

ICC Newsletter

Act now! Special offer to first-time utility attendees to the ICC Spring meeting – ten complimentary registrations! Please contact billtaylor@pesicc.org.

From the ICC Chair



Mike Mueller

Greetings everyone, it is an honor and privilege to begin my term as your ICC Chair. I am grateful to be part of a wonderful organization that strives to better the power and energy industry through the development of IEEE standards, technical guides, and recommended practices for insulated cables.

I want to thank outgoing Chair Bert Spear, who coordinated some of the best ICC meetings that I've ever been a part of, leaving some big shoes to fill! I am also excited to have Gary Clark as Vice Chair and Forest Rong as Second Vice Chair. Both Gary and Forest bring strong leadership experience and are dedicated to serving the ICC Executive and Administrative Committees.

The first ICC meeting I attended was in Fall 2004 at the Don CeSar Hotel, St. Petersburg, Florida, a gorgeous venue located on the beach at St. Pete. It had been a long-standing tradition that the Fall ICC meetings were held at "the Don", but unfortunately this would be the final meeting there due to capacity limitations. I'll never forget my first experience at the ICC – you could say that I was a deer in the headlights. I was astounded by the multitude of professionals and experts; the depth of knowledge was an underground world that I was unaware existed – no pun intended. I learned so much at that first meeting and made new and lasting friendships.

I'm thrilled for the future of the ICC. Participation has been steadily increasing in recent years. We set a new attendance record at the Fall 2025 meeting in Amelia Island, Florida with 585 registrants! This speaks to the passion and dedication that we have in contributing to the ICC.

Moving forward, we have successfully transitioned to a Cvent registration system and are planning to migrate our webpage to a new IEEE-PES Technical Committee-based site, which will enhance our ability to efficiently provide meeting minutes to attendees. At the upcoming Spring 2026 meeting in Carlsbad, California, we will also have a tabletop and representatives from IEEE to answer any general or technical questions related to PES activities.

I look forward to seeing you at the next meeting. We have a beautiful venue at the Omni La Costa. Please don't hesitate to reach out to me if you have any questions, and if you see me in passing during the Spring meeting, don't be shy – say hello!

Best,

Mike Mueller
ICC Chair (2026-2027)

SPRING 2026 ICC EDUCATION SESSION

Transmission and Distribution Underground Cable Accessories – Design, Installation, Commissioning, and New Development – Part 2, Utility Presentations

The Spring 2026 Education Session will focus on transmission and distribution (T&D) cable accessories, with particular emphasis on joints, terminations, and link boxes. As widely recognized across the industry, cable accessories are often the weakest points in a cable system, making their proper design, selection, and installation critical to long-term reliability.

U.S. utilities will share their experiences with various types of cable accessories, recent technological developments, failure

analyses, and industry best practices. Presentations will address challenges and highlight solutions for successful installation and reliable operation. An interactive Q&A session with the panelists will provide an opportunity to discuss your specific questions and concerns.

We welcome your input—please share your suggestions for future topics on the back of your evaluation form at the meeting.

Insulated Conductors Committee (ICC) Awards

By Lauri Hiivala, ICC Awards Vice-Chair

The strength of ICC is based on the wide range of expertise and collective technical knowledge of the many volunteer members. An important element of the ICC is recognition of contributions.

ICC Certificates of Appreciation

At each ICC meeting, Certificates of Appreciation are presented for the best presentation at a Subcommittee, Working Group, Discussion Group or Educational Program meeting, such as the following:

