

# The Product Safety Engineering Newsletter

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Vol. 7, No. 3 October 2011

## President's Message

### A New Season

As I write this in mid-September, I'm looking at a new "season" for our IEEE society. In the northern latitudes, many of our chapters plan upcoming activities after a summertime pause. By the time you read this, our annual conference in San Diego will be over. Attendees will be fired up after meeting with colleagues and being a part of interesting presentations, and return home feeling they are part of a global community. An active part of a global community with interests in topics ranging from the usual shock and fire hazard concerns of traditional product safety engineering to the interactions of software, converging technologies, and conflicting regulations to trends in energy efficiency, global warming, and the environment in general. Our conference is a unique venue to learn about such issues and to build a network of contacts that engineers, administrators and managers can call on for help with issues that may be critical to their company—and to their careers.

I am hoping that you are "fired up" to actively

support local activities such as chapter meetings. Chapter meetings are really the heart of our society, and they should provide a convenient meeting place for members to mix and have interesting discussions. For many—including myself—regular monthly meetings covering diverse subjects provide the most satisfying part of our professional organization. Several of our chapters have histories going back twenty-five years, to when we were a technical committee ("TC-8") of the EMC Society. Thomas Ha, our Membership VP and Doug Kealey, our Chapter Coordinator, are building a program for chapters to run smoothly and to provide regular meeting for members in their area. They have put together a set of "Best Practice" (BP) Guidelines that should help build dynamic chapters. I would encourage all our chapters to get a group of leaders together to plan and carry out chapter activities.



## Newsletter Committee

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## IEEE PSES Officers

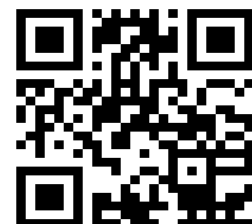
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Past President	Jim Bacher	(10-11)
President Elect	Elya Joffe	(11)
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Jack Burns	Daniece Carpenter	Doug Nix	Chapter Chairs
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Richard Pescatore	Elya Joffe	Silvia Diaz Monnier	IEEE HQ
Ivan Vandewege	Rich Nute	Thomas Shefchick	IEEE TAB Division VI Director
	Douglas Kealey		Gold Member: Ashish Arora

## IEEE PSES Web Sites

<http://www.ieee-pses.org/>  
<http://psessymposium.org/>  
<http://product-compliance.oc.ieee.org/>  
<http://www.ieee-pses.org/emc-pstc.html>  
<http://www.ieee-pses.org/newsletters.html>  
<http://www.ieee-pses.org/pses.html>



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Chapter leader groups (chapter “ExComs”) provide the grass roots opportunity to get involved. Basic financial support for our chapters comes from the respective IEEE sections. It’s not charity; the funds come from a chunk of your IEEE dues that are provided to encourage chapter meetings and member participation. Without meetings and processing, this resource is lost. We need to work together to have a smooth chapter process without being a major burden for anyone. It is a major PSES goal to have all our chapters functioning per the BPs. This will give members the opportunity to have regular meetings, and to become a part of chapter activities. We are professionals, which, to me, means that to make the fullest use of our careers we all should do what we can to enhance our profession.

Many of our members live in areas that don’t have existing chapters. Our board of directors is doing all we can to start chapters in every locality. Ten or so members in an area is all it takes to start a chapter. Several chapter leaders can get the ball rolling. If you only have a few members in your area, joint chapters are an option. We can work with your local IEEE section to see what might work. If you are the only member in your area and would still like to see what your chapter options are, talk with Doug Kealey ([doug.kealey@garmin.com](mailto:doug.kealey@garmin.com)). Maybe we can get a group together to form a virtual chapter, until a physical presence is viable.

Check the chapter webpage (<http://ewh.ieee.org/soc/pses/Chapters/index.html>) for current chapters and developing chapters.

One of the potential services that our society could provide is a Distinguished Lecturer (DL) Program. With adequate financing (a grant for the purpose would be great) we could cover some or all of qualified speakers’ expenses to make presentations at chapter meetings. There are numerous models for doing this in other IEEE societies. Such a program is great for several reasons: obviously, it gets speakers to chapter meetings, but it also gets timely topics to the chapters and provides credentials and experience for speakers. One of the motivations for chapters to follow the best practices will be to participate in the DL program.

