

History Section

1995–1996: Years of Significant Occurrences

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PES History Committee

1. PES Summer Meeting in Berlin

The Governing Board approved the momentous decision to hold the 1997 PES Summer Meeting in Berlin, Germany. This marks the first time that PES will hold a general meeting outside North America and the first time a PES meeting will be co-located with a European national society function. This meeting will be held in conjunction with the annual meeting of ETG (the power engineering technical interest group of VDE, the national electrical engineering society of Germany).

2. New PES Logo

At the July 1995 meeting of the IEEE Power Engineering Society Governing Board, an official logo for the PES was adopted. The winning logo that emerged was the use of a globe symbol representing the PES commitment to globalizing its activities as a vision for the future of the PES. The new logo was widely displayed beginning at the 1996 PES Winter Meeting in Baltimore.

3. Chapters Congress

The first PES Chapters Congress was held August 1-4, 1996, following the PES Summer Meeting in Denver. Over 70 PES Chapters from various countries were represented at the Congress. A primary objective of the Congress was to identify and prioritize grassroots PES Chapter issues so that these issues can be addressed efficiently. President Dent and many past-presidents attended the Summer Meeting/Chapters Congress.

4. PES Executive Committee Meeting in Europe

A historic meeting of the Executive Committee of the Power Engineering Society was held in Spain on October 17 and Germany on October 18, 1995. This was the first time a governing body of the PES traveled beyond North America for a regularly scheduled function. The Executive Committee demonstrated its commitment to its international membership by meeting with Chapter members in Spain and Germany.

5. Technical Paper Publication/Presentation Policy Change

A new policy was adopted by the Governing Board concerning the technical paper presentation requirement at the PES Meetings. Since presentation is no longer a requirement, authors with limited ability to

travel can now share their knowledge in the PES Transactions. Also, PES Technical Committees may design sessions for the general meetings.

6. New and Reorganized Technical Committees

The PES Governing Board, at its July 1996 meeting, approved in concept the formation of four new technical committees from what was the Power System Engineering Technical Committee. The four technical committees are Power System Planning and Implementation, Power System Dynamic Performance, Power System Operations, and Power System Analysis, Computing, and Economics. These committees are effective as of January 1, 1997.

The Governing Board also approved the formation of the Stationary Battery Committee which began operation in the latter part of 1996.

7. Creation of an Executive Director Position

To modernize and optimize the operations of the Society, the position of Executive Director was created. Melvin I. Olken, former active PES volunteer and IEEE Fellow was selected to fill the slot. Olken has been instrumental in spearheading the efforts to move PES into the 21st century.

8. Electronic Communications

The newly created PES home page on the World Wide Web provides a myriad of material about meetings, publication information, technical committee information, and more, and will serve as a vehicle to provide readers with abstracts of all accepted Transactions papers.

Another communication tool put into use is PowerFax, the PES fax-on-demand system. Users, especially those without access to the Web, can request documents 24 hours a day and receive the information during the same phone call. Information and forms for meeting registration and housing, meeting schedules, author kits and abstracts of accepted Transactions papers are among the material available from this system.

The PES Executive Office now has the author's kit and the five Chapter Operations Manuals on diskette in PDF (Portable Document Format) files, available on request. Free software to access the information is also provided, if needed.

The Los Angeles T & D Conference Proceedings has led the way to the dissemination of PES literature on CD-ROM. In 1997, all 1996 PES Transactions papers will be available on a single CD-ROM.