100 synopses have been received up to now. I say about, as some papers have been unfortunately uploaded twice. Large topics are: topic 9, Electrical machines and adjustable speed drives (243 synopses), topic 3, Power electronics converter circuits (176 synopses), topic 12, Power electronics in generation, transmission and distribution of electrical energy (153 synopses), topic 1, Devices (127 synopses). Are closely following: topic 8, power-supplies (90 synopses), topic 4, Modulation strategies and specific control methods for static converter (87 synopses). REVIEWERS are still wanted in those areas. If you feel as willing to review some synopses, please contact the secretariat to receive the information.

The EPE Journal will continue its duty of publishing the best papers in the field. A new formula will be started in 2003 to improve the quality of the provided information with the publication of special issues on a particular topic. Two issues are foreseen next year: Vol 13 no 1 about Matrix Converters, co-ordinated by Prof. Johann Kolar, and Vol 13 no 3 on Sensorless Drives, co-ordinated by Prof. Manfred Schroedl and Prof. Alfio Consoli.

To make sure to receive all issues on time, do not delay the moment of renewing your membership. An invoice is on the way to you, please save us administrative work by making the payment on time! EPE Association is still looking for new members, please invite your colleagues to become a members, invite your graduate students to become student members!

I will conclude this editorial by wishing you the best in 2003. See you soon, at the latest in Toulouse!

Brigitte Sneyers
Secretary General