Keep in mind that we are working in conjunction with the IEEE program to support chapters through

its sections located in different regions. A good chunk of your IEEE dues provide financial and organizational support for chapters. (Keep this in mind as some complain about high IEEE dues—much of the dues are potentially there for chapter activities. It’s really a very efficient structure, especially when you consider the efforts of the many “free” volunteers.) The society provides technical support and leadership guidance. Our IEEE society has a global structure for chapter support. We are aligning with other societies and organizations having an overlap with product safety engineering and compliance. The critical element for the PSES is a few good leaders to work through the many options.

The society is here to help members grow in leadership skills as well as technical ability. We offer the opportunity of learning from a community of leaders ranging from the novice to unbelievably experienced. Running chapter meetings, organizing conferences, writing articles and papers are fun and stimulating as we build our skills and confidence. I can certainly speak to the “normal” process of going to meetings, talking with the meeting organizers, getting involved running meetings and moving through chapter, then society ranks. It really didn’t take much of my time when I was part of a chapter leadership team that shared the work while we were all busy with careers and families.

A key function of chapter meetings and conferences is to build membership. In order to fully benefit from economies of scale, we need to have over a thousand members. Two thousand members, and we could have an active DL program and boost the number of conferences and workshops to reach more of our members. At just about every meeting I’ve attended there were people who should have been members but weren’t often because they simply weren’t asked. If most people with an interest in product safety engineering and regulatory issues were to join and be active, the value of such talent to our community would far outweigh the cost of membership. Companies and agencies should realize that the society is building a resource that costs them very nominally. Even the cost of sponsorship and hosting activities is small compared to the resources we are building. PSES is a technical resource and a career development resource for their staff. It’s a networking resource

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# Chapter Safety Probes

To see current chapter information please go to the chapter page at:

<http://www.ieee-pses.org/Chapters/index.html>

## People Looking To Start Chapters

### Argentina

Silvia Díaz Monnier  
silviadm@inti.gov.ar

### Denver Colorado

Richard Georgerian  
richardg@ieee.org

### China

Paul Wang  
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### Dallas Texas

Jonathan Jordan  
jonathan@goodsonengineering.com

### Ohio - Southwest

Jim Bacher  
j.bacher@ieee.org

### San Diego

The newly formed San Diego Chapter welcomed everyone to the 8<sup>th</sup> Annual IEEE Product Safety Engineering Society's Symposium on Product Compliance Engineering. Further recruiting for the chapter was done at the Symposium and a few new members joined. Here are some pictures from the July meeting.



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## Central New England Chapter

The chapter had a joint meeting with the Northeast Product Safety Society on September 28<sup>th</sup> at the Holiday Inn in Boxborough Mass. A social hour with light refreshments began at 7:00 PM and the technical meeting started at 7:30 PM. Syed Haque, Technical Engineer at Curtis-Straus (Bureau Veritas), presented the topic concerning Measurement Uncertainty and how it may affect your Certification project.

Syed has a BS in Electrical Engineering from the University of Houston. He, also, holds a BSC in Physics, with honors, from the University of Dhaka. He has 10 years of Product Safety experience at the Canadian Standards Association (CSA) and 7 months at Curtis-Straus (Bureau Veritas), where he is the top Technical Engineer and Department Supervisor.

On October 26<sup>th</sup>, also at the Holiday Inn, Boxborough MA, Tom Savino, Senior Product Safety Engineer at Curtis-Straus (Bureau Veritas), presented Measurement Laser Guards and Laser Safety.

Tom Savino's presentation concerned Laser Guards and Laser Safety based on IEC/EN 60825-1 (Safety of laser products – Part 1: Equipment classification and requirements) and ISO/EN 11553-1 (Safety of Machinery-Laser Processing Machines). The first section, "An Overview of IEC60825-4: Laser Guards," defines the scope of the standard; i.e. who should comply, and provides basic definitions. The second section, "How to Design Laser Processing Equipment With Compliance to IEC60825-4 in Mind," describes how to assess the foreseeable exposure limit (FEL) of Appendix B, as well as some of the testing that should be considered..

