## EPE'14 ECCE - Europe

We are proud to announce that the 16<sup>th</sup> Conference on Power Electronics and Applications, EPE'14-ECCE Europe, will discover the Nordic latitudes and visit Lappeenranta, the home city of Lappeenranta University of Technology, on the border between the EU and Russia, and surrounded by the magnificent nature of the Finnish Lake Saimaa. Hosted by Lappeenranta University of Technology, the EPE'14-ECCE Europe conference will take place in a peaceful Nordic late-summer atmosphere from 26 to 28 August 2014. We hope to welcome a truly international academic and industrial audience, and invite you into the heart of Finnish expertise in Power Electronics.

Lappeenranta University of Technology (LUT) is the largest energy research and education organisation in Finland. At LUT, we know that no one technology alone can solve the crisis of global warming but a combination of technologies and actions based on life cycle thinking and sustainable development is required. Our core activities focus on research and development of advanced clean energy systems. Here, expertise in power electronics is our core competence and the mainstay of success for achieving excellence.

Lappeenranta is an old spa and tar town, founded by Queen Christina of Sweden in 1649. Take your time to see the historical old town of Lappeenranta. Here you can find museums, the oldest Orthodox Church in Finland, Finnish handicrafts and a lovely old-fashioned café Majurska. Following the Battle of Lappeenranta in 1741, Sweden had to surrender the Fortress of Lappeenranta to Russia. A monument was erected in front of the ramparts of the Fortress in memory of the thousands of soldiers who perished in the battle. The fortification work started by the Swedes was subsequently continued by the Russians. The oldest surviving building in the Fortress dates back to the Russian period in the 1770s. Among those directing the fortification works was Count Aleksandr Suvorov, who had been assigned to the task and sent to the south-eastern Finland by the Empress of Russia, Catherine the Great. The Fortress thus became an important link in the three-stage-fortification system designed to protect St. Petersburg.

From the picturesque harbour by the Lake Saimaa, you can take a cruise to the Lake Saimaa archipelago, Savonlinna or towards Helsinki, or via the historic Saimaa Canal to the former Finnish City of Vyborg. The wide selection of cruises offer an alternative to suit any pre- or after-conference schedule.

The blue and white waves on Lake Saimaa, the world's largest sandcastle and the 364-year-old city of Lappeenranta provide many different experiences, peace and alternative events. Let the wind blow in your hair and enjoy the silence and the great outdoors by the panoramic Lake Saimaa, sail or cruise on the lake or try out the city tour and visit our nostalgic Fortress with its museums, craftsmen's shops and cafés.

The industrial environment of Lappeenranta is imprinted by its eventful history of woodworking and wood processing. Still today and on a global scale, Lappeenranta is renowned for its regional concentration of and smart specialisation in the wood processing industry. This, certainly, has firmly contributed to Finland's excellence in power electronics!

Last but not least, we will introduce you to our *Green Campus*, which we consider to be a unique research and test bed environment serving as a living laboratory for energy expertise and related innovations.

We are looking forward to welcoming you to Lappeenranta; you will find our city to be the most beautiful Green Campus City of the North. We have already pre-booked many hotel rooms to welcome you during these three fascinating days with a thought-provoking programme and excellent networking opportunities.



The EPE'14-ECCE Europe Conference Chairs Juha Pyrhönen, General Chair Jarmo Partanen, Jero Ahola and Braham Ferreira, Co-Chairs