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IEC YOUNG PROFESSIONALS NEWSLETTER



GO AHEAD, GET AHEAD



Hong Zhang: An exceptional IEC YP success story from China

Hong Zhang, IEC 2010 YP from China, participates in IEC TC 100 and has won the 1906 Award

I have worked for CESI (China Electronics Standardization Institute) for about 11 years and I started to attend IEC TC 100 – Audio, video and multimedia systems and equipment activities in 2004 which I now attend each year. I was nominated as AGS (Advisory Group on Strategy) member in IEC TC 100 last year and SG (Strategic Group) 1 project leader within IEC TC 100. Finally, I received the 1906 Award in 2012.

CESI organizes companies to develop Chinese national and industry standards in the field of electronic information, management of 65 Chinese Commissions corresponding with the IEC and the International Organization for Standardization (ISO) Technical Committees. CESI also sets up laboratories and workstations authorized by the Chinese government or authority organization in the certification testing, measurement and calibration activities.

Cont. on p. 4



Creating a standardization legacy: Australian Programme

Ishaan Khanna, IEC 2013 YP from Australia

Standards Australia is not alone in facing the challenge to raise up the next generation of standards experts. In a fast-paced and digital world, International Standards enable innovation, safety, and economic efficiency and support international trade.

To achieve these important objectives, Standards Australia, like the IEC Young Professionals programme, has created its own Young Leaders Program to foster the next generation and ensure the sustainability of Standards industry in Australia.

Standards Australia launched its annual Young Leaders Program in 2012, selecting ten young professionals from a variety of professional backgrounds and providing them training and direct exposure to the standards development process, to develop the skills required to be successful in the Technical Committee environment. I was one of ten participants in the 2013 Australian Young Leaders Program and one of six professionals who were from the electrotechnical background.

A key aspect of the Australian Young Leaders Program is a formal mentoring component designed to assist the participants throughout their development process, during the program and beyond. With the help of their mentors, Young Leaders also have the opportunity to attend relevant Technical Committee meetings for active standards development projects at the national level as well as an opportunity to attend IEC/ISO meetings hosted in Australia, thus providing direct exposure to standardization.

My mentor organised for me to attend a few Technical Committee meetings at the national level which provided me with valuable insight into the world of standardization and this, in turn, prepared me for the IEC programme in New Delhi. *Cont. on p. 5*

A mutually beneficial relationship: How NCs can engage YPs



Left: Jonathan Colby, IEC 2011 YP Leader from the U.S., *Convenor of IEC TC 114/AHG4, member of IEC TC 114/AHG2 and subject matter expert on CAB WG15.* **Right: Ethan Biery, IEC 2013 YP Leader from the U.S.,** *member IEC TC 23/SC 23B/JAHG 17*

On 28 January, Jonathan Colby and I had the opportunity to be interviewed for an hour-long online podcast, "[People to People: Working Together for Your Safety](#)", by Stan Salot, Jr., through the US National Committee, to recruit others to apply for the IEC 2014 YP programme. We spoke about how we started working in the field of standards development, why standards are important to consumers' safety, and how interested people can become more involved in standards work (including applying for the IEC YP 2014 workshop). This was a very interesting experience for me, being my first "live" interview. Most of the people listening were unlikely to have engineering backgrounds, so it was critical for me to explain the relevance of standards in general, layperson terms. Jonathan and I were required to speak about our standards work at a high level, without going into too much of the specifics of our individual areas of expertise. Overall, I very much appreciated having this experience, and was honored to represent my National Committee to raise the profile of our work. *(Ethan Biery)*

Young Professional on the move

Chelsey Schweikert, IEC 2013 YP from the United States, had a recent opportunity to present at CANENA



I am a design engineer working for a gas turbine manufacturing company, Solar Turbines, in the Product Compliance and Certification group. I focus on IECEx, a system relating to equipment for use in explosive atmospheres. I was one of three US 2013 nominations to attend the IEC General Meeting in New Delhi last October.

My knowledge and exposure to electrotechnical standard harmonization continued to grow after the workshop. As a result, I was invited to speak at the 2014 CANENA Annual Meeting regarding the IEC YP programme which was held in Washington DC. CANENA was formed to foster the harmonization of electrotechnical product standards, conformity assessment test requirements, and electrical codes between all of the democracies of the Western Hemisphere.

The IEC and CANENA have an ongoing agreement to cooperate in cross-representation and the exchange of technical information. The common themes from the conference were: succession planning, generational gaps, and the need for future leaders. It was easy to see the big impact that our group of upcoming expert engineers, technicians, and managers can have on the long-term environment.