Tom Savino has been a Senior Product Safety Engineer since 1998. He tests and evaluates various types of equipment and machineries to various standards including medical, laboratory/ measurement, and office. Much of this equipment has lasers, and must be evaluated to the IEC60825 standard. He helps client's prepare submittals to the CDRH for the laser Accession number. Tom has a BS degree in Physics from the University of Connecticut, and worked on his Masters Degree in Applied Physics from the University of Massachusetts. He is a member

of the Northeast Product Safety Society and the IEEE Product Safety Engineering Society, and is a NARTE Certified Engineer.

If you or anyone you know would like to give a product safety technical presentation or interested in joining the chapter, please contact Steve Brody by email at [steven.brody@brooks.com](mailto:steven.brody@brooks.com).

## Chicago Chapter:

We had a Kickoff meeting in June. John Allen did a presentation on describing various methodologies of Risk Assessments – Automotive, Medical, Machinery, etc. We also voted on the executive committee as follows:

Chair – John Allen  
Vice Chair – Ron Borowski  
Treasurer – Lei Wang  
Secretary – Bill Bartunek  
Membership – Barbara Kelkhoff

Ron Borowski also volunteered to be the web master - <http://ewh.ieee.org/r4/chicago/pstc/>

The group also decided to meet the 3rd Wednesday of every other month.

August Meeting – The meeting was held at Underwriters Laboratories, Northbrook, IL facilities. Roger Franz did a presentation on Sustainability.

October Meeting – no meeting due to the Symposium.

December meeting – TBD

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## China

On Oct 20th, Jim Bacher accompanied by Paul Wang visited CQC-TS, where the Asia-Pacific chapter secretary office located, and gave a speech about product safety and EMC regulatory in U.S. and Canada.



The attendees include PSES members from CQC-TS and non-members from ChongQing. Those interested in help to form the China chapter should contact Paul Wang at paulwang@gmcompliance.com.



Mr. Limingming from CQC-TS gave a presentation of China regulatory including CCC, CQC and new energy efficiency certification.



# News and Notes

## **Electrical and Electronic Equipment and the Environment Conference 2011: Meeting the Technical and Regulatory Challenges**

ERA Technology Ltd. sponsors an annual conference which it says is acknowledged as the single most important event for exchanging knowledge about environmental legislation and regulations. Electrical and Electronic Equipment and the Environment 2011 will be held at the Sheraton Skyline Hotel, Heathrow, London, UK on 16th-17th November 2011.

Topics mentioned in the conference announcement include the directives for RoHS, REACH, Eco-Design, and WEEE. For more information, visit [www.era.co.uk/conference](http://www.era.co.uk/conference).

## **2012 IEEE International Conference on Prognostics and Health Management**

The IEEE Reliability Society is seeking original papers for presentation at the 3rd Annual Conference on Prognostics and Health Management (PHM) in Denver, CO, June, 2012. The Conference will bring together the expertise of the PHM academic, technical, and management communities to facilitate cross-fertilization in this broad interdisciplinary technical area. Download the Call For Papers.

## **Risk Assessment Technical Committee (RATC):**

The group has been meeting via phone and webx monthly. The following were voted in as the executive committee –

Chair: John Allen  
Vice Chair: Darren Slee  
Secretary: Tom Doyle  
Communications: Steven Lawrence

We defined our Field of Interest and Mission as follows:

### **Field of Interest**

The PSES Risk Assessment Technical Committee Field of Interest is the development and application of risk assessment methodology in the

theory, design, development and implementation of electronic and electromechanical equipment and devices and the embedded control software and firmware used in those devices.

### **Mission Statement**

The Risk Assessment Technical Committee is committed to becoming a centre of excellence in risk assessment. The committee will pursue this goal by creating a core group of experts in the field to guide the activities of the Committee. The TC will provide guidance and information to anyone who needs this information, including other PSES TC's, IEEE Societies, Standards Development Organizations, Regulatory Authorities, Certification Bodies, Producers of electronic and electromechanical products and users of those products.

The TC will disseminate risk assessment knowledge to users through publication of papers and reports through the PSES, and by providing a source of speakers for Society and

We had a joint meeting with the FFATC at the Symposium and have the following minutes -

1. Review the mission to be sure it's still in line with what we're doing.
2. The FFATC is creating a template for a database of component failures. The idea is to have a place where we can input failures without disclosing company names, etc. The RATC should be able to input into that database. Darren - Please chime in here with more details.
3. I was asked to get more updates into the Newsletter. I will need help doing this and we can talk more about it next meeting.
4. We need to utilize LinkedIn better. I believe the FFATC has over 1000 members in group. I'm looking into this.
5. Can we do any joint conferences with other IEEE Societies? The Reliability Society is holding their 2012 IEEE Conference on Prognostics and Health Management (PHM) conference at the Omni Interlocken Resort in Denver, CO on

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6/18/2012 to 6/21/2012 - <http://www.phmconf.org/> This is a great opportunity. Can we get any of us to do a presentation there???

