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January 2002

Rock River Valley Section  
ieee.flask.com

Event

Sense

The Institute of Electrical and Electronic Engineers, Inc.

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Joint Computer/Control Systems, IAS, PELS Chapters Meeting

## Danfoss Tour

### When

Thursday, January 24, 2001. If weathered out, tour will be on Thursday, January 31, 2001, at the same time.

### Where

Danfoss Drives — from Riverside and Perryville, take Riverside east, past Farm and Fleet. Turn left (north) at Bell School and proceed to the Danfoss Entrance.

### Agenda

6:15 PM Tour Begins  
8:00 PM Tour Ends

### Company Background/Tour

Danfoss is a leading provider of precision mechanical and electronic components and of intelligent "mechatronic" devices. Danfoss' products are used to conserve energy, increase industrial efficiency and improve living standards worldwide. The company has modern factories on four continents, sales companies and representatives in more than 100 countries and over 17,000 employees worldwide. Danfoss Drives, located in Loves Park, Illinois, is a leading supplier of adjustable frequency drives suitable for applications in the industrial, HVAC and water markets. The 123,000 sq. ft. Loves Park facility is the North American headquarters of

the Motion Controls division. The facility houses design, manufacturing, service and sales functions and employs approximately 190.

Danfoss' **product lines** consist of: **Refrigeration and A/C Controls**, **Oil Burner Components** for domestic, commercial and industrial applications, **Comfort Controls**—automatic room temperature controls for residential and non residential buildings, **Industrial Controls**—a wide range of automatic controls for process control and regulation, **Household Compressors**, **Appliance Controls**—for the regulation of refrigeration appliances and freezers, **Building Controls**—controls for district heating and central heating systems, **Drives**—electronic frequency converters for infinitely variable control of the speed of three-phase AC motors, **Danfoss Analytical**—sensors for measuring nutrients in wastewater and dissolved oxygen in water and wastewater, **Danfoss Lighting Controls**—high frequency electronic ballasts and controls for fluorescent tubes, **Flowmeters** for fluid measurement: electromagnetic, mass and ultrasonic, **Water Hydraulics**—motors,

pumps, power packs, pressure relief valves, flow and directional control valves as well as cylinders and gears, **Water Controls**—a wide range of valves and components, **Commercial Compressors**—hermetic reciprocating compressors and Scroll compressors as well as air-cooled condensing units, **Gearmotors**—a wide range of geared motors, gear boxes, motors and brakes, **Marine Systems**—a range of remote control systems and hydraulic actuators for valves operating in cargo, oil, ballast and discharging systems.

### Speakers/Guides

Danfoss will supply a guided tour.

### Meal/Reservations

There will be no organized dinner. Please reserve your space on the tour by **calling Ginger at 815-394-5696 or sending her an email (ginger.spinasant@hs.utc.com) by Monday, Jan 21, at noon.** Please include the following information: your name, phone number, email address, and IEEE member number. There is no charge for the tour.

### Note

The meeting is open to the general public. You need not be an IEEE member. Guests are welcome. However, please call to enable us to make appropriate arrangements.

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## Notice of Change to Electronic Delivery Only of RRVS Newsletter

Availability of the Event Sense is now via electronic means only at the section website. Email notification of availability of the newsletter at the section website will be sent to all members with whom we have a valid email address on file. So please **make sure we have your valid email address**. For those members without an email address and who would like assistance in obtaining one, please contact one of the RRVS Officers for assistance. Members who do not plan to have email, you will be sent a post card with a brief announcement of the meeting AND the availability and URL location of where the newsletter can be viewed via a web browser. This is dependent on the IEEE database having an accurate address for these individuals. Please **check the accuracy of your address in the IEEE database (see pg 4 for access to your data in the IEEE database)**.



## Nov Meeting Recap

The November section meeting was once again held at the Northern Illinois University Campus. Several active members mingled with the students to enjoy a dinner sponsored by Yen Ching of DeKalb and to hear the presentation by Eduard Mujadi from the National Renewable Energy Laboratory in Golden, CO.

