AUSTRALIAN NATIONAL COMMITTEE of CIGRE LTD

NEWSLETTER

June 2007

2006 PARIS GENERAL SESSION

CIGRE's most important 2006 activity was the Paris Session held from 27 August to 1 September together with an impressive Technical Exhibition supported by 96 exhibitors spread over 2000 square metres of the Palais des Congres. A record 2601 delegates and 636 partners attended, including 37 young delegates. The Australian National Committee was well represented with 88 delegates and partners, including 3 young engineers. The Australian delegation attended the traditional "Aussie Night" in Montmartre on the Sunday night prior to the Session commencing the next morning. The Session's week of activities was extensive and most delegates found it difficult to fit in all the sessions they wished to attend.

A very successful forum on Large System Disturbance was chaired by Ken Brown, Convener of AP C2. (Ken made a presentation on the major disturbances that were covered at the forum to ANC members at the 2006 ANC meeting in Hobart. He covered what gave rise to the events, how they were managed, what was learned from them, and suggested solutions).

A number of ANC Panel Conveners were Special Reporters for a number of preferential subjects discussed at the General Session. They were Phil Southwell (C1), Alex Baitch (C6), Peter Cristaudo (D2), and Mohamed Zavahir past Convener of B4.

2008 PARIS GENERAL SESSION

Planning is underway for the 2008 General Session (24 – 28 August 2008) which will again be held at the Palais des Congres.

The Call for Papers saw a large number of paper synopses submitted from ANC members in Australia and New Zealand submitted. These have now been forwarded to CIGRE for consideration for the Session.

At a recent ANC board teleconference it was agreed that some guidelines were needed to clarify the criteria for determining ANC representation at the General Session (special reporters etc), along with a review of the travel subsidy which has remained unchanged for a considerable period of time.

CIGRE STEERING COMMITTEE REPORT

ANC Chairman Peter Tyree attended the Steering Committee (formerly known as the Executive Committee) meeting in Dubai on 24 April. Peter reported to the ANC Board that CIGRE continues in good financial condition and with growing membership. A new Action Plan is expected to be issued soon that links to the Master Plan and will strengthen linkages to distribution and generation aspects of CIGRE's activities.

Worthy of note are CIGRE's plans to make more and more of its technical information, including past and future publications of Electra available over the internet; a new Cigre web site is in test mode at the moment and members will be able to use this facility in the months ahead. Further details on this are given later in this newsletter.

CIGRE NEW WORKING GROUPS

CIGRE recently announced that the following Working Groups have been approved by the Technical Committee, and these will shortly begin their work.

- WG B2.21 Arc Protection and Diagnosis for Composite String Insulators.
- WG C2.31 Joint and Co-ordinated Development of Operators in Control Centres from Different Companies and Nationalities.
- WG C2.32 Emergency Organisation in Control Centres Crisis Management in System Operations.
- WG C4.501 Numerical Electromagnetic Analysis and its Application to Surge Phenomena.
- WG C5.8 Renewables and Energy Efficiency in a De-regulated Market.
- WG D2.25 Information and Communications Systems in the De-regulation of the Electricity Market.

Members wishing to obtain further information on these or other working groups should contact the ANC-Cigre office.

CIGRE ON-LINE LIBRARY & BOOKSTORE

CIGRE recently announced the establishment of e-cigre, the on-line library and bookstore of CIGRE where members and non-members can search for CIGRE publications, order a hard copy, or download a digital copy (for members only).

e-cigre currently contains some 6000 records of CIGRE publications dating from 1968 to the present. The publications cover Technical Brochures, General Session papers, papers from ELECTRA, Symposium papers, and CDs. Some 2000 of these publications, from more recent years, are available in digital form and can be downloaded free by members.

e-cigre has its own website at www.e-cigre.org Members should use their membership number when first entering the site to obtain free downloading and reduced prices for publications.
In future it is proposed that e-cigre will contain papers from in ELECTRA shortly after the journal is published.

ANC ACTIVITIES

The Australian National Committee of CIGRE is also in sound financial condition and has seen a number of lapsed members as well as new members joining.