6. There are a wide variety of methodologies, scoring systems, etc. out there. Can this group pull together a guideline of sorts showing all the different ways - CE's Machinery Directive, OSHA workplace safety, FDA, Medical ISO14971, ISO31000, Automotive, etc.

7. Can we share links with other Trade Publications?

8. The next PSES Symposium is in Portland Oregon. Starting in the summer 2012, we need to start preparing. Does anyone have a presentation they'd like to be working on?

Our next meeting is scheduled for December 14, 2011.

### **Telecom Safety TAC:**

TSTC has been having monthly meetings averaging eight attendees at each meeting. Don Gies gave a paper at the 2011 Symposium on the safety of wireless base equipment.

Topics the committee has been discussing include:

- Telcordia GR-3171-CORE, Generic Requirements for Network Elements Used in Wireless Networks Physical Layer Criteria. Don Gies is on the Telcordia committee and is representing any important issues between Telcordia and PSES.
- Grounding requirements for tracer wire in outdoor optical fiber cable and lightning damage to equipment with ONT connections.
- Revisions to 60950-22 standards. Proposing the possibility of incorporating some grandfathered metallic materials as inherently corrosion resistant into the IEC standard.
- Outdoor equipment containing vented batteries - The committee is following up on the previous proposal into the Canadian National Subcommittee on proposed revisions to Clause 11 of 60950-22. Latest information is that the proposal was passed to Tiki Wong, who then passed the pro-

posal to Bill Lowe in CSA's Richmond, BC office.

- Low-Voltage DC Powering (380 Vdc)
- SmartGrid Issues

If you are interested in the Telecom Safety Technical Committee, contact the Chair Peter Tarver at [ptarver@enphaseenergy.com](mailto:ptarver@enphaseenergy.com).

## **Announcements**

### **2011 Symposium Pictures**

Martin Lin was kind enough to donate his time to take pictures of the Symposium. A collection of them has been posted to our website arranged by day. See <http://www.ieee-pses.org/symposium/2011/>.

### **Conference CDs**

Conference CDs are now available as a download to PSES members for those that wish to burn their own CD to access content from each year's symposium. The CDs are still available for purchase (members and non-members) by mail using the CD Purchase form in this newsletter or on our website.

CD images are stored as ISO images on the PSES website. If your operating system or CD/DVD/BD bundled software does not support the burning of ISO images there are many ISO image software packages available that allow you to burn a CD or view the files in the ISO image directly.

Visit the society members only section of the website by clicking on the "Society Members Only" button in the left column of our website at <http://www.ieee-pses.org/> for details.

### **Listserv Archive**

Searching of the EMC-PSTC, NEBS, and TREG archives has been enhanced! (NEBS stands for Network Equipment Building System and TREG stands for Telecom Regulatory E-mail Grapevine). New EMC-PSTC messages are added to the archive daily. The NEBS and TREG lists are no longer active mailing lists.



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They were formerly available on the old IEEE Online Communities site but when the IEEE changed to the new Online Communities application, updating and searching became a problem. We have since added the archives for all three lists to a new archiving service. For more information and for access to a search form click on the “Compliance Forum” button in the left column of our website at <http://www.ieee-pses.org/>.

### EMC-PSTC Mail Archives

We have added the EMC-PSTC archives to a new archiving service. You can use the QR code to the right to take you there or use the search form on our website.

This Forum is operated by the Product Safety Engineering Society. The Forum was founded to discuss safety issues. We also discuss product EMC and other regulatory issues.

- **Subscribe** - Learn how to subscribe to the Product Compliance Forum.
- **List Rules** - Includes subscribe/unsubscribe information as well as content guidelines. Please read before subscribing.

Searches span all archived messages in a particular mailing list. More complex searches are supported through advanced query syntax. Phrase search is supported. So are fancy boolean operators like + - AND OR NOT (). Finally, searches can be limited to a particular email field such as from, date, subject or message. For example, one can find all messages from April 2002. The sort order can be controlled by adding sort:newest or sort:oldest to your search string.