Dr. Mujadi's presentation dealt with wind turbines and interfacing them to the power system. He noted that the cost of electricity generated by wind power has dropped considerably in the last 20 years, from 40 cents per kilowatt-hour in 1979 to a current price of about 4 cents per kilowatt-hour. One major hurdle that remains for wind power to become a more acceptable power source is uncertainty of how a large number of wind turbines will affect the stability of the power system. As more wind turbines are added to the power system, it becomes less stiff and could cause the grid to collapse. However, Dr. Mujadi pointed out that the

proper application of a power factor correction capacitor or with appropriate use of variable speed wind turbines the power system can be made stable. Dr. Mujadi's slides including pictures of wind farms and various applications of wind technology can be viewed at [www.nrel.gov/data/pix/pix.html](http://www.nrel.gov/data/pix/pix.html).



## Chicago/Rockford IEEE Consultants' Network Meeting

The next meeting will be on Monday, January 28, 2002. The optional informal dinner is at 6:15 PM at Bakers' Square (270 E. Northwest Highway and North Court), and the meeting at 7:30 to 9:00 PM at the Palatine Public Library (700 North Court, Palatine, IL 847-358-1216). This month there will be an open discussion on "Time to Fly Solo?" based on the article by Dr. Stuart G. Walesh in the Summer 2001 edition of The Bent of Tau Beta Pi.

"Is Your Job Security Fading? Is the corporate bureaucracy getting you down? Are you increasingly concerned about how much and how hard you work and how little you earn? Are you tired of talk about pay for performance? Are you stagnating intellectually? Do you want autonomy? Do you increasingly think, 'I could do it better?' Are you retired but still 'have the itch?'"

Then maybe now is the time to 'fly solo' to go out on your own - to start a sole proprietor, individual practitioner, or free-lance consulting business that builds on your experience and vision. Remember, you only go around once.

'Going out on your own' as a consulting engineer is a major undertaking. As part of your 'go or no go' decision, you should consider many factors. Four of the most important ones are: reasons to consider flying solo, characteristics of successful sole proprietors, marketing and the possibility of failure."

Information about the network can be obtained by e-mail: [g.l.blank@ieee.org](mailto:g.l.blank@ieee.org) and at our web site <http://www.drblank.com/coaction.htm>

## February Meeting Preview

This meeting will feature Dick McClung talking about his experiences of building, flying and crashing his own plane.

## Submissions to *Event Sense*

Send articles and job ads to the *Event Sense* editor, Bob Parro, via e-mail (preferred), or fax. Job ads will run for two consecutive months. Contact the *Event Sense* editor if the ad needs to run longer. Please make submissions by the twenty-fifth of the month. All submissions are subject to editing for style, clarity, and space considerations.

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*Messages for student officers can be left at the NIU Dept of  
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## Calendar

**January Section Meeting** ..... **Jan 24**  
A tour of Danfoss Drives in Loves Park, IL

**February Joint IEEE/ASME Section Meeting** ..... **Feb 28**  
Dick McClung to speak about building, flying and crashing his own plane



Joint Computer/  
Control Systems  
Society Chapter

Established 1995



Industry  
Applications  
Society Chapter

Established 1992



Power  
Electronics  
Society  
Chapter

Established 1996

## Time-Sensitive Material

### Inside This Issue...

- January Section Meeting Notice ..... 1
- Notice of Change to Electronic Delivery Only of RRVN Newsletter ..... 2
- Chicago/Rockford IEEE Consultants' Network Meeting ..... 2
- November RRVN Meeting Recap ..... 2
- February RRVN Meeting Preview ..... 2
- RRVN Website & Officer Contact Information ..... 3
- Update Your Own IEEE Member Contact Info Online ..... 4
- IEEE Personal Email Alias Service ..... 4
- Electronic IEEE Membership Application ..... 4
- Calendar ..... 4