Seeing the opportunities available to me now, I must thank the mentorship and support from the U.S. National Committee, the IEC, and CANENA. Attending the IEC 2013 General Meeting and YP workshop in New Delhi was just the beginning; it is from that point that we, as emerging professionals, can continue to gain exposure, involvement, and eventually shape the future of standardization.

IEC YP becomes Chair of TC 35

Marc Boolish, IEC 2010 YP from the United States, was recently selected as Chairman of TC 35 Portable primary cells and batteries



When Marc started as a battery design engineer with Energizer 18 years ago, he could hardly imagine the path his career would take.

As part of one of his early projects, Marc was requested to do some basic research, analyzing how Energizer and competing batteries worked against standardized tests. After presenting his work and attending several UL standards meetings, he was offered a position within Energizer which helped him grow into a standards-focused role. Today, he leads a team of other managers, engineers, and standards experts. However, his early engineering background allows him to communicate the often technical details of standards both inside and outside of his company.

In his new Chairman role, Marc will take on a large amount of "behind the scenes" work to ensure meetings run smoothly and world-class standards are published in a timely manner. While in this position, he is less able to represent the interests of his own company, as his role is to remain as impartial as possible and ensure opinions are balanced from all sides.

The experience with the IEC YP programme was invaluable to Marc's professional development. As part of the experience, Marc learned the importance of networking with others, and was able to use these networks to compare notes and share challenges and strengths across committees (a skill he expects to take full advantage of in his new role). He also enjoyed seeing how the IEC leadership and different committees operate, which gave him the encouragement to become more and more involved. He has noticed that companies and individuals are becoming more involved in the standards development process as a result of the IEC YP programme.

What advice would Marc give to other Young Professionals just starting their standards career? "Be technically bold, yet respectful, and never be afraid to volunteer for tasks or ad hoc groups in a committee. Before long, your knowledge and contributions will be sought-out and lead to opportunities."

IEC YP success stories from around the world



Esther Ondiviela, IEC 2011 Young Professional from Spain, member of IEC TC 61/MT 23

Esther Ondiviela started her career at the BSH Ovens Development Laboratory after receiving her Bachelor of Electronic Engineering in 2006.

She upgraded her expertise in electronics, switches, connectors, and wires working with these topics at BSH. After 5 years, she was promoted to the BSH Induction Development Laboratory as Induction Cooktop Approvals Engineer for the EU, USA and Canadian market. In 2011, she participated in the second IEC Young Professionals workshop in Melbourne representing Spain.

After this workshop, she became more involved in the Spanish National Committee as Home Appliances expert, especially on cooking products. In early 2013, she became member of IEC TC 61/MT23 Functional safety related aspects of electronic circuits, remote control of household appliances and insulation coordination. Recently she has become member of IEC TC 61 Safety of household and similar electrical appliances. Esther feels that participating in the IEC 2011 YP programme has been a great experience. It has helped her to be more involved with the IEC community, taking part in the process for developing future standards and improving the existing ones.

From BSH, her employer's point of view, Esther's participation in the IEC 2011 YP programme gave her a global view of the standardization community. Her participation in this programme was taken into account, among other factors, when deciding to make her a representative of BSH Induction Cooktops within several IEC Committees. For BSH it is of the utmost importance to integrate approval engineers from the early stages of product developments and also to continuously follow Regional, European, Asian and American normative and committee discussions in order to develop products that can be certified globally, therefore they highly appreciate programmes like the IEC YP programme which further develop their younger approval collaborators.

Mandar Sinnarkar, IEC 2011 YP from India, member of IEC TC 40, IEC TC 49 and IEC TC 91

Mandar is involved as an expert in IEC TC 40 - Capacitors and resistors for electronic equipment, TC 49 - Piezoelectric, dielectric and electrostatic devices and associated materials for frequency control, selection and detection and TC 91 - Electronics assembly technology. Mandar is a graduate electronics engineer with a post-graduation in management. He has many years experience in quality and reliability assurance process where he has worked from the component level to the final product throughout his career. Working in a reliability lab he has always been in contact with standards and it has grown into a passion.

On a day to day basis he handles quality assurance from incoming quality, process quality and final product right up to the customer level in Vishay India. He also handles reliability laboratory testing of components and the standardization part at the design level. "I use standards for reliability testing as well as for product and process design. I also refer to standards while communicating & educating customers for components selection during their Design. I refer to standards when developing quality agreements with suppliers and customers."