- “product safety”
- +Tom -Smith -Jones
- (dualing OR dueling) AND banjos

- from:”Nute”
- date:[20010101 TO 20011231] Nute
- date:200204\*
- help sort:newest

### NEBS and TREG Archives

Though no longer active, the NEBS and TREG archives contain some interesting historical information and can be accessed from the same page as the EMC-PSTC archive.

### 2011 IEEE Symposium on Product Compliance Engineering:

ISPCE was held in San Diego, CA at the Hilton San Diego Mission Valley on October 10 -12, 2011. The theme for the event was “Surfing for Safety”. The symposium was started off with a Plenary session hosted by Bansi Patel. Murlin Marks the current president of the society spoke as well. It was then turned over to the Keynote Speaker, Stephen Wenc, President, UL Environment Inc. who spoke on “Bridging the Gap between Safety and Sustainability”.

### The Program had 55 papers and presentations over its 2-1/2 days run. It included the following tracks:

- Forensics Track
- Environmental Track
- General Compliance Track
- Battery Track
- EMC Track

### Two Panel Discussions:

- IEC 62368
- 100W on USB.

### Two Workshops:

- Product Safety Workshop
- Human Centered Systems Engineering

### Two days of Exhibitors

### Professional Development following the Symposium:

Applied Safety Science and Engineering

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Techniques (ASSET)<sup>™</sup> - UL  
iNARTE Certification Examination

**Special Meetings & Activities**

IEEE PSES Executive Committee Meeting  
IEEE PSES Board of Director's Meeting  
Speaker's Breakfast  
Exhibitor's Breakfast  
Technical Activities Committee Meeting  
Chapter Forum  
Reception  
Awards Luncheon



**Platinum Patron**

Underwriters Laboratories

**Gold Patrons**

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Hewlett Packard Company

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Microsoft

**Media Patron**

In Compliance Magazine



**Exhibitors**

Advanced Test Equipment  
ARC Technologies  
Associated Research  
Case Forensics  
CSA International  
D. L. S. Electronic Systems, Inc.  
E. D. & D.  
G & M Compliance  
iNARTE, Inc.  
In Compliance Magazine  
Interpower Corporation  
Intertek  
Nemko  
Northwest EMC, Inc.  
TUV SUD America  
Underwriters Laboratories Inc.



**Martin Lin was kind enough to donate his time to take pictures of the Symposium. A collection of them has been posted to our website arranged by day. See:**

<http://www.ieee-pses.org/symposium/2011/>



# CPSC's Public Product Safety Databases

## CPSC's Public Product Safety Database: Manufacturers Must Be Ready to Act Fast

by William A. McGrath

Almost 2000 consumer complaints have been published in the Consumer Product Safety Commission (CPSC) public database since it went live on March 11, 2011. Consumer product manufacturers should be acting now, if they have not already, to be able to respond promptly to complaints about their products.

Establishment of the database was required by the Consumer Product Safety Improvement Act of 2008. It provides a searchable means for the public to review product complaints submitted by consumers.

### How the Database Works

Complaints are entered into the database with little verification by CPSC and, consequently, few protections against publication of false, misleading or damaging claims. While consumer groups have either supported the database or argued that it does not go far enough in its protections, manufacturers and members of Congress have noted these limitations and the potential for product disparagement and increases in product liability litigation based on unverified and/or inaccurate information.

A consumer report submitted to the database must include the following:

- A description of the consumer product or substance;
- Identification of the manufacturer or private labeler;
- A description of the purported illness, injury or death, or perceived risk of illness, injury or death, caused by the product;
- Identification of the type of submitter, i.e., consumer, health care professional, child service provider, public safety entity, etc.;

- Approximate date of the incident;
- Name and contact information of the submitter of the report;
- Whether or not the consumer consents to publication of the report in the database; and
- A statement by the consumer verifying the truth and accuracy of the information provided.

At their discretion, consumers may also include:

- Name and contact information of the victim (if different from the submitter);
- Whether an actual injury occurred and, if so, what, if any, medical treatment was required;
- Photographs or documents that may help identify the manufacturer or private labeler;
- Whether or not the consumer consents to providing their name and contact information to the manufacturer or private labeler.