In keeping with the ANC's stated objective to deliver value to members by way of technical and practical knowledge, a number of Seminars are planned over the next twelve months.

- AP B5 – System Protection and Substation Automation, Sydney, 14 – 15 August 2007 (focus on IEC 61850 with international Study Committee B5 Chairman in attendance)
- AP A3 – High Voltage Equipment, 15-16 November 2007 (focusing on circuit breakers with authors of new IEC standard/CIGRE CB Guide in attendance)
- AP B4/CI – HVDC and Power Electronics/System Development and Economics, Brisbane, late Feb 2008 (with a focus on reactive power).
- AP A2 – Transformers May 2008

If past Seminars are anything to go by, these events will be well worth attending.

These seminars follow on from the very successful seminar on Substation Concepts in Today's Environment organised and presented by AP B3 in Melbourne on 31 May – 1 June 2007.

ANC 2007 ANNUAL MEETING

This year's ANC meeting will be held in Townsville, hosted by Powerlink.

The meeting program is as follows:

Monday 26 November
8:30am – 12:30pm – Technical Tour
6:30pm – 7:30pm – Welcome Reception

Tuesday 27 November
8:30am – 5:00pm – ANC Cigre Meeting
9:00am – 3:30pm – Partner Program
6:45pm – Dinner

The Australian Technical Committee will meet in the afternoon of Monday 26 November.

The terms of a number of Australian Panel Convenors as well as ANC Chairman Peter Tyree expire at this meeting. A part of the ANC's strength has been built on the quality of new members coming forward to fill vacancies and this year would appear to be no exception and your Board will be approaching candidates to fill these vacancies for election at the November ANC meeting.

Members will shortly receive their invitation and registration form for the meeting.

AP CONVENER TO LEAD CIGRE WG

The ANC Board has endorsed Arne Petersen (Convener AP A2) to lead the CIGRE international Working Group A2.33 – Transformer Fire Safety Standards, to investigate and prepare recommendations to aid transformer designers and users to define and apply best practices to minimise transformer fires, and to minimise the impact of transformer fires in substations and on other plant. The ANC is providing support to Arne to enable him to carry out this role on this important subject for the electrical power industry.

STANDARDS AUSTRALIA SUB-COMMITTEE ON LINE DESIGN STANDARDS

The expertise and knowledge of AP B2 Overhead Lines and its links to international experts has been called on by Standards Australia when it requested a number of nominations from the Panel to join a SA subcommittee to review and update the ENA C (b)1 -2006 *Guidelines for Design and Maintenance of Overhead Distribution and Transmission Lines.*

ENA has decided that these guidelines should be replaced by four separate documents as follows:

1. *Overhead line Design Standard (Part 1 - Detailed Procedure).*
2. *Overhead line Design Standard)Part 2 – Simplified Procedure)*
3. *Standards Australia Handbook – Application Guide for Overhead Line Design*
4. *ENA Guidelines for the Construction, Maintenance and Work Practices of Overhead Powerlines.*

The Standards Australia Subcommittee is responsible for items 1 to 3 above, with ENA responsible for item 4.

TECHNICAL COMMITTEE AWARD

CIGRE's Technical Committee recently announced its awards for 2006. Two ANC members were amongst the recipients. They are Ken Brown -Convener AP C2, and Alex Baitch - Convener AP C6. The ANC extends its congratulations to them for receiving this award.

ANC AWARD OF MERIT

The initiatives and contributions of Henry Hawes, Powerlink Qld, have been recognised by the ANC Board who awarded him the ANC Cigre Award of Merit in appreciation of his efforts that have benefited greatly the industry and CIGRE

Henry has been involved in CIGRE at a national and international level for over 15 years. He has been the ANC corresponding member on a number of international working groups, and in that time has been influential in convincing international members to carry out research and development that has led to CIGRE publications on a number of subjects. including one on Current Practices Regarding Frequencies and Magnitudes of Intensity Winds in October 2004. He has also been involved in the development of continuing education programs which have resulted in seminars held by AP B2.

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