Fellow ICC Members,

The Spring 2003 Insulated Conductors Committee meeting will be held at the Hilton Cincinnati Netherland Plaza Hotel in Cincinnati OH, from April 27-30th. The schedule and technical program are on the ICC website (www.ewh.ieee.org/soc/pes/icc). Please visit the website for additional meeting details. The registration form is enclosed and is also available on the website. Please return it to Bill Taylor with a check payable to the ICC. You may also pre-register by returning the form by e-mail, fax or letter and then pay by cash or check at the meeting.

Here is a special plea from the chair to help the ICC meet its Spring meeting commitment: Please make every attempt to attend this meeting. In these difficult times for the industry we need to be networking and driving our standards to completion for the economic benefit of all our organizations. If there is a reluctance to approve your attendance, you need to shift your management's perception about this meeting. Show your supervisor how you benefit from the free education and information exchange. Show the impact on your work practices as related to the standards you are working on. Argue that the ICC is an investment for your organization. Show some willingness to cover costs like paying for the gas yourself if you drive. Be as creative as you can in sharing the benefits of the ICC's information exchange with your colleagues before and after the meeting. Send out a call report on significant developments or data that were shared at the ICC. If you can show the impact of the ICC on your organization, the question of cost of attending will be moot. Make your supervisor realize that the goals of his/her organization will be achieved through driven people like yourself. Make him/her look good for approving your trip. Tenacity is what is needed to pull you, your supervisor, the ICC, and the industry through these times.

Also, please make every attempt to stay at the Hilton. We know in these times of tight budgets that you may seek lower cost hotels than the host hotel. However this has a very negative effect on our room commitment. If we do not meet this commitment we pay penalties equal to the number of room nights missed times the room rate. This can mean a huge financial burden on our committee and ultimately higher registration fees and fewer activities. Because we missed our commitment at the fall meeting, I've added a surcharge to the registration fees for this meeting to cover the penalty incurred. This will come off when we are out of penalty situations. Please, please stay at the Hilton - it is essential to the viability of our committee both short and long term.

The rate at the Hilton is $129.00. To direct register, phone +513-421-9100 or fax +513-621-4560 or you can use the preaddressed, postage free, business envelope in your mailing. Tell the hotel you are attending the ICC meeting. Additional hotel information is located on the ICC website. The cut-off date for these rates is March 28, 2003. If you register after this date you may not get the agreed upon rate but you will be able to register as ICC.

The ladies program will be a luncheon on Monday, and a tour to Lebanon OH on Tuesday. The luncheon cost is $25.00. There will be a talk on the history of the hotel and a short walking tour. The Hilton is registered with the National Trust for Historic Preservation as one of the Historic Hotels of America. The transportation cost is to Lebanon, OH $20.00. Lunch will be extra and is planned at the historic Golden Lamb Hotel. Eight US presidents have stayed here. Or you can have lunch on your own and enjoy the many antique shops and boutiques in this pretty little town. Of course there will be the usual ladies breakfast each morning. The hotel is connected by a walkway to a downtown mall with over 75 shops including Saks 5th Ave.

Please join me and all your ICC friends and colleagues for a productive Spring meeting at the Hilton in Cincinnati.

Best Regards,

Ken E. Bow
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