CPSC must review a submitted report within five business days (if practicable), but only to ensure that it contains the mandatory information above. CPSC must then forward the report to the manufacturer or private labeler, and must post the information in the database 10 business days later.

### Manufacturers Must Be Prepared

Manufacturers need to have procedures in place before they receive a CPSC notification—procedures that will assure a prompt and substantive response. This is very important because once a manufacturer receives a report, it has only 10 business days to provide comments for inclusion with the report in the database or to object to publication of the report based on the inclusion of the information or trade secrets, unless the manufacturer

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promptly convinces the Agency that the report is “materially inaccurate.”

Moreover, the manufacturer bears the burden of proving that information is “materially inaccurate,” i.e., that it is false or misleading and so substantial or important as to affect a reasonable consumer’s decision making process about the product. If CPSC agrees that information is materially inaccurate, it can correct or add information to the report and publish it, or decline to make the report public. In addition, a manufacturer may publicly comment on or may file an objection to a report even after it has been published. However, the limited verification required for reports, the 10 business day window for manufacturers to object or comment prior to publication, and the high standard applied to an objection to a report strongly suggest a significant potential for CPSC to publish misleading information.

### **What Manufacturers Should Do**

Manufacturers should develop procedures for monitoring and responding to database complaints. Manufacturers who have not done so should register with saferproducts.gov to ensure timely notification of reports affecting their products.

Voluntary registration ensures that manufacturers can timely respond to consumer reports and can monitor any emerging product risks. Manufacturers who register receive email notification of new reports. In addition, the manufacturer web portal provides convenient electronic forms for public comments on and/or objections to a report. While registration is voluntary, reports concerning manufacturers not registered with saferproducts.gov will only be sent reports by U.S. mail to the manufacturer’s last address on file with CPSC.

Manufacturers’ complaints regarding the potential inaccuracy and reliability of the database have attracted the attention of Congress. The House Appropriations Committee has voted to

recommend to the House that saferproducts.gov be defunded in the 2012 budget. It also commissioned a Government Accountability Office study of the effectiveness of such a database. While it appears unlikely that such a recommendation will pass both the House and the Senate, it likely will bring additional future scrutiny of the database’s utility.

Regardless, as manufacturers and private labelers create and implement programs to monitor and respond to complaints in the CPSC database, they should also take a hard look at expanding that program to address complaints in other electronic media. Many product safety complaints appear as comments to retailer website product listings. Blogs written by consumers, public safety advocates, and trial lawyers may also contain anecdotal information on alleged safety problems. Those complaints may signal an emerging product risk. They may affect customer goodwill and product sales or attract the attention of CPSC or plaintiffs’ product liability counsel. Periodic monitoring of retail websites and regular web searches, e.g., setting up Google Alerts for brands and company names, can protect a manufacturer from both reputational harm and litigation costs.

*William A. McGrath is a partner at Wiley Rein LLP in Washington, DC in the firm’s Food & Drug Law Practice. Mr. McGrath counsels clients on federal and state regulatory and liability issues in the development, safety, advertising, and marketing of drugs, medical devices, food and beverages, nutritional supplements, cosmetics, and consumer products. Mr. McGrath can be reached at 202.719.3146 or wmcgrath@wileyrein.com. This article from Wiley Rein LLP provides general news about recent legal developments and should not be construed as providing legal advice or legal opinions. You should consult an attorney for any specific legal questions.*

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that can be called up during difficult times and when there are opportunities.

Our society has one of the oldest (the EMC-PSTC list server) and the most extensive (LinkedIn) networks in IEEE. For fifteen years, our list server has provided a forum for discussion about product safety, EMC and regulatory issues. To a great extent, our LinkedIn network has improved the functionality for communication at many levels. With over 1200 subscribers, our network is one of the largest in IEEE. Dan Roman (dan.roman@ieee.org) our VP for Communications, oversees these activities as well as our website and our Newsletter. Please contact him with your ideas for improving our communications, as well as any interest you may have in becoming involved. In addition to more technical papers, we need editors and paper reviewers. The burden for providing communication services becomes manageable with many hands helping out. Furthermore, with more people helping we have more capacity to improve website features, expand networking opportunities, and utilize new communications technologies.

