



# TRANSFORMERS COMMITTEE



February 3, 2016

Dear Committee Members and Guests:

You and your companion are cordially invited to Atlanta, Georgia to attend the Spring 2016 meeting of the IEEE/PES Transformers Committee, to be held March 20-24. This is our first meeting in Atlanta in over 30 years, and we look forward to welcoming you to the South!

**HOTEL INFORMATION:** Our meeting will be held in the heart of downtown Atlanta at the **Sheraton Atlanta Hotel**, 165 Courtland Street NE. Centennial Olympic Park, World of Coca-Cola, Georgia Aquarium and CNN are all within walking distance. Discounted guestroom rate at the Sheraton is US\$149, including complimentary internet in the guestrooms. Visit the Committee's website for a link to reserve a room, or if you call the hotel, mention "IEEE Transformers" to receive the group rate. The cut-off date for the group rate is Friday, February 26, but we expect the hotel to sell out before this date.

Overnight self-parking and valet parking are available at the hotel at an additional cost. Instead of renting a car, keep in mind that many "places of interest" are within walking distance, and transportation will be provided for all off-site events.

**GETTING THERE:** The Sheraton Hotel is located about 15 minutes from Hartsfield-Jackson International Airport (ATL). Taxi fare to downtown Atlanta is approximately US\$30 one-way. Super Shuttle service is also available. For more information, visit [www.supershuttle.com](http://www.supershuttle.com). Atlanta's MARTA trains run from the airport to the Peachtree Center station. From there, the hotel is just a short walk. More information on MARTA schedules and maps can be found at [www.martaguide.com](http://www.martaguide.com).

**MEETING REGISTRATION:** Register on-line at [www.transformerscommittee.org](http://www.transformerscommittee.org) for social events, tours and the meeting. Register by Friday, February 26 to receive a \$50 early registration discount. The on-line registration system will be disabled on Wednesday, March 16 to print name badges and finalize counts. The cost to register on-site is substantially higher than the advance registration price.

**WEATHER:** Spring in Atlanta is very comfortable with an average high of 65°F/19°C and average low of 45°F/7°C. Spring showers may pop-up so bring an umbrella. Most of our events are indoors, and we are hoping for great weather during your visit! Dress for the meeting is business casual.

**SATURDAY EARLY BIRD EVENT:** Join us for an exciting dinner theater experience at **Agatha's Taste of Mystery**. Agatha's is just a short walk from the hotel, where we will enjoy the interactive show and a five-course dinner. The more adventurous can participate in the show. Attendance is limited to only 40 tickets for this outing, and we expect those to sell out early! See flyer for details.

**SUNDAY EVENING WELCOME RECEPTION:** Renew old friendships and form new ones! This reception will be held poolside in the Garden Courtyard at the Sheraton. A cash bar and plenty of fabulous food will be provided, along with entertainment by the band **The Past Tells**, who plays a variety of older pop, rock and folk music. Registered meeting attendees and companions are welcome to attend. Please indicate whether you will attend during the meeting registration process.

**WEDNESDAY DINNER SOCIAL:** We invite you to join us at the **Atlanta History Center (AHC)**. Explore the exhibits and grounds and enjoy a buffet dinner in the fabulous Grand Overlook Ballroom. Shuttle buses will run between the Sheraton and the AHC your convenience. See flyer for details.

**SPOUSE/COMPANION TOURS:** Monday's tour is entitled "What Dreams are Made Of" and includes visits to the **Martin Luther King Memorial** and the **Jimmy Carter Presidential Library**. Between museums, we will enjoy lunch at the famous **Mary Mac's Tea Room**, one of the last few remaining tea rooms that once dotted downtown Atlanta. Attendance is limited, so register early. See flyer for details.

Tuesday is the "Atlanta Must See" tour, where we will spend the morning exploring the **World of Coca-Cola** and be able to taste Coke products from around the world. Then the group heads to **Atlantic Station** for lunch at **The Pig & The Pearl**. In addition to lunch, Atlantic Station houses an eclectic collection of more than 50 shops. Following lunch, we move on to **CNN Studio** for a 50-minute walking tour. Again, attendance is limited, so register early and see flyer for details.

**TECHNICAL TOURS:** A factory tour of the **Hitachi HVB** high voltage circuit breaker factory, located in the town of Suwanee, just north of Atlanta, will be held on Sunday morning, March 20. Following our meeting on Thursday afternoon, March 24, our host, **Power Partners**, will conduct a tour of their overhead distribution transformer factory in Athens. Both tours are "by invitation only," but (new this meeting) you can indicate your desire to attend the tours when you register for the meeting. Someone from the associated factory will contact you shortly afterward, regarding your request.

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

- Meeting Registration Fee Summary. Use this as a guide to review the fees for each activity before you begin the on-line registration process. Instructions for individual event registrations and payment can be found on this page.
- Detailed 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.
- Other informational flyers, including those for the Saturday Early Bird event, Wednesday Dinner Social, Spouse/Companion Tours and technical presentations.

We look forward to seeing you at the Spring 2016 Meeting and are certain you will enjoy a good taste of southern hospitality in Atlanta!

**Alan Traut**

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