

## **EPE '97 is over, let's meet in Lausanne at EPE '99!**

From 8 to 10 September 1997, Trondheim has been overcrowded. Of course the millenium celebration had caused some problems with fully booked hotels, overloaded staffs, busy or unanswered telephone lines; but the REAL reason was that we were close to one thousand (1000) participants! This figure was reached only in Firenze in 1991, but this time, participants were in the conference.

The rain was present and helped keeping everybody busy in the sessions. This tradition started in Brighton and was faithfully continued in Warsaw and Budapest. Only Sevilla was sunny and dry although rain was badly needed. I will not make forecasts about the weather in Lausanne in September 1999, but we will do anything to keep the participants busy in the sessions.

EPE '97 has been a kind of laboratory for the EPE Association, a revival also. The conference has been successful since the first edition in 1985, but the world is changing, the old manner of holding conferences is challenged by the new communication ways and we tried several new formula's to better suit our public.

The organisation of a conference is a trade-off between sometimes contradictory requests from the participants, the on-site costs and the registration fee. After each conference we try to evaluate the results of all the efforts that have been put in through a participants' survey. Up to now, we only received 45 forms back!

**IF YOU STILL HAVE YOUR EPE '97 SURVEY FORM, PLEASE FILL IT IN AND SEND IT BACK TO US.**

From the results we received, we already know that we must be more restrictive in the choice of the lecturers, and put the proceedings on CD-ROMs. This last advice will be followed and I already apologize to all authors for the new, more restrictive guidelines that will be issued on this occasion. I hope that software compatibility will be no barrier to power electronics information exchange.

Regarding the choice of lecturers, I can tell you that this is a constant care of the members of the International Steering Committee (ISC) who carries the responsibility of the scientific organisation of the conference. The ISC is composed by representatives of the different European countries as well as corresponding members from non-European countries worldwide. The members are chosen for a period of six (6) years and are regularly replaced to ensure a close contact with the "real world" of power electronics. Half of the members are working in the industry, the other half comes from the academic world. The list of names is published in the call for papers, the provisional programme and the proceedings. The ISC meets once a year to assess the reviewing work that has been done anonymously by the numerous reviewers (listed as Scientific Committee in the proceedings) and gives indications regarding the general organisation of the conference.

As the conference is now in more and more aspects managed by the EPE Association, we are in state to better suit your requests regarding location, local arrangements, social programme and of course the scientific programme. Unfortunately, we also know that we cannot organise the Perfect Conference as Murphy's law is also valid in Europe. We can just promise you the best possible conference.

But to suit your needs, we need feedback! See my remark above and send your survey form back with useful remarks.

Brigitte Sneyers  
Conference Organiser