I would like to encourage all our members to consider writing papers about their respective areas of expertise. Most of us are in industry, seemingly with no time for such projects. Please think about your particular expertise and new developments. You have a lot to offer. For now, our main venue is our Newsletter. With a good input of papers and some advertisers, we could transition the Newsletter to a magazine, with the benefit of archiving on IEEE Xplore. Because of its informality, our Newsletter is a great place to begin expressing yourself. Obviously, this will benefit your career, but it is also good for your company's reputation for employing leaders. It's win-win-win, because our members benefit as well.

Everything I've discussed has the sole purpose of improving the value of PSES membership. As we increase our resources from grants, sponsorships, advertizing, and other funding sources, we can do even more.

So...It's a new season for our society. Please spend a few minutes thinking how you might get more involved. Being active in your chapter. Setting up a conference. Writing papers and articles.

Becoming a leader in your professional IEEE society.



Murlin Marks  
President IEEE PSES

Technical Program Co-Chairs  
 Gary Tornquist, garytor@microsoft.com  
 Donald Robb drobb@tuvam.com  
 Editorial Board Chair  
 Murlin Marks, murlinm@ieee.org

Conference Management/Registration  
 Chris Dyer, cdyer@conferencecatalysts.com

General Chair  
 Anna Klostermann,  
 annak@case4n6.com

General Co-Chair  
 TBD



## Call for Papers, Workshops, and Tutorials


The IEEE Product Safety Engineering Society seeks original, unpublished papers and tutorials on all aspects of product safety and compliance engineering including, but not limited to:

- Product Specific:** Consumer, medical, computer (IT), test and measurement, power supplies, telecommunication, industrial control, electric tools, home appliances, cellular and wireless, etc.
- Hazard Specific:** Electrical, mechanical, fire, thermal, chemical, optical, software, functional, reliability, risk assessment, etc.
- EMC / RF:** Electromagnetic emissions, electromagnetic immunity, regulatory, Introduction to EMC/RF for the safety engineer and compliance engineer.
- Components:** Grounding, insulation, opto-couplers, cables, capacitors, connectors, current-limiters, transformers, current-limiters, fuses, lasers, ferrites, environmental, electromagnetic suppression & protection, surge protectors, printed wiring boards, etc.
- Certification:** Electromagnetic emissions & immunity, Environmental, Product safety, Processes, safety testing, regulatory, product liability etc.
- Standards Activities:** Development, status, interpretations, country specific requirements, Laboratory Accreditation, etc.
- Research:** Body physiological responses to various hazardous energy sources, unique safeguard schemes, electrically-caused fire, forensic methods etc.
- Environmental:** RoHS, WEEE, EuP (Energy-using Products), Energy Star, Packaging Directives, REACH (Chemical), CeC, etc.
- Demonstration Papers:** Demonstrations of product safety testing techniques including mechanical, electrical, fire, etc.

**Author's Schedule** **All dates require that the associated documents be loaded into EDAS by the due date**

Abstract submission	May 15, 2012
Notification of Abstract Acceptance	June 1, 2012
Draft formal paper / presentation	July 1, 2012
Formal Final Paper	August 1, 2012
All Final Papers and Presentations	September 1, 2012

Prospective authors should submit e-papers using the on-line EDAS submission system. Please go to the Author's Kit page of the PSES web for comprehensive submission instructions including paper templates on the author tab at:

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## *Advantages of Membership in the IEEE PSES*

*Makes you part of a community where you will:*

- Network with technical experts at local events and industry conferences.
- Receive discounts on Society conferences and symposiums registration fees.
- Participate in education and career development.
- Address product safety engineering as an applied science.
- Have access to a virtual community forum for safety engineers and technical professionals.
- Promotion and coordination of Product Safety Engineering activities with multiple IEEE Societies.
- Provide outreach to interested engineers, students and professionals.
- Have access to Society Publications.



E-Mail List: <http://www.ieee-pses.org/emc-pstc.html>  
 Virtual Community: <http://product-compliance.oc.ieee.org/>  
 Symposium: <http://psessymposium.org/>





Photo courtesy Ron Ruhoff and Visit Denver

# Call for Papers

## 2012 IEEE International Conference on Prognostics and Health Management

*Enhancing Safety, Reliability, Availability, and Effectiveness of Systems through PHM*

**Omni Interlocken Resort, Denver, Colorado, June 18-21, 2012**

<http://www.phmconf.org/>

The IEEE Reliability Society is seeking original papers for presentation at the 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Conference on Prognostics and Health Management (PHM) in Denver, CO, June, 2012. The Conference will bring together the expertise of the PHM academic, technical, and management communities to facilitate cross-fertilization in this broad interdisciplinary technical area.

