



TRANSFORMERS COMMITTEE



January 29, 2010

Dear Committee Members and Guests:

Welcome to the Energy Capital of the World - Houston, Texas! You and a guest are cordially invited to attend the Spring 2010 Meeting of the IEEE/PES Transformers Committee, to be held March 7-11. It is my pleasure, and the sincere pleasure of Tulstar Products, Inc., to be your host for the event.

The meeting will be held at the Omni Houston Hotel, located at Four Riverway, Houston, Texas (www.omnihouston.com). The hotel is located on the west side of Houston, in the prestigious Uptown Post Oak area, approximately 10 minutes from downtown, and minutes away from the world-famous Galleria Shopping District. The group rate for guest rooms at the Omni Hotel is US\$139/night (single or double occupancy), with rooms reserved under the group name "IEEE Transformers". Please contact the hotel directly for room reservations +713.871.8181 (or toll-free within the USA and Canada at 1.888.444.OMNI) and mention our group name.

HOUSTON INFORMATION

With a population of over 2.2 million people, Houston is the 4th largest city in the USA, behind New York, Los Angeles, and Chicago. Alive with energy and rich in diversity, Houston is a dynamic mix of imagination, talent, and first-class attractions that make it a world-class city. If you are interested in enjoying your own time outside of conference activities, I encourage you to go online to www.houstontx.gov/visitors for more information.

Houston is known for its fine dining establishments - whether your venue preference be Mexican, Cajun, Texas Barbeque, Steaks, Asian, Mediterranean, or Italian. This city will surely satisfy your appetite!

GETTING TO/FROM THE HOTEL

The Omni Hotel is located 30 miles from George Bush Intercontinental Airport (IAH), and 25 miles from Houston Hobby Airport (HOU).

A one-way Yellow Cab taxi cost ~\$55 to/from Intercontinental Airport, and ~\$45 to/from Hobby.

Super Shuttle (+713.523.8888 or 1.800.258.3826) is \$18-24 one-way to/from either Intercontinental or Hobby. Be aware that Super Shuttle can make several stops along the way.

Karr Limousine has offered our group a fixed-rate, one-way fare to/from either Intercontinental Airport or Hobby Airport for \$75 in a Town Car (2-3 passengers), or \$120 in an SUV (4-5 passengers). This fixed rate includes taxes & tolls, AND driver gratuity. At least a 24-hour advanced reservation is necessary. Call +713.780.8300 or 1.800.406.1459, or email belinda@karrlimousine.com Mention the group name "IEEE".

ON-LINE REGISTRATION

Our week in Houston will be packed full of events to give you the opportunity to enjoy true Texas hospitality. On-line registration can be accessed at www.transformerscommittee.org and will offer you the opportunity to register for all special events, companion tours, and technical tours.

SPECIAL EVENTS

Sunday, March 7, NASA Space Center Tour

Houston is proud to be home to NASA's Johnson Space Center. Our day will include a tram tour of Mission Control, exhibits, lunch, and learning shows. Lunch vouchers will be provided to all attendees, and guests will enjoy a full day of learning and fun.

Sunday March 7, Evening Reception, Omni Hotel Ballroom

Nynas USA Inc. is proud to sponsor this renewal of friendships and formation of new acquaintances. A cash-bar and complimentary hor d'oeuvres will be provided.

Monday Evening, March 8

We have purchased a few tickets for the annual Houston Livestock Show and Rodeo, featuring a one of a kind livestock show and rodeo performance, great food, a carnival, and a concert by the Grammy Award-Winning Country Artist **TIM MCGRAW**. Don't wait to sign up for this event, tickets are limited. More event information is available at www.hlsr.com

Tuesday Speaker Luncheon

Houston is the home of Jim "Mattress Mack" McIngvale. Mack will present a topic that hits very close to home, "Overcoming Adversity". Mack is a Texas-grown phenomenon, with the ability to light up the audience using his great personality and motivational attitude. You will not want to miss this event!

Wednesday Evening Social

Join us for a "two-stepping" good time, food, and entertainment at Goode's Armadillo Palace. The Palace makes some of the best Texas BBQ and pecan pies that you have ever tasted. You will consider yourself a true Texan once you have had the opportunity to ride the mechanical bull, take photos with a live Texas Longhorn, dance to a live country music band, play pool, and shuffle board.

SPOUSE/COMPANION TOURS

Monday, March 8

Houston Museum Guided Tours with lunch in Rice Village. You will have an opportunity to visit the Houston Museum of Natural Science in Houston's beautiful Museum District, break for hosted lunch in Rice Village, then return for a tour of the Museum of Fine Arts, recognized as one of the Southwest's largest museums, with over 37,000 works of art.

Tuesday, March 9

Bayou Bend Tour with stop at the former home of philanthropist Ima Hogg, followed by three-course lunch at Houston's famous Post Oak Grill. During the Bayou Bend tour, you will be able to see the beautiful River Oaks District of Houston, featuring some of the most lavish houses and neighborhoods in the South. Guests will hopefully enjoy seeing Azalea gardens in full bloom.

TECHNICAL TOURS

Tuesday, March 9

Three (3) separate technical tours are offered this evening (each depart the hotel at 6:30 pm):

- Weidmann Diagnostic Testing Laboratory. Everyone is invited.
- ABB Marine Facility. Attendance limited to Committee Members and Active Participants.
- Huntsman Advanced Technology Center. Restricted attendance; by invitation only.

Thursday Evening, March 11

Finish your week in Houston with the best seafood buffet in Texas at Brady's Landing, while learning about the manufacture of transformer oil, and how the oil & refining market impacts transformer oil supply and demand. Immediately following lunch, we will take a 90-minute boat ride with guided tour of the Houston Ship Channel, to give our guests a full perspective of the energy and chemical business in Houston. This event is limited to the first 45 guests to register.

HOUSTON WEATHER

March is a tricky time of year to predict the Houston weather. The average high temperature in March is 74°F (23°C), with an average low of 55°F (13°C) ... BUT, this can vary depending upon weather patterns. Please check the forecast before your arrival and bring comfortable clothes, especially if you intend on joining some of the social events and technical tours.

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Along with this invitation letter, all meeting information can be downloaded from the Committee's website at www.transformerscommittee.org

1. Meeting Registration Form. This document is primarily used for those who do not have access to the Internet or need to pay by paper check or money order. It also makes a good guide to review the fees before you begin the on-line registration process. On-line registration is strongly encouraged.
2. Detailed Meeting Schedule & General Session Agenda. An updated schedule will be posted on the Committee's web site approximately one week prior to the meeting.
3. Information Flyers.
 - Sunday NASA Tour
 - Spouse/Companion Tours
 - Monday Rodeo Event
 - Wednesday Evening Dinner Social
 - Monday/Tuesday Technical Presentations
 - Technical Tours

We look forward to seeing you in Houston!

Jeremy Kriska
Director of Sales & Marketing, Tulstar Products, Inc.
Host, Spring 2010 Transformers Committee Meeting
jkriska@tulstar.com