Mandar also delivers lectures on standardization as well as quality management systems to various academic institutes at local level. He also delivered seminars in his National Committee. So far he has given four seminars for students as well as for their faculties. He actively provides comments for IEC documents related to TC 40, TC 91, TC 49 and TC 56 and attends national mirror committee meetings. *Cont. p. 5*

Stephanie McLarty, IEC 2010 YP Leader from Canada, member of IEC TC 111/AHG10



Stephanie McLarty is an entrepreneur who owns her own company, REfficient,

an online market place allowing companies to buy quality Telecom, A/V and IT equipment at significant discounts from sustainable sources.

Stephanie is an IEC 2010 Young Professional from Canada and was elected as one of the three Leaders that year in Seattle. Since 2008, she is a Canadian Technical Expert on TC 111 – Environmental standardization for electrical and electronic products and systems. She is also Secretary of TC 111/AHG10 – Maintenance of Strategic Business Plan.

She has been invited to speak at several conferences regarding getting IEC Young Professionals involved in standardization: CANENA, FINCA, SES and an E-tech conference (put on by Electro-Federation Canada). Her article in the Standards Engineering Journal called "Succession Planning for Standardization: Mobilizing Young Professionals" has been used by National Committees around the world.

You can find an e-tech article on Stephanie [here](#).



Hong Zhang

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For myself, I have two roles. The first is working as vice secretary in IEC TC 100 Chinese mirror Technical Committee. In that committee we develop national and industry standards in audio, video and multimedia product and systems.

The most popular of them are DTMB, DRA and I-topHome, which are already promoted to the IEC as IEC standards. China now is very active in IEC TC 100, we have prepared at least five national papers and two of them have been published. Two Chinese experts in IEC TC 100 related areas have won 1906 Awards.

My second role is in charge of Advanced Digital TV Test Center (ADTC). In the test center, we have the test ability for the CE products such as DTV, digital camera, recorder, and projectors. We also set up international test centers, which are authorized by international organizations such as Blu-ray disc player, DLNA, HDMI, DisplayPort, Dolby and etc. As you know, China is one of the most important worldwide markets, so I have many opportunities to meet with standard engineers from the most famous companies and this enables us to get updated information from the outside in an easier way.

IEC activities are part of my duty. I think that attending IEC activities is helpful for Chinese standardization. Unfortunately, I have only had one chance to attend the IEC YP workshop because I need to attend IEC TC 100 meetings, but I think that the workshop is helpful for YPs to understand the IEC and let them know the importance of participating in IEC activities. So if you are looking for the future of standardization, go ahead, it is in the IEC YP programme.

Regarding the future of IEC related activities I think it is a little bit difficult to foresee. I believe the industry that has the highest number of big companies, the most young

engineers and in charge of network related technology has more chance of success. In the IEC, for instance, IEC TC 100 doesn't have so many young people and of course I feel that the IEC standards should reflect the future.

1906 Award

Created in 2004 by the IEC Executive Committee (ExCo), the 1906 Award commemorates the IEC's year of foundation and honours IEC experts around the world whose work is fundamental to the IEC.

The Award also recognizes exceptional and recent achievement - a project or other specific contribution - related to the activities of the IEC and which contributes in a significant way to advancing the work of the Commission.

I feel that receiving the 1906 Award means I did the right things in the past years. I also know that I received that award on behalf of an IEC TC 100 Chinese mirror technical committee team. After I got the 1906 award, my boss suggested to me that I take the role in IEC TC 100 AGS. This means I need to work harder than before but, for me, being an AGS member is not a new position, it is a new opportunity. Through this platform I can share more updated industry information not only from China but also from all over the world with other AGS members and help IEC TC 100 make the right solutions; I like it very much.

I think the comment from IEC TC 100 in the IEC 1906 Award could show you what they think about my contribution:

"Mr. Zhang has been contributing to the standardization of various new projects such as IEC 62634, IEC 62514, and IEC TR 62678 as an expert. He is also actively involved in a current project PT 62608. He inspires IEC TC 100 people with his simple but sharpshooting comments in the meetings and encourages us to upgrade our activities. He has joined the IEC Young Professional programme and is expected to continue to be a key person in IEC TC 100."



Young Professional on the move

Weihong Song, IEC 2013 YP from China, had a recent opportunity to attend the 2014 IECEX International Conference on Equipment and Services in Explosive Atmospheres in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia.

On 19-20 February 2014, I, together with Alan Ly (IEC 2012 YP from Rockwell Automation Australia), attended the "2014 IECEX International Conference" held in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. This conference was organized together by the IEC, the IECEX, and Standards Malaysia under MOSTI (Ministry of Science, Technology and Innovation) and UNECE (United Nations Economic Commission for Europe).