Recipient	Citation
JC Hernandez-Mejia	for Best Presentation at the Spring 2025 Subcommittee A Meeting. <i>Covered Conductor Flammability Research – Part 2</i>
Ray Hill	for Best Presentation at the Spring 2025 Subcommittee A Meeting. <i>Covered Conductor Flammability Research – Part 2</i>
Bryan Davant	for Best Presentation at the Spring 2025 Subcommittee A Meeting. <i>Covered Conductor Flammability Research – Part 2</i>
Eyad Al-Sibai	for Best Presentation at the Spring 2025 Subcommittee B Meeting. <i>Utility Experience with Cable Accessories: Applications, Workspace, and Future Insight</i>
Richard Evans	for Best Presentation at the Spring 2025 Subcommittee B Meeting. <i>Underground Transmission Systems in Utility – a need for an O&M Group</i>
Todd Goyette	for Best Presentation at the Spring 2025 Subcommittee C Meeting. <i>230 kV Capital Grid Project: Construction Challenges in the Nation's Capital</i>
Bill Taylor	for Best Presentation at the Spring 2025 Subcommittee D Meeting. <i>Design Principles of PILC Accessories or a Tutorial on PILC Cables</i>
Trevor Toll	for Best Presentation at the Spring 2025 Subcommittee D Meeting. <i>AMS Topical Report on Condition Based Qualification, Condition Monitoring and Life Extension</i>
Lisbeth Villareal	for Best Presentation at the Spring 2025 Educational Program. <i>PG&E Electric Distribution Design Standard Changes, Triggered by the 10,000-Mile Undergrounding Program</i>

IEEE PES Technical Committee Certificates of Appreciation

Certificates of Appreciation are also presented to all outgoing Subcommittee, Working Group and Discussion Group Chairs and Vice Chairs, or upon publication of their IEEE standard or guide, such as the following:

Recipient	Citation
Ben Lanz	for Services Rendered as Chair, Working Group B6. <i>IEEE C62.22.1-2024 Guide for Connection of Surge Arresters to Protect Insulated Shielded Electric Power Cable Systems Up to 46 kV</i>
Bas van Besouw	for Services Rendered as Secretary, Working Group B6. <i>IEEE C62.22.1-2024 Guide for Connection of Surge Arresters to Protect Insulated Shielded Electric Power Cable Systems Up to 46 kV</i>
Stephanie Watson	for Services Rendered as Chair, Working Group D7. <i>IEEE 1186-2025 Recommended Practice for Applicability of Methods for the Evaluation of Low-Voltage and Medium-Voltage Installed Cable Systems in Nuclear Facilities</i>
Andrew Mantey	for Services Rendered as Secretary, Working Group D7. <i>IEEE 1186-2025 Recommended Practice for Applicability of Methods for the Evaluation of Low-Voltage and Medium-Voltage Installed Cable Systems in Nuclear Facilities</i>
Gil Shoshani	for Services Rendered as Chair, Working Group D18. <i>IEEE 1810-2025 Guide for The Installation of Circuit-Integrity Cables Evaluated for Hydrocarbon Pool Fires in Petroleum and Chemical Facilities</i>
Mick Bayer	for Services Rendered as Secretary, Working Group D18. <i>IEEE 1810-2025 Guide for The Installation of Circuit-Integrity Cables Evaluated for Hydrocarbon Pool Fires in Petroleum and Chemical Facilities</i>
Gabe Taylor	for Services Rendered as Chair, Working Group D19. <i>IEEE 1844-2025 Standard Test Procedure for Determining Circuit Integrity Performance of Fire Resistive Cables in Nuclear Facilities</i>
Jeff Schroeder	for Services Rendered as Secretary, Working Group D19. <i>IEEE 1844-2025 Standard Test Procedure for Determining Circuit Integrity Performance of Fire Resistive Cables in Nuclear Facilities</i>
Gil Shoshani	for Services Rendered as Chair, Working Group D23. <i>IEEE 2789-2025 Guide for the Selection and Application of Cables Used in Enclosed Transit Infrastructure</i>
Mick Bayer	for Services Rendered as Secretary, Working Group D23. <i>IEEE 2789-2025 Guide for the Selection and Application of Cables Used in Enclosed Transit Infrastructure</i>

Call for Volunteers

The strength of ICC—and the value it provides to our members and community—depends on the dedication of many volunteers. ICC currently has several openings, and your participation is greatly needed. If you are interested or would like more information, please contact **Yingli Wen** at y.wen@ieee.org.

Responsibilities for Working Group (WG) officers are outlined in the ICC Policies and Procedures (P&P) for Working Groups.

