

### **The EPE Conference: new pace and new name EPE ECCE Europe Energy Conversion Congress and Exhibition**

**The place to be every year**

**2013, Lille France, 2014 Lappeenranta, Finland, 2015 Geneva, Switzerland**

When you will read this issue, the reviewing process for EPE ECCE Europe 2013 in Lille will be running at full swing. The International Scientific Committee members are eager to discover your latest results to built up an exiting programme to attract you and your colleagues in Lille from 3 to 5 September. The committee is also putting together some special sessions to take you along less beaten tracks to future topics and emerging applications.

As you all have heard, at least I hope so, the success of our event has attracted a new partner: IEEE PELS, looking for the best way to establish the European edition of its new ECCE conference (ECCE stands for Energy Conversion Congress and Exhibition) decided to join EPE to organize the now called EPE ECCE Europe Conference, new flagship conference of the field in Europe. The conference has become a yearly one. By doing so, we hope to be able to increase the networking and give an additional impetus to our research field.

The economical crisis of the world is highly debated on every media. Climate change as well as energy resources scarcity are the other colours of the screaming picture of this early 21st century. Society is desperately in need for new ways and power electronics should be able to bring at least a part of the solution. Power electronics enables the grid to host wind and PV energy sources, but should be cheaper and more reliable. Transportation is probably the largest source of greenhouse gases. The development of electric vehicles will help to reach a clean transportation system. Power electronics is essential not only for the design of the propulsion but also for the charging infrastructure, linking actuators, power grid and embedded electrical networks. Lighting is undergoing a technological revolution with the spreading of LEDs, but we are far from a 'plug and play' situation. There are still many technical problems to be solved. Energy efficiency is a key part of the sustainable growth programme, and power electronics a key actor for energy saving. I am sure that you have many other examples where technical improvements can help our contemporary society. There is still a lot of work to be done!

EPE has been founded to offer power electronics and drives specialists a true European platform. Europe has changed since the start of EPE in 1985 and so did the EPE Association. EPE ECCE Europe is committed to travel across the whole of the European Union to meet new faces, highlight less visited places, discover and encourage new talents. After the 2013 edition, in Lille France, EPE ECCE Europe 2014 will go north-east and meet in Lappeenranta, Finland, 26 to 28 August 2014. With our Finnish colleagues of Lappeenranta University of Technology (LUT), we are already preparing a fantastic event, a one of the kind you remember for the rest of your life.

Power Electronics is still fascinating; let's meet in Lille, France on 3 to 5 September 2013.

Happy Holiday Season!

Brigitte Sneyers  
Secretary General