Prof. Dr. Thorsten Arnhold (IECEX Chairman) gave a detailed introduction on the three Schemes within the IECEX System (Certified Equipment Scheme, Certified Service Facility Scheme and Certified Person Scheme). Other experts from all over the world also shared their experiences and detailed knowledge pertaining to the Ex field, such as plant design, principles and practical applications of area classification, installation and repair in compliance to IEC International Standards (under IEC TC31).

For me, a newcomer to IEC, I cherish this chance very much. I believe I got enough valuable information and knowledge through this meeting. IEC YP programme helped me knock at the door of IEC and wish IEC YPs could have much more good opportunities to take part in IEC related activities in the future.

Australian Programme

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Standards Australia in turn nominated two YPs from its national programme, to represent Australia at the IEC Young Professional programme in New Delhi in 2013. Brett Argus and myself were selected from among the 2012 and 2013 Australian Young Leaders Program participants who were from electrotechnical backgrounds.

Personally, I was delighted to have this opportunity to represent Australia on the international stage and interact with fellow IEC Young Professionals from across the globe. Up until my participation in the IEC YP programme, I had had little direct interaction with IEC, although I was a technical working group member in a Standards Australia mirror committee to IEC/TC 59/WG 15. Travelling to New Delhi and participating in the Young Professional workshop with 54 fellow professionals from across the world has been one of the best professional experiences I've had so far.

These workshops were held on the sidelines of the IEC General Meeting and were spread over three and half days. Participating in the workshop greatly improved my understanding of international standardization and also enhanced my desire to get involved in Technical Committees, technical mirror committees or other working groups both at the national and the international level, specifically within my field of work.

I specifically enjoyed interacting with past IEC Young Professionals as they were able to provide additional insights into the functioning of the IEC and their own personal 'international standardization' journey. Both Brett and I also got to know the Australian National Committee much more closely and made some valuable contacts at the national level.

At a more personal level, over the last 10 years, I have had the opportunity to work in different countries in the Asia-Pacific region. Being associated with various organizations and working with people from different backgrounds and a

divergent set of beliefs has been a good learning experience for me. At the IEC workshop in New Delhi, I had the opportunity to share these experiences with other IEC Professionals and enhance cross-cultural understanding.

Since the first IEC Young Professional workshop in 2010, there have been a total of 8 Australian delegates to the IEC Young Professional programme, namely (Michael Duce, Adam Murdoch, Elaine Clayton, Alan Ly, Jason Wigg, Nick Zhou, Brett Argus and Ishaan Khanna). Since completing the programme, many of them have increased their involvement with various IEC committees and working groups. Adam Murdoch, who was an IEC 2010 Young Professional became chairman of IEC TC 61H Safety of electrically-operated farm appliances on 1 March 2013. After attending the IEC Young Professional workshop, Adam increased his involvement in various Technical Committees namely, TC 61: Safety of household and similar electrical appliances and SC (sub committee) 61C: Safety of refrigeration appliances for household and commercial use and SC 61H as an Australian delegate. He was able to develop a mentor-mentee relationship with and gain inspiration from Derek Johns, Chairman of TC 61. You can read more about Adam's journey on the IEC website [here](#).

In conclusion, attending the workshops has been a great experience, both professionally and personally. It has shown me that the IEC is working hard to stay ahead of the technological curve unlike any other Standards Organization. I'm inspired to get myself more involved with the IEC by seeking to find an IEC expert as a mentor with the aim to get involved in Technical Committees or working groups in my field of work.

Mandar Sinnarkar Continued from p. 3

"I have also attended all meetings of IEC TC 40, Working Groups 36, 39, 41 from 2011 and given my contribution mainly for IEC 60440, 60115-8-1, 60115-2, 60286-2. I have also attended IEC TC49 meeting in 2012."

Mandar is currently working on IEC 60062, 60063, 60195, 60115-1 and on IEC 60300-2 (Dependability Management) at the national level. Mandar's advice to the IEC YPs would be: "Be innovative and proactive, use standards to develop and grow your business."

Finally, on the IEC Young Professionals programme he says that it has: "helped me in understanding the complete IEC organization from the involvement and responsibilities of the NCs in the IEC family to the responsibility of the experts. I attended more IEC TC 40 meetings and I understood how to participate in the discussions in meetings, resulting in increased involvement in TC working groups. I am now participating in various project teams, making the IEC 60440 standard and have commented on 35 standards through my NC."

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