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ICEA ACTIVITIES

An Overview
Now And Into
The Twenty First Century

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PREFACE

This treatise has been prepared in response to requests from the professional sector of the public for information concerning the nature of the Insulated Cable Engineers Association, its purpose, background, how it functions, and its accomplishments. This statement in our "History and Modus Operandi" (PJ-490) which was published in 1982 is still an appropriate introduction to this up-dating, as anticipated therein. ICEA Headquarters is still located in South Yarmouth, Massachusetts, USA after almost twenty years; and looking forward!

*Edward E. McIlveen- August 1997
Secretary/Treasurer*

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PRESIDENT

"The ICEA tradition as a major technical standards writing organization in the wire and cable industry remains unchanged and unchallenged since our basic inception in 1925. Many ICEA standards have achieved worldwide circulation and application. Over this period our Constitution has been revised to enable us to restructure and focus on new and changing technological advancements. This has resulted in the formation of four semi-autonomous "Sections", the scope of each being directed toward applications rather than materials. These Cable Sections are Communications, Control & Instrumentation, Portable and Power.

Our cooperative efforts and formal relationship with the National Electrical Manufacturers Association which dates back to 1955 has been a major step in the advancement of standards. ICEA members have also held close working relationships with the IEEE-ICC since its formation in 1947. Over the past decade, standards writing organizations have experienced significantly greater need for user input in the development and subsequent acceptance of new standards. The ICEA Communications Section first led the way with the formation of the Telecommunications Wire & Cable Standards - Technical Advisory Committee (TWCS TAC) and have published a growing list of documents. The ICEA Power Cable Section recently created the Utility Power Cable Standards Technical Advisory Committee (UPCS TAC) for standards of particular application in the electrical utility industry.

As we approach the year 2000 and beyond, the greater impact of deregulation will continue to reshape both the telecommunications and electrical utility industries. Standards writing organizations must also continue to change to meet the needs of deregulation where demand for nationally recognized standards will peak, such as those recognized by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI). With two major technical advisory committees in place and others being planned, ICEA stands ready to meet the challenge."

*Paul L. Cinquemani
President*

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PAST PRESIDENT

"It is interesting to reflect back over the history of the Insulated Cable Engineers Association and the electrical industry. In looking through this document the reader will be confronted with legendary names like Neher, McGrath, and others. These are names that have helped mold and shape the technological future of this industry. They, and scores of others, were members of a technical group that has now been in existence for over 70 years. The ICEA owes its heritage to the fact that its members are technically oriented, and enthusiastic about their work! This is a tradition that has been unwavering, and it is respected by the member who takes on new responsibilities in sales or marketing, and knows he must resign. However, it is this same commitment to "technical correctness" that makes the work of the ICEA responsible, accurate, and sought after by other organizations. It has been gratifying to see this organization continue to grow in different ways, addressing the needs of today's industry. The most obvious change has been the inclusion of telecommunications cable into our scope of activities, necessitating the 1979 name change from the Insulated Power Cable Engineers Association to the present ICEA. Since then the ICEA has continued to serve a technical role in the establishment of many ICEA, NEMA and ANSI Standards, and routinely provides industry guidance through its technical advisory committees. It is with excitement that the ICEA looks forward to continuing this role in the coming years."

*J. Nick Ware, Jr.
President, 1993-1996*

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