



### See you in 2005 in Dresden!

Time is flying and this is already the last issue of 2004. This year saw a number of actions at EPE level.

The first event to remember will certainly be the nice and successful EPE-PEMC 2004 conference held in Riga Congress Centre from 1 to 4 September. 515 scientists and researchers from 50 countries participated in the conference. Worth noticing that the most represented country was Japan, with 60 participants, followed by Germany (45), Poland (42), and Latvia (39). 507 papers were presented in the conference with a strong emphasis on electric machines (66 papers), power electronic converters (59 papers), motion control, robots, adjustable speed drives (54 papers), power electronic devices in electric power production, transmission and distribution (53 papers), control systems of the converters (47 papers). The transport topic was well represented with 22 papers dealing with electric drives in transport and 20 papers about power electronics in surface transport. Each day was concluded by a round table discussion. Chosen topics were "Integrated power electronic modules"; "Education of electrical engineering" and "Sustainability of renewable energy production". These sessions were very popular among the participants as 200 to 300 persons were attending on each and every day. Two tutorials were organized on the day before the conference with respectively 35 and 28 attendees. In Riga for the first time in the history of EPE-PEMC conferences an awarding for the best poster of a day "Best Poster Award" was awarded to papers elected by the participants. Two awards were given also to the best student papers, as well as two best papers awards. This last award was given taking into account novelty, importance of the experiment and application in industry. Keynotes and special sessions were remarkable for the quality of contents and presentation. Social events added Latvian flavour to the whole event and turned it out to a gathering to be cheerfully remembered.

The EPE Journal has been issued in 2004 as usual. New to notice, the publication of two issues, out of the four, dedicated to special topics: electrical machines on the one hand and multi-phase motor drives, multi-motor drives and multi-phase multi-motor drives on the other hand. This type of special issue gives the word to experts in one particular area and allows publishing a status review on one topic. On the other side, the number of papers proposed for publication is increasing steadily, which shows a growing interest for this publication and should lead to an increase of the published volume, if financial means are available.

Probably the most important step forward for the Association is the publication of the EPE papers database on the Association website. Through the [www.epe-association.org](http://www.epe-association.org) -website, EPE Members have the possibility to enter the "Members Area", where they have access to the papers presented at the latest EPE and EPE-PEMC-conferences, as well as those published in the most recent EPE Journals. The database is searchable by browsing through the different journals and conferences, or by using the powerful search engine, which reacts on the authors' last names and the papers' keywords and abstracts. This database is only available for those members whose membership fee was received. A personal ID and password grants access to the Member's Area. This will certainly increase the recognition of the EPE publication and spread the research results published through the EPE channels worldwide.

Next to those activities, the AECCTECH\_NET has been working at full swing: lobbying action ended up with the integration of special power electronics topics in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Call of FP6, with particularly the topic "Advanced power electronic converters for the European Electricity Network: Development and validation of new power electronic converters for transmission and distribution networks, designed to optimise power transmission capabilities, improve power quality and reliability, minimise losses and cost, etc." open for a STREP. The guidance committee of AECCTECH\_NET met in Riga during the EPE-PEMC conference and decided to continue the action towards the end of FP6 in order to prepare FP7, which is currently under preparation. The action is presented on p. 50 in this issue.

Further, EPE is maintaining contacts with sister societies and organization to promote research and technological developments of power electronics and adjustable drives in all areas where it is of any use. Collaboration with the new "Engineering Centre for Power Electronics" (ECPE) has started. Various actions are currently being examined.

Last but not least, it might still not be too late to see whether it is still possible to submit your very good proposal to EPE 2005. Deadline was 15 November, but you know that we try to be as flexible as possible, at the service of our members and prospective conference participants. We look forward to see many of you in Dresden!!!

In the meantime, I wish you, in the name of the EPE team, a successful, prosperous and fulfilling year 2005. Power Electronics can have a major input for peace and sustainable development. Let's work on it!

Brigitte Sneyers  
Secretary General of EPE Association