Current Openings

- **Secretary, A08W** – Tests for Compatibility of Cable Pulling Lubricants with Wire & Cable (P1210)
- **Vice Chair, A22D** – Supply Chain and Asset Traceability for Energy (SCATE) - Conductors
- **Chair, B17W** – Guide for Application of Underground Fault Current Indicators (P1216)
- **Secretary, B17W** – Guide for Application of Underground Fault Current Indicators (P1216)
- **Chair, B28D** – Supply Chain and Asset Traceability for Energy (SCATE) – Joints, Terminations, and Connectors
- **Vice Chair, B28D** – Supply Chain and Asset Traceability for Energy (SCATE) – Joints, Terminations, and Connectors
- **Secretary, C1W** – Ampacity Topics (P835)



Sustainable Conductors: Quantifying Material Choices to Reduce Scope 3 Emissions

By Mack Rixe, Pysmian

As the power industry advances its sustainability objectives, attention is being directed toward upstream Scope 3 emissions, which are indirect emissions generated across the value chain, including those associated with materials purchased for product manufacturing. Within ICC Discussion Group A21D, discussions have underscored the significant role that conductor material selection can play in reducing the carbon footprint of utility cable systems—particularly through the use of low-carbon aluminum and high-recycled-content steel.

Sustainable conductors are engineered to reduce greenhouse gas emissions compared to conventional market offerings by targeting the most emissions-intensive stages of metal production. Life cycle assessment (LCA) methodologies, aligned with ISO 14040 and ISO 14044 standards, provide a consistent and transparent framework for evaluating these impacts. By leveraging established life cycle inventory databases and global warming potential methodologies, meaningful comparisons can be made between traditional and lower-carbon material pathways.

For aluminum conductors, electricity consumption during the smelting process represents the dominant source of emissions. Sourcing aluminum produced using renewable energy—such as hydroelectric power—can reduce the carbon footprint by more than 80 percent relative to industry-average values. Similarly, the use of steel with high recycled content significantly lowers emissions while supporting circular economy principles. When applied at scale, these material choices can drive substantial reductions in CO₂-equivalent emissions across transmission and distribution networks.

Environmental Product Declarations (EPDs) play an important role in improving transparency and enabling data-driven comparisons. However, as emphasized in A21D discussions, the presence of an EPD alone does not define sustainability. The critical factor is what the EPD reveals—specifically, how a product’s carbon footprint compares to industry averages and alternative sourcing options. Understanding these differences allows utilities and manufacturers to make informed decisions based on measurable environmental performance rather than labels alone.

Reducing > 190,000 CO_{2,eq} tons yearly, equivalent to planting 7,900,000 trees!



Examples of Sustainable Conductor Benefits

Beyond material production, regional sourcing can further reduce emissions associated with long-distance transportation and overseas imports. By combining low-carbon aluminum, recycled steel, and domestic supply chains, sustainable conductors can reduce upstream Scope 3 emissions by up to 70 percent while maintaining full compliance with applicable electrical and mechanical standards.

As discussed within A21D, sustainable conductor design represents a practical, readily available opportunity to lower the environmental impact of power infrastructure. By leveraging validated data, transparent reporting, and responsible material sourcing, the industry can meaningfully reduce emissions while delivering the reliability and performance expected by utilities and end users.

International Events Calendar

Compiled by Harry Orton

Reminder: The continuing world situation has made it very difficult to provide accurate conference listings and dates as some conferences have gone virtual while others have changed dates, relocated or have been cancelled. Please refer to the respective website for up-to-date conference information. Be very careful when searching the Internet for conferences and symposia as there are fraudulent websites advertising predatory conferences with very similar names. Their sole purpose is to collect papers and registration fees.

2026

IEEE Rural Electric Power Conference

1-3 April, Hilton Tampa Downtown, Tampa, Florida
www.ieeerepc.org

Wire Dusseldorf

13-17 April, Dusseldorf, Germany.
<http://wire-tradefair.com>

Hannover Fair

20-24 April, Hannover, Germany
www.hannovermesse.de/en/

IEEE PES T&D

4-7 May, Chicago, Illinois
www.ieee-pes.org

Wire Expo 2026

6-7 May, Baird Center, Milwaukee
www.interwire26.com

CIRE2026 Brussels Workshop

9-10 June, Brussels, Belgium
<http://2026brussels.cired.net>

ICD (International Conference on Dielectrics)

21-25 June, Southampton, UK.
<http://iee-icd.org/>

EIC (Electrical Insulation Conference)

