

September 14, 2023

Dear Committee Members and Guests:

You and your spouse/companion are cordially invited to Kansas City, Missouri, USA, to attend the fall 2023 meeting of the IEEE PES Transformers Committee, October 22–26. Named one of the best places in the US to visit in 2023 by Condé Nast, labeled a “rising star” for tech jobs by the Brookings Institute, and receiving a steadily rising rating on the US News Best Places to Live list, Kansas City offers a surprising variety of attractions for visitors and residents alike. Sports fans, museum goers, music lovers, and hungry and thirsty foodies will all find themselves with lots of options. We look forward to welcoming you to the City of Fountains!

**HOTEL INFORMATION:** Our meeting will be held at the Westin Kansas City at Crown Center, 1 East Pershing Road. Enjoy easy access to popular downtown attractions from the hotel, including Crown Center KCMO, Union Station, Sprint Center, and the Power & Light District. After a full day of business, shopping, or sightseeing, relax in your well-appointed room or reenergize in the Fitness Studio with cardio equipment and free weights.

Our discounted guestroom rates start at US\$189 per night. All rates include complimentary wireless internet in guestrooms and hotel public space as well as complimentary fitness center access for all overnight guests. Visit the Committee's website for a link to reserve a room, or if you call the hotel, mention "IEEE Transformers" to receive the respective group rate. Cutoff date for the group rate is Friday, October 6, but we expect the hotel to sell out sooner.

**GETTING THERE:** The Westin Kansas City at Crown Center is located approximately 21 miles/34 km south of Kansas City International Airport (MCI). Taxi fare is approximately US\$55–\$70 one way from the airport to the hotel. UBER and Lyft (US\$32–US\$36) are also approved for ride sharing at MCI. Discounted self-parking in the hotel's garage is US\$25/car per night. Valet parking is also available at a rate of US\$35/car per night.

**MEETING REGISTRATION:** Register on-line for the meeting, Sunday night reception, Monday and Tuesday lunches, spouse/companion tours, technical tours, and Wednesday night event: <https://cvent.me/kREAnN>. This link can also be found on the Committee website Next Meeting page. Register by Friday, October 6, to receive a US\$50 to US\$60 early registration discount (depending on your registration type). The on-line registration system will be disabled on Wednesday, October 18 to print name badges and finalize counts. The cost to register on-site is substantially higher than the advance registration price, and some events may not be available for on-site registration.

**WEATHER:** October is typically an enjoyable autumn month in Kansas City, with the average temperature varying between 48°F/9°C and 65°F/18.5°C, with only a small chance of precipitation. Dress for the meeting is business casual.

**SUNDAY EVENING WELCOME RECEPTION:** The reception will be held inside the Westin hotel in the beautiful Century Ballroom. Featuring live music by a local group, plenty of tasty food and cash bars, kick off the week by catching up with old friends and meeting new ones. Please indicate whether you will attend this reception during the meeting registration process.

**SPOUSE/COMPANION TOURS:** On Monday, start the day with a guided tour of the Harry S. Truman Presidential Library & Museum followed by a BBQ lunch at Char Bar. The afternoon includes multiple stops to view the city's most photographed fountains.

Tuesday is geared towards chocolate lovers who are interested in learning chocolate-making techniques. Attendees will discover the joy of making ganache, forming the centers and tempering chocolate while exploring variations of flavors and coatings. Everyone will leave with a box of nine delicious hand-made truffles and the confidence to make them again at home.

See flyers for details and register early as attendance is limited!

**TECHNICAL TOURS:** Tours of Milbank Manufacturing, Garmin Headquarters, and an Evergy "Touchless" substation are planned for Monday evening, Tuesday evening and Thursday afternoon, respectively. Register online for all tours. Attendance is limited – see flyers for details.

**WEDNESDAY DINNER SOCIAL:** Join us at this unique venue for a BBQ buffet dinner, cash bars and an opportunity to connect with fellow committee members while experiencing together a one-of-a-kind tribute to an event of global proportions!

Opened in 1926, the National WWI Museum and Memorial is the only American museum exclusively dedicated to the Great War and its enduring impact. Visitors are first greeted by the impressive Liberty Memorial Tower – a monument to the men and women who served in the war. Beneath the monument, the main gallery is arranged as if WWI soldiers were telling visitors their own stories through the exhibits. The museum features life-size replicas of trenches, the world's most comprehensive collection of World War I artifacts, and our event will include access to the Liberty Memorial Tower observation deck (elevator plus 45 steps) with breathtaking views of the Kansas City skyline.

**ADDITIONAL MEETING INFORMATION:** Along with this invitation letter, additional meeting information can be downloaded from the Committee's website:

- Registration Fees Summary – Guide to review all fees before logging into the registration system.
- Meeting Schedule and General Sessions Agenda – If any noteworthy changes are made, an updated schedule will be posted on the Committee's website a few days prior to the meeting.

We are certain you will enjoy everything Kansas City has to offer and look forward to seeing you at the fall 2023 meeting!

Best regards,

Troy Tanaka, Alan Washburn  
and  
the Burns & McDonnell team

*Fall 2023 Meeting Hosts*

