Introduction

This second newsletter, to the attendees of the CEO event at the CIGRE Paris Session and members forming the leadership circle, shares the result of the Steering Committee meeting held in Brazil in early December 2018.

The Paris 2018 Session was the most attended in history by delegate count, exhibitors and guests. As we approach our CIGRE centennial in 2021, we intend to enhance the 2020 and 2022 Sessions in celebration of our history, and to provide the most forward-looking conversations for Power system expertise across the globe. We have already begun planning the Paris 2020 Session [August 23-28, 2020] and hope you note your calendar today!

We welcome any input or suggestions you may have. These can be sent to commentsleadershipcircle@cigre.org.

Response to key opportunities

The following undertaking was given by CIGRE in the first edition of the CEO newsletter.

Global Brief

The global brief requirement arose from the CEO event. It was requested that CIGRE should provide input and solutions to matters facing the industry. These may cover any topic technical or non-technical relevant to the industry.

In response CIGRE undertakes to develop a publication or report covering topics considered relevant to the industry. A task team has been established to determine the relevant topics and identify experts who can provide a global view on the topic. This will be specifically aimed at the executive or leadership level in the industry. The publication will provide concise (typically two pages), accurate, unbiased information which will be of use to your esteem group. This publication will be in addition to the existing technical publications offered by CIGRE.

Expand the membership

The expansion of membership requirement aimed to include Regulators and policy makers into the CIGRE membership. The main purpose is to address issues of regulation in the CIGRE structures.

CIGRE will review the membership in the Study Committee C5 “Markets and Regulation” to improve this segment of the industry. It is hoped that regulatory topics and best practices can be further discussed and published within the CIGRE organisation.

At the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signing with GO15 [association of the 15 largest Grid Operators] in Milan recently, CIGRE participated in the Regulators conference and good contacts were made with professionals from around the world. It is intended that these relationships will be expanded in time.
Communication with executives

Communication channels will be further streamlined and a specific initiative to target the executives in the industry is being developed. This is termed the Leadership Circle and includes this newsletter as well as the proposed rapid response publications.

Opportunities for interview

CEO’s often have valuable insights and views on topics, successful experiences and innovations introduced in their companies. CIGRE would like to share these with the technical community. Should you wish to be interviewed or would like an article published please contact the Secretary General, Philippe Adam, at philippe.adam@cigre.org.

News from the steering committee

The Steering Committee approved the following improvements and developments at the recent meeting:

Digital electra

The paper version of Electra will be discontinued in 2019. A pdf version will be sent. This will not only save printing and delivery costs but will ensure members receive the material timeously.

In parallel, a Digital Electra will be developed for implementation in 2020. This will provide members with a platform from which a variety of information can be obtained on all devices. It will include a seamless process to obtain detailed technical brochures or reference documents, papers, articles, Study Committee summaries and other valuable information.

CIGRE to emphasise it is an “end to end” organisation

CIGRE will continue to strive, via a specific marketing drive, to remove the perception that it is a “transmission only” organisation. Its activities include resolving technical issues at all voltage levels for both AC and DC. The Study Committee scopes have been altered to reflect the inclusion of lower voltage levels. In addition CIGRE has appointed 6 persons per Study Committee for a period of 8 years that are specialist in lower voltage level technology.

The next two symposia in China 2019 and Japan in 2021 have specifically distribution or lower voltage themes. All aspects of lower voltage planning, design and operation especially with the advent of distributed energy resources, smart meters and electric vehicles will be explored.

Conclusion

We welcome any comments and suggestions regarding the above. Any specific issues that are felt need a “quick response” solution can also be raised. If there are sufficient members requiring the solution we can action the request. You are also welcome to contribute via an opinion piece or article in a CIGRE publication.

A further newsletter of this nature, containing information on the progress on the actions taken by CIGRE, will be issued after the Steering Committee in May.

Comments or suggestions are welcome at commentsleadershipcircle@cigre.org.

Thank you