

EPE - PEMC 2000 Košice:

The Right Step to Unification of European Power Electronics World



In last years the Central and Eastern Europe has been attracting a lot of attention also from view of power electronics world. Necessary, effecting of and speeding-up restructuration of the industry calls for increasing the demand in power electronics and electrical drives applications. In this respect, the Power Electronics and Motion Control International Conference (PEMC), as a forum for specialists in power electronics and motion control, brings new views and impulses.

In position of the General Chairman of the EPE-PEMC '2000 Conference under preparation I would like to outline you a background of the PEMC development, as well as introduce you to the venue of the next conference. The PEMC ranks among the oldest and the most important conferences in fields of power electronics, electrical drives and motion control in Europe. After its establishment in Budapest in 1970 it soon gained international reputation. The year 1990 was a turning point in international position of the conference, when the PEMC '90 Budapest was jointly organised with the Polish colleagues.

In 1994 the PEMC started to wander from Budapest as a result of international co-operation. On occasion of the venue of PEMC '94 in Warsaw, the EPE offered a joint venture. The co-operation continued in the following years. The PEMC '96 Budapest broadened the international links as it was organised jointly by the EPE and National Electrical Engineering Institutes from Central European Countries. During the conference, the endeavour of power electronics specialists and professors from the Central and East European Countries (CEEC) led to establishment of an international body – Power Electronics and Motion Control Council (PEMC-C) with secretariat in Budapest. Its main objective is to ensure the continuity of the PEMC circulating in CEEC.

The PEMC is slightly different from the most conferences held in Europe. In addition to presentations and discussions papers on state-of-art topics and promotion of the power electronics in CEEC it also creates a link between the former two parts of Europe. Indeed, the main objective is to narrow the gap between the West and East and to speed up the integration process as it is expressed in the conference logo: WEST-EAST TECHNOLOGY BRIDGE.

During the last conference - PEMC '98 Prague a significant Agreement between Executive Council EPE and PEMC-C was signed. In the fact, it presents a further step to merging the both organisations. The Power Electronics and Motion Control Council will operate as a Section of EPE and is entitled to use an abbreviation of EPE-PEMC-C. According to the Agreement, the EPE-PEMC Conferences are held biennially, out of phase from the EPE Conferences. Co-operation between the both associations is also confirmed by mutual representation in their councils and it is strengthened by participation in the international committees of the both conferences: EPE and EPE-PEMC.

For the millenium changing year - 2000, the local organisers from the Technical University of Košice have been entrusted to organise this distinguished conference in Košice, Slovak Republic. On behalf of the National Organising Board I have a great pleasure to invite you to participate in the 9th Power Electronics and Motion Control Conference, EPE-PEMC 2000 Košice to be held on 5 - 7 September 2000. The EPE, as well as national electrical engineering societies will support the conference, too. Mentioned in the first row there should be the IEEE Industrial Electronics Society and the Slovak Electrotechnical Society. Detailed information you will find in the Call for Papers on p. 62, as well as in the conference webpage.

The conference will continue in its long-year tradition. The technical programme of the conference will be accompanied by exhibition of the latest products from the field and by rich social programme. Your participation in the conference will also offer you a chance to admire beauties of Slovakia: its history, folklore and natural beauties.

What to say to Košice – it is a city having more than 750-years history and 250 thousands of inhabitants and is a metropolis of Eastern Slovakia. There is a precious historical centre with St. Elisabeth's gothic cathedral towering over it. The centre was recently renewed in a great style and Košice belongs to the most beautiful cities in the Slovak Republic. The city lies on a side of triangle among Budapest, Prague and Warsaw. There is an international airport connecting Košice with Prague, Bratislava, Vienna and Kiev by regular flights.

I am happy I can assist at such a great occasion and it is my firm belief that the conference under preparation will serve as one from nice and promising examples of unifying Europe. I look forward to meeting you at the EPE-PEMC 2000 International Conference and believe that you will enjoy your stay in our country.

Viliam Fedák
EPE-PEMC '2000 General Chairman