**The conference will address all of the broad aspects of PHM across all disciplines, technologies, and levels. It will encourage active networking between managers, practitioners, and scientists from academia, government, and industry from across the globe addressing:**

- Scientific methodologies for PHM research
- Innovative PHM business approaches
- Broad PHM utilization aspects
- Space, Weight, Power, and Cost / Benefit of PHM
- Successes / Lessons Learned in PHM development and implementation

This conference provides a sociable, professional environment to network with other practitioners and experts, forge new relationships, and deepen existing ones. The conference will cover a broad range of research and application topics over the full scope of PHM development, from systems engineering and design to processes, methodology, and barriers to PHM application and implementation. World-renowned speakers will provide presentations, and participate in panel discussions, with a full day of tutorials free to all registrants.

**Paper Topics Include:** Physics of failure, Sensors / Devices, Structural Health Monitoring / Management, Modeling & Simulation, Sensor Data Fusion, Logic and Reasoning Techniques, PHM Algorithms, Business Case Analysis, Requirements and Standards, Automatic Reconfiguration, Statistical Analysis of Uncertainty, Non-Destructive Evaluation for PHM, Decision Support, PHM in EV & Smart Grid (Power) Applications, Distributed Networks / Cloud Computing, PHM-based Fleet Management and Logistics, Lessons Learned...

Papers describing original work are solicited! Abstracts and full papers will be peer reviewed and selected based on originality, significance, quality, and clarity. Accepted and presented papers will be published in the **Conference Proceedings** and entered into the **IEEE Xplore®** digital library



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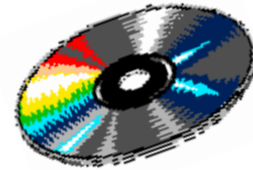
### Key Author Dates:

Abstracts Due:	20 Nov 2011
Full Paper Due:	15 Jan 2012
Notification of acceptance:	7 Feb 2012
Final Manuscripts due:	1 Apr 2012
Submit abstract & full paper at <a href="http://www.phmconf.org/">http://www.phmconf.org/</a>	

**Submit A Paper / Be Recognized!**

## Past IEEE-PSES Symposium Records

### CD Purchasing Information



SYMPOSIUM PAPERS ON CD:

The Product Safety Engineering Society continues to offer past symposium records for sale on CDs. The cost for the CD is \$35 plus shipping and handling for IEEE members; \$50 plus shipping and handling for non-IEEE members. At this time, check or money orders are the means for payment. Please provide the following information:

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## New PSES Members from 26 Decmber 2011 Through 31 October 2011

Our new members are located in the following countries: Argentina, Belgium, Brazil, China, Fuji, France, Germany, Japan, Korea (South), Malaysia, New Zealand, Singapore, Switzerland, Taiwan, United Kingdom, USA

Andrea Mirta Mendez  
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Chenxu Zheng  
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Thomas M Coughlin  
Tim P Lacroix  
Walter Babcock Palmer Iii

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The Product Safety Engineering Newsletter is published quarterly during the last month of each calendar quarter. The following deadlines are necessary in order to meet that schedule.

**Closing dates for submitted articles:**

1Q issue: February 1  
2Q issue: May 1  
3Q issue: August 1  
4Q issue: November 1

**Closing dates for news items:**

1Q issue: February 15  
2Q issue: May 15  
3Q issue: August 15  
4Q issue: November 15

**Closing dates for advertising:**

1Q issue: February 15  
2Q issue: May 15  
3Q issue: August 15  
4Q issue: November 15

# Institutional Listings

We invite applications for Institutional Listings from firms interested in the product safety field. An Institutional Listing recognizes contributions to support publication of the IEEE Product Safety Engineering Newsletter. To place ad with us, please contact Jim Bacher at [j.bacher@ieee.org](mailto:j.bacher@ieee.org)

The Product Safety Engineering Society will accept advertisements for employment and place looking for work ads on our web page. Please contact Dan Roman for details at [dan.roman@ieee.org](mailto:dan.roman@ieee.org) .

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