



# TRANSFORMERS COMMITTEE



February 4, 2012

Dear Committee Members and Guests:

You and your companion are cordially invited to attend the upcoming Spring 2012 Meeting of the IEEE/PES Transformers Committee to be held **March 11-15 in Nashville, Tennessee**. It is our distinct honor and pleasure, and the desire of all of us at Baron USA to be your host for this event.

Our meeting will be at the **Renaissance Nashville Hotel** (611 Commerce Street). This hotel is ideally located to take advantage of all that Downtown Nashville has to offer. It is close to the center of Nashville's world famous music, dining, and entertainment area of Lower Broadway and 2nd Avenue. While our company, **Baron USA**, is located 80 miles to the east in the town of Cookeville, Tennessee, we do enjoy coming into the "Big City".

**CHANGE IN MEETING FORMAT**. Note that at this meeting, we will revise our weekly agenda slightly. One of the biggest changes is dividing our Thursday General Session into two parts. The first part will be on Monday morning, reviewing new business and hot topics for the upcoming week. The second part on Thursday morning will briefly summarize what happened during the week. Additionally, our two technical presentations will be moved to Thursday morning. We hope you will find this new format even more productive.

**HOTEL INFORMATION**: The discounted group rate for standard guest rooms at the Renaissance Hotel is US\$149/night (single/double), including complimentary wireless Internet in the guest rooms. Visit the Committee's website for a link to registration, or call **+1.615.255.8400** or toll-free at **1.800.327.6618**. Mention "**IEEE Transformers**" to receive the group rate. The cut-off date for the group rate is February 24, but we expect the hotel to sell-out before then.

**GETTING THERE**: Nashville International Airport is located approximately 8 miles east of downtown. The Airport code is "**BNA**". The hotel does not provide shuttle service. Alternate transportation: Gray Line Downtown Airport Express; fee: \$16 (one-way, scheduled). Estimated taxi fare: \$24.00 (one way). Parking in garage: \$4 to \$8 daily (the cheapest place to park in downtown, but no in-out privileges). Valet parking at the hotel is \$29.50/day, with in-out privileges.

**REGISTRATION**: Register on-line at [www.transformerscommittee.org](http://www.transformerscommittee.org) for tours, social events, and meeting registration. Register by February 24 to receive the \$50 early registration discount. The on-line registration system will be disabled on March 7 to print name badges and to finalize counts. Note that the cost to walk-up register at the meeting is substantially higher than for registering on-line in advance.

**WEATHER**: Can be unpredictable this time of the year, but daytime highs average 60°F (16°C), and night time lows average 38°F (3°C). This winter has been very mild so please check the forecast closer to meeting time. Dress at the meeting is business casual.

**TIME CHANGE**: Daylight Savings Time begins Sunday, March 11, at 2:00 am. Move your clocks ahead one hour before retiring Saturday night.

**SATURDAY EARLY-BIRD EVENT:** Dinner and dancing at the World Famous Wild Horse Saloon. See the Flyer on the website for details. Register for this event by February 24.

**SUNDAY EVENING RECEPTION:** Baron USA is proud to host this renewal of friendships and formation of new acquaintances. A cash-bar and complimentary hors d'oeuvres will be provided. Indicate your intention to attend this event during the on-line registration process.

**TUESDAY LUNCHEON:** Ms. Carla Nelson, Senior Engineer from Nashville Electric Service (NES) will discuss the impact of electric vehicles on the grid and how NES is preparing for it. Additionally, there will be a special presentation of the 2012 IEEE Herman Halperin Electric Transmission and Distribution Award to our friend, Dr. Michel Duval. Join us for this interesting and timely technical presentation AND join Dr. Duval as he receives this prestigious award.

**WEDNESDAY EVENING RECEPTION:** We will have exclusive use of the **Country Music Hall of Fame** to discover why Nashville is called "**Music City**". During our visit, we can browse the hundreds of exhibits and enjoy a sit-down dinner with musical entertainment.

**SPOUSE/COMPANION TOURS.** Join us on Monday for a tour of two of Tennessee's most stately mansions. Get an idea of how the "to-do" in the South lived in the late 1800's. On Tuesday, get a rare glimpse to what happens behind the scenes of country music's most famous show, the **Grand Ole Opry**. We will also enjoy shopping at the **Gaylord Opryland Resort**, and a guided tour of the world famous **Ryman Auditorium**, once home of the Grand Ole Opry.

**TECHNICAL TOURS:** NES will host a guided tour of their new (and very unique) Peabody Gas-Insulated Substation, serving the Music City Center.

**NASHVILLE PLACES.** There are so many great spots in Nashville -- some just blocks from the hotel, others no more than a short cab ride away -- that we are sure you will have no trouble finding your own favorite spots. Here is a good place to look to get started: [www.nashvillescene.com](http://www.nashvillescene.com).

**ADDITIONAL MEETING INFORMATION.** Along with this invitation letter, additional meeting information can be downloaded from the Committee's website: [www.transformerscommittee.org](http://www.transformerscommittee.org).

- Meeting Registration Form. This is good guide to review fees before you begin the on-line registration process. Note that as of 2012, on-line registration with a credit card is the primary method of payment. Contact us at [transformers@ieee.org](mailto:transformers@ieee.org) if another form of payment is desired.
- Detailed Meeting Schedule & General Session Agenda. If there are any noteworthy changes, an updated schedule will be posted on the Committee's website a few days prior to the meeting.
- Other Informational Flyers, including those for the Tuesday Luncheon, the Saturday Early-Bird Event, the Wednesday Social, Spouse/Companion Tours, Technical Tours, and Technical Presentations (flyers for the Technical Presentations will be added to the website soon).

We at Baron USA are committed to making your visit to **Music City** a memorable one.

**Ya'll come and see us, Y'hear!**



**Derek & Diana Baranowski**  
Spring 2012 Meeting Host  
Baron USA, Inc.  
[www.baronusa.com](http://www.baronusa.com)