

Dear Readers,



When we were planning the themes for 2022, to provide structure for our weekly Body of Knowledge releases, and for the compiled digital magazine, we believed it was time to expand the themes beyond the *power transformer* and the technical aspects relating to those transformers, without moving too far afield. This February magazine has done that to a lesser extent. Focusing on Transformers: **The Heart of the Power System** begins to formulate the direction for the future in that we address a system not just the heart of that system.

For February we have limited the other aspects of the power system, but in the future, you will see an expansion of our content to include the entire power system, under a new community called Power System Technology (PST). That expansion begins in earnest in April and for the rest of the year. Of course, our Bushings, and our Oils & Fluids issues will remain as stalwarts of October and December issues, as is custom, but even there, we will expand the Body of Knowledge to include PST issues and technology.

As for February, what you will find is an excellent example of the diversity of thought around the heart of the system, the Transformer. Justin Melroy, who I had the fortune of having dinner with at a recent conference, has presented a great article on deploying condition-based maintenance technologies to extend the life of renewable energy assets, which aligns with our sub-topics of green energy, DER, and generation. He covered all three in one article. Great job, Justin!

Tony McGrail of Doble tells us “There’s a 70% Chance Your Transformer Fails”. Yikes! If that headline doesn’t grab you then nothing will. Speaking of uptime, Traci Hopkins presents a great perspective on transformer reliability, also a passion of mine over the past decade. Traci is also a member of Women in Reliability and Asset Management (WIRAM), an organization committed to diversity and inclusion in maintenance and reliability professions. Traci will represent electric power reliability well.

An interview with Wilfred Breuer of MR is a must read as well as articles from members of our Technical Advisory Board: Thomas Linn of Qualitrol and Maria Lamorey of PPG.

With the addition of PST, Transformer Technology will stand front and center in our development of articles and interviews. I particularly love the cover of this month’s digital issue with the transformer clearly identified as the heart of the system.

It is no coincidence that we published this issue on February 14<sup>th</sup>, Valentine’s Day. A dear friend and leader, Dale Bissonette of Good Place Holdings once said as I entered the world of transformers at SDMyers, “You will find that you will fall in love with transformers before you know it.” He was right. It kind of sneaks up on you; not love at first sight, but a growing understanding of the importance of transformers on pretty much every aspect of modern-day life.



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But the future is clear: Changes in the grid and in the use of power might bring on some technically challenging times for practitioners, as adapting to digitalization, EV adoption, cyber-security, asset management and green energy will be front and center. And while the transformer will still be the heart of these changes, it is certain that adjunct components will also play a critical part of the future, thus the addition of the PST community to our lineup.

For anyone interested in contributing to the theme and sub-topics for April, please let me know at [alan.ross@transformer-technology.com](mailto:alan.ross@transformer-technology.com). Here are those topics that we will include, but if there is a topic that you think fits with our future focus, please let me know that as well.

Coming in April:

**New Design and Advances in Technology**

- Dry-type Technology
- Changes in Controller and Instrument Transformer Technology
- Fans & Radiators
- Gauges
- Protection Systems
- Cables and Buss Work

As you can see, the components of electrical systems go well beyond the transformer itself.

Finally, I would be remiss if I didn't also mention that in March, we will publish the third digital magazine for Women in Power Systems (WPS), something we are tremendously proud to have launched in 2021. While there are a growing number of technical associations for women in engineering, and technical professions, WPS takes a different approach. While advancing women in technical roles, we celebrate and profile the complete career woman in our industry, and the reaction to it has been very gratifying. If you would like to find out how to participate in this community, please contact Rachel Linke, Chair of the WPS Steering Committee at [rachel.linke@apc.media](mailto:rachel.linke@apc.media).

For APC Media, publisher of TT, PST and WPS, 2022 will be the year we will look back upon as the year we broke through the clutter and became the recognized leader within all our communities. The digital revolution is here, and we are proud to have made that part of our DNA. All the staff at APC Media are dedicated professionals who take great satisfaction at being unconditionally excellent, something I am very grateful to share, as a foundation of our values.

Please enjoy this issue and please, as always, connect with us if you would like to be part of any of our communities or to respond to any of our authors. For Rachel Linke and me, our email addresses are above. For any other contact, please use [info@transformer-technology.com](mailto:info@transformer-technology.com).

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