

## Young Professional Workshop 2022

### IEC 2022 General Meeting, San Francisco, United States of America

#### 1 IEC 86<sup>th</sup> General Meeting - Young Professional Workshop

The 2022 IEC Young Professional (YP) Workshop took place from October 31<sup>st</sup> till November 4<sup>th</sup>, in conjunction with the IEC General Meeting, in San Francisco, United States of America.

85 YPs from 43 Countries were selected by their National Committees and gathered in person for a 5-day workshop. During the workshop YPs had the opportunity to find out more about IEC strategy, experience the standardization process in action, learn about the IEC Conformity Assessment systems and share their feedback on a series of important topics at the IEC General Assembly, such as the diversity, energy efficiency, emerging technologies, national YP programmes and raising awareness about standardization. After the workshop YPs were encouraged to stay in the IEC community and contribute to standardization work on a national or IEC level.

#### 2 Young Professional Workshop Program

##### Sunday – October 30<sup>th</sup>

YP Welcome gathering took place on October 30<sup>th</sup>. It was the first opportunity to meet and network with fellow YPs from around the world. Welcome message was given by Philippe Metzger, IEC Secretary-General and CEO.

##### Monday – October 31<sup>st</sup>

On Monday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, the workshop started with the welcome remarks by IEC President Yinbiao Shu and IEC President-Elect and Treasurer Jo Cops. Mr. Cops gave presentation about IEC Strategic Plan and vision for the future. Key points were IEC commitment to UN Sustainable Development Goals, diversity and inclusion in the IEC and the public outreach.

This was followed by Ask My Anything session with a panel of renowned guests from IEC community:

- Stina Wallström, Public Affairs Manager, IKEA Range and Supply – President, IEC National Committee of Sweden.
- Jonathan A. Colby, President & Founder, Streamwise Development, LLC.
- Peter Leong Weng Kwai, President, Singapore National Committee of IEC, Member of IEC Business Advisory Committee and Managing Partner, ITP Global LLP.
- Atsushi Miyoshi, Convenor of SyC/AAL/WG7, Head of Staff to Dr. Tsutsumi, the MSB Chair and IEC Vice President.
- Katharine Fraga, IEC Director of Membership, Affiliates and Capacity Building.

Ask my anything session was very fruitful and interactive. YPs had a chance to ask panellists all sorts of questions. Major themes were about their personal journey and drive to join IEC. The importance of coordinated international effort to tackle future challenges (sustainable energy) and the role of IEC in this effort. The ways of raising awareness on importance of standardization and ways to reach and empower young professionals in the industry to contribute to the work of IEC.

This was followed by a Session with the 2021 IEC YP Leaders:

- Lea Emmel, Risk Manager, Program Dräger ONE, Medical Division, Drägerwerk AG & Co. KGaA
- Mohammed Hasan, Health Physicist, Federal Authority for Nuclear Regulation (FANR)
- Colin Sheldon, Senior Specialist Lead, Strategy, AI & Transformation, Deloitte Consulting Pty Ltd

2021 IEC YP Leaders shared their stories, impact YP programme had on their personal development and also presented their projects.

This was followed by the introduction to the breakout sessions. YPs were split into five groups and had to work on one of the following topics:

- Diversity in the International Electrotechnical Commission.
- How can the IEC Advisory Committee on Energy Efficiency (ACEE) contribute to further enhancing and deploying IEC publications on energy efficiency in line with the UN Sustainable Goals?
- Identifying Emerging Technologies and Markets: How to?
- How to improve IEC National YP Programmes? What efforts the NCs should put forward to ensure that the next generation of experts is equally represented.
- How to raise awareness of standardization and conformity assessment to companies – how to convince your employer.

Each YP prior workshop had to choose preferred topic for breakout session. I myself have chosen: How to raise awareness of standardization and conformity assessment to companies – how to convince your employer. Introduction was given by Clare Hobern, Senior Manager, International Engagement, Standards Australia – Manager, IEC National Committee of Australia

In the afternoon each YP had possibility to observe Standardization Management Board (SMB) or Conformity Assessment Board (CAB) meetings.

After that each breakout session group had time to start working on their topic. Each group were tasked to prepare 5-minute-long presentation about the topic. Our group after some discussions decided, in the spirit of IEC, to make a mock standard with a guidelines and strategies on how to raise awareness and convince your employer to pay attention and participate in standardization. Together with that we prepared short introductory video where group members expressed key points in different languages to emphasize international community aspect.

After that YPs had interactive session with live testing of 5G technology. Given it was Halloween, 5G Pumpkin with a “spooky-fast” transmission speeds was built. YPs were invited to do exposure testing themselves to debunk some conspiracy theories regarding 5G safety.

## **Tuesday– November 1<sup>st</sup>**

Tuesday started with the breakfast with the Members from Swiss National Committee. I had the pleasure to meet Mr. Markus Burger the head of Electrosuisse and Mr. Samuel Ansoerge the CEO of Brugg Kabel AG, with whom I had interesting discussion.

This was followed by TC/SC meeting observation. I have chosen to observe CISPR/CIS/F/WG 1 (Interference relating to household appliances tools, lighting equipment and similar apparatus) meeting.

After that we had IEC Academy Bootcamp – Standard in a day.