12-16 July, Las Vegas, Nevada
<https://iee-iec.org/>

CIGRE Paris General Session 2026

23-28 August, Paris, France.
www.cigre-exhibition.com/form

ISH (International Symposium on High Voltage Engineering)

22-25 October, Dubai, UAE

CIRE2026 Seoul Workshop

2-3 November, Seoul, South Korea
<https://www.cired2026seoul.org>

2027

CIRE2027 Conference and Exposition

14-17 June, Stockholm, Sweden
<https://2027.cired.net>

Jicable 2027

5-9 September, Lyon, France
www.jicable.org

IEEE Rural Electric Power Conference

September/October, Louisville, Kentucky
www.ieeerepc.org

Lauri Hiivala Receives IEEE SA Lifetime Achievement Award



Lauri Hiivala

Lauri Hiivala has been honored with the IEEE Standards Association Lifetime Achievement Award, recognizing his exceptional contributions to power cable standards and engineering over more than four decades.

Lauri's career has been defined by leadership and innovation in power cable systems, particularly through his work with the Insulated Conductors Committee (ICC) and standards organizations including the Canadian Standards Association (CSA), the Insulated Cable Engineers Association (ICEA), and the International Electrotechnical Commission (IEC). His technical expertise and commitment to safety and reliability have helped shape the standards that underpin modern electrical infrastructure.

A graduate of the University of Toronto with a bachelor's degree of Applied Science in Electrical Engineering, Lauri spent much of his career at Canada Wire and Cable (now Nexans Canada), where he led advancements in high-voltage cable design and application engineering. His tenure as ICC Chair, along with active participation in numerous technical committees, has left a lasting legacy in the field.

Lauri has served in multiple leadership roles on the IEEE PES ICC Executive and Administrative Committees, including Chair from 1994-1995. He also served as President of the Insulated Cable Engineers Association (ICEA) from 2002-2005 and is currently Vice-Chair of Awards for the ICC. Throughout his career and continuing after retirement, Lauri has remained involved in standards activities across IEEE, ICEA, IEC, the American National Standards Institute, and the CSA.

The IEEE SA Lifetime Achievement Award recognizes and celebrates individuals with over 15 years of impactful service in standards development. Lauri's recognition reflects a lifetime of dedication to advancing the technologies that safely and reliably power our world.

Congratulations to Lauri Hiivala on this well-deserved honor!

Standards Corner By Kathryn Klement, ICC Standards Coordinator

Since the Fall 2025 meeting, the IEEE SA Standards Board has approved three new ICC standards:

- IEEE 386 *Standard for Shielded Separable Insulated Connectors for Classes 15 kV through 35 kV* – WG B16W chaired by David Hughes
- IEEE 495 *Standard for Testing Faulted Circuit Indicators* – WG B24W chaired by William Marshall
- IEEE 1142 *Guide for the Selection, Testing, Application and Installation of 300 V to 500 kV Cables Having Radial Moisture Barriers and/or Longitudinal Water Blocking* – WG A11W chaired by Ken Bow

Congratulations to the working groups for reaching this milestone.

Three projects for the revision of existing ICC standards were also approved:

- P592 *Standard for Exposed Semiconducting Shields on High-Voltage Cable Joints and Separable Insulated Connectors Rated 15 kV through 35 kV* - WG B03W chaired by Sherif Kamel
- P1185 *Recommended Practice for Cable Installation in Generating Stations and Industrial Facilities* - WG D05W chaired by Carlie Crawford
- P1234 *Guide for Fault-Locating Techniques on Shielded Power Cable Systems* - WG F12W chaired by Rachel Mosier

To get involved in ongoing standards projects, you can attend any of the working group meetings at the next ICC or reach out to the Subcommittee chair for more information.

Upcoming ICC Events

26-29 April 2026, Omni La Costa, Carlsbad, CA

25-28 October 2026,
JW Marriott Turnberry, Aventura, FL

25-28 April 2027,
Hilton Boston Park Plaza, Boston MA

24-27 October 2027,
The Peabody Memphis, Memphis, TN

Tell Us What You Think!

ICC welcomes your feedback. If you'd like to suggest topics for upcoming issues of the ICC Newsletter or add a colleague to our email database, please contact Yingli Wen at y.wen@ieee.org.