



by Terry Martin

Continued Adaptation

As I write this article, many people are experiencing some relief from the coronavirus, while significant numbers of us are still working from home. The current global situation due to COVID-19 is resulting in unprecedented changes in the organization of IEEE Industrial Electronics Society (IES)-sponsored conferences. Many thanks to the conference organizers for their hard work to adapt the events to online and in-person venues. In addition, I would like to thank IES Vice President for Conference Activities Juan José Rodríguez-Andina and IES Vice President for Workshops and Activities Kiyoshi Ohishi for their efforts in responding to various issues during this public health crisis. As Society president, I have observed the efforts of many IES volunteers that go above and beyond what is normally

expected. I have said in the past, and will continue to say, that the IES is a very strong family.

In addition, the IES management team has adapted to an environment of virtual meetings occurring at different times around the world. IES standing committees continue to be very active in conducting their business in this arena. By the time this article is published, the IES Administrative Committee will have conducted its second virtual meeting. While our transition to an online setting has been challenging, it has also opened new opportunities. We can now conduct meetings and business on very short notice and without spending two or sometimes three days to travel. Many of us are attending meetings very early in the morning or late at night, but we

do not experience the jet lag associated with flying around the globe. However, I think most of us would agree that we miss seeing one another in a face-to-face environment. We can all hope and pray that our world will return to a safer situation.

As president of the IES, I encourage you to join the Society and consider publishing in one of our other periodicals, such as *IEEE Transactions on Industrial Informatics*, *IEEE Open Journal of the Industrial Electronics Society*, *IEEE Journal of Emerging and Selected Topics in Industrial Electronics*, and *IEEE Transactions on Industrial Electronics*. Stay safe until we can all meet again in person, and thank you for your support of IEEE and the IES.

COVID-19 IS RESULTING IN UNPRECEDENTED CHANGES IN THE ORGANIZATION OF IEEE INDUSTRIAL ELECTRONICS SOCIETY-SPONSORED CONFERENCES.

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