Introduction to the bootcamp was given by Pierre Sebellin, IEC Senior Technical Officer and Ian Gardner, Head of IEC Academy and Capacity Building. The goal of this exercise was to introduce participants to the procedures and life cycle of standard development process in a fun and interactive way. In this exercise YPs had to work on a mock standard of Electronic Baby Robots (EBRs) which was provided prior to the workshop for YPs to prepare comments.

YPs were split into five imaginary countries e.g., “Sustainia”, “Useria”, “Robotania”, etc. Each YP had a role assigned to represent interests of different stake holders in their National Committee. The YPs had to play their roles and push their argument forward for it to be accepted as a National Committee position. I was assigned the role of university professor doing research in robotics and artificial intelligence. In this role my primary concerns were ethical. I was arguing for safeguards in the standard for “intelligence” of the robot not to be influenced by racial or ethnical prejudice.

In the end after national positions were formed YPs gathered for joint session imitating IEC SC meeting for comments from different countries to be reviewed and for consensus to be reached. The mock standard was at CDV stage, and the goal was to move it forward. This exercise resulted into many lively discussions with variety of different opinions and interests being presented. It showed that sometimes it can be really hard to reach common ground having so many stake holders involved in the limited amount of time. It was a good demonstration showing amount of negotiation it takes for a standard to get published with the broad support from community.

### **Wednesday – November 2<sup>nd</sup>**

On Wednesday we had Conformity Assessment (CA) Bootcamp. This was follow-up to the Standard in a day Bootcamp where YPs had to evaluate mock standard of EBRs from day before from CA standpoint. YPs were once again split into five imaginary countries and had assigned role to represent interests of different stake holders. I was assigned the role of international manufacturer and was evaluating compliance requirements from that perspective.

In the afternoon we had Parallel Session I, where YPs had chance to listen to the presentation of renowned expert in the field. I myself chose to attend session on: Exploring the standardization needs arising from the BioDigital Convergence, delivered by François Coallier, Professor, Department of Software and IT Engineering, École de technologie supérieure. Presenter gave a good briefing on emerging technologies and the needs and challenges arising in efforts to standardize this field.

After that YPs had chance to work further on their breakout session topics.

### **Thursday – November 3<sup>rd</sup>**

On Thursday we had YP Workshop site visit. YPs visited UC Berkley campus located right across the bay. On campus we visited Jacobs Institute for Design Innovation – an interdisciplinary hub for learning and making at the intersection of design and technology. There we visited prototyping workshop where students can have hands-on experience with 3d printers and electrical circuitry while working on their projects. There was also a showroom with most innovative student projects on display. Later we visited Structures Lab, in the department of Civil and Environmental Engineering. Structures Laboratory houses equipment for studying the behaviour of structural elements. Studies range from detailed stress analyses to both static and dynamic tests on full-sized structural systems. Tour of the facility and presentation of the research done there was given by Dr. Shakhzod Takhirov. Visit ended with the trip to the top of the Campanile Esplanade clock tower and Burritos for lunch.

In the afternoon YPs joined MSB Seminar: Harnessing the power of international standards for a fully digital world: An industrial perspective. Presentations were given by industry leaders from Siemens AG and Eaton. Presenters talked about necessity for standards to evolve and become more flexible in order to better serve to the needs of the industry now and in the future and adapt to the new way businesses are working. Ideas about the smart standards were put forward, the necessity to shift from simple electronic document to new type of medium which is machine readable, with tracking and auto update function and could be automatically implemented into digital models of the system.

After that YPs had chance to work further on their breakout session topics.

In the evening YP dinner was held which was joined by IEC leadership. An opportunity for YPs to socialize.

### **Friday– November 4<sup>th</sup>**

On Friday we started with the final preparation for breakout sessions. After that each group delivered their presentations to the audience of fellow YPs. Votes were casted and best three out of five were selected to be presented in the General Assembly's Statutory session to the delegates and IEC leadership. Our group's presentation was one of the three selected.

After that YPs joined General Assembly Statutory session. On agenda among other were the following items: report on IEC financial results, confirmation of the budget, disclosure of the next IEC GM location, as well as presentations of YPs and a panel discussion.

In the afternoon we had Parallel Session II, where YPs had chance to listen to the presentation of renowned expert in the field. I was attending session about: IEC Systems Committee on Communication Technology and Architecture (SyC COMM). Session was hosted by Patrick Wetterwald, IEC SyC COMM Vice Chair and Yun Chao Hu, IEC SyC COMM Chair.

After that YPs gathered for 2022 IEC YP Leaders elections. After popular vote three leaders elected.

Final item on the agenda of the 2022 IEC YP Workshop was IEC GM Farewell party, time to relax after tense and eventful week and socialize with fellow YPs for the last time.

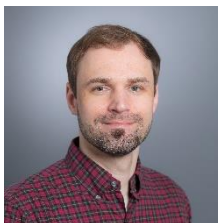


*Group photo of 2022 IEC Young Professional Workshop attendees*

### 3 Conclusions

- IEC YP Workshop was a great opportunity to meet and network with young like-minded individuals who are passionate about standardization and want to contribute to the work of IEC.
- IEC YP Workshop provided opportunity to get first-hand knowledge about structure, strategy, innerworkings and goals of IEC and meet IEC leadership.
- As for the Workshop itself, the educational part was very basic. It is a good introduction for a person who has no-/or very limited experience in standardization. For someone like myself who's already an expert of IEC SC there was little utility.

### 4 Authors



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