



Madison Section NEWSLETTER

Volume 4, Number 7

Serving IEEE Members of South Central Wisconsin

October 2001

Active Fuel Cell Systems

NOTE: this meeting is scheduled for the 2nd Thursday of the month rather than our usual 3rd Thursday!

Date/Time: Thursday, October 11, 2001, 11:45 AM - 1:00 PM

Speaker: Herb Hannam, Program Manager, Enable Fuel Cell Corporation

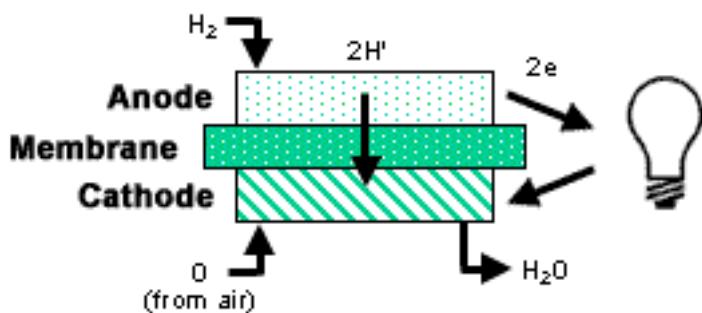
Location: Rocky Rococo's Pizza, 7952 Tree Lane (Madison Beltline Hwy. at Mineral Pt. Rd.), 608.829.1444

Menu: Pizza buffet, salad and soft drinks (cost \$8.00)

RSVP: by October 8th to Roy Thompson via email (roy.thompson@tdstelecom.com) or call 608/664-4415

Non-member guests are always welcome!

Herb Hannam is a Program Manager at Enable Fuel Cell Corporation, a subsidiary of DCH Technology engaged in the production of proton exchange membrane fuel cells. His particular focus is to oversee the design, fabrication, startup, test, and installation of active fuel cell systems and assist with the development of proposals for new fuel cell systems for customers. Herb also coordinates the activities of the various disciplines involved with fuel cell systems development and investigates applicable standards as they apply to fuel cells. Prior to joining Enable, Herb spent 13 years managing engineering functions as well as managing major engineering projects. He also managed the design and applications of machine controls for metal working machinery, OEM and retrofit applications. Herb holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Electrical Engineering from the University of Wisconsin - Madison.



A Message from IEEE President Joel Snyder

Dear fellow IEEE member:

I'd like to tell you about an IEEE service that I've found to be invaluable in all aspects of my professional life. It's a selection of free email newsletters called "What's New @ IEEE." <<http://www.ieee.org/whats-new>>

"What's New" provides the latest news on IEEE activities, industry trends, member benefits, career tips, and new IEEE products. There are 11 newsletters for engineers and other technology professionals. I subscribe to all of them, but you can select as many as you would like.

You can choose from the following "What's New @ IEEE" newsletters:

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I'm very pleased that IEEE has developed a service such as this. I encourage you to sign up for this free "What's New" email newsletter service and give it a try.

Sincerely,
Joel Snyder
2001 IEEE President

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New Issue of Today's Engineer Online

The September - October 2001 edition of IEEE-USA TODAY'S ENGINEER is available now on the Web. TODAY'S ENGINEER is IEEE-USA's monthly, career-oriented webzine, offering feature articles and short blurbs with career guidance, tips, strategies and solutions for all sectors of the profession. This month's fare includes:

- Staying Current: Tips, Strategies And Solutions
Warning: Falling behind on current trends and technologies could be hazardous to your career. If you're worried about becoming a dinosaur at the office, rest easy - it's never too late to update your knowledge and skills. Terry Malkinson offers a pragmatic strategy for keeping current and building the career you've always wanted.
- Teamwork On The Job - An Essential Ingredient
THE AMERICAN COLLEGE DICTIONARY defines teamwork as "The work of a team with respect to coordination of effort and to collective efficiency; work done with a team." Ed

Miller looks at how this concept applies to engineering, and explains the key to its success - communication.

• WI-FI: The Wonders And Exasperations Of Wireless Networking

First it was cell phones ringing in the middle of movies, now it's "You've got Mail!" in the middle of meetings. Sure, we're always connected, but shouldn't these gadgets come with etiquette manuals? Todd Yuzuriha takes a look at some of the advantages of wireless LANs based on the IEEE 802.11b standard, and offers some friendly tips on when to turn down the volume.

Also in this issue:

- IEEE-USA Science and Engineering Mass Media Fellow: Maraima Orange
- Engineering Hall of Fame: Jack Morton of Bell Labs
- World Bytes: Restart
- OpEd Corner: Reading, Writing and... Algebra?
- Mini-Poll Question: Do you consider yourself "current"?

To read Today's Engineer, visit: <<http://www.todaysengineer.org/careerfocus/>>.

Fall 2001 Telecommunications Short Courses

■ Basic Telephony and Digital Switching

October 16–19, 2001 in Las Vegas, NV

■ Cellular and PCS Wireless Communications for Non-Engineers

October 23, 2001 in Madison, WI

■ Fundamentals of Cellular and PCS Wireless Communications

October 24–26, 2001 in Madison, WI

■ Engineering and Planning Telecommunications Local Loop Facilities

December 4–7, 2001 in Madison, WI

For further information...

Web: <http://epdweb.engr.wisc.edu> or **E-mail:** danbeck@engr.wisc.edu

Region 4 PACE Update

With summer drawing to a close, activities will be increasing in the Region and with IEEE-USA. Already, contacts have been made with congressional Representatives and Senators as part of the CARE (Congressional Advocacy Recruitment Effort) Project. This program has a goal to meet with all 535 representatives and Senators sometime through the 107th Congress (2001-2002) to introduce the Electrical and Electronic Engineering profession to these key politicians. Through local members meeting as a constituent with their Senator or Representative, the program emphasizes these local member concerns with supporting documents and position papers available via the web or by calling the Washington, DC office of the IEEE-USA.

The burden on the member is small with only a quick meeting report form, which can be filled in on the web after the meeting takes place. There is much more support data for the CARE Project on the web at: <http://www.ieeeusa.org/forum/care/>.

You may think that having engineers calling on politicians won't make a difference in our profession but I would suggest that is not the case. I would think that most of our members (definitely more than the population as a whole) vote and members of Congress know that voters control if they get elected. They also most often don't have technical backgrounds so have little understanding of the issues we deal with daily. By being a resource for them, we can fill a vital role in the decisions they must make and hopefully they, or most likely their staff, will contact CARE Project members when new questions in technology or engineering come up.

Please jump in and become active - the members of Congress are real people (contrary to popular belief) and most are hard working and want to provide their districts with able representation. They are approachable and will welcome input from people in their districts. You may find that they don't always vote the way you want them to but if they don't hear from you, the Representative or Senator can't know what you want.

The Region has available some matching monies to help support Sections in Professional Activities projects. These projects can be as far ranging as helping to purchase space on billboards for National Engineers Week to Mathcounts to helping a technical museum produce a middle school electronics class on Saturday mornings. If you think a project could use some help and may fit under the large Professional Activities umbrella, please contact me with some details so I can start the ball rolling.

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For more information, contact John Hicks at (608) 233-4875 or jhicks@facstaff.wisc.edu.

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