

Leadership Circle

CEO Forum | Paris Session 47

Edition 1 October 2018

Welcome

Welcome to the CIGRE Leadership Circle newsletter. This first edition is provided to the attendees of the CEO forum recently held at Paris Session 47. This newsletter shares the findings from the event as well as action that CIGRE is taking to address the issues and suggestions.

We would like to thank you all for participating in the event and spending time to provide valuable input.

Key challenges

The following were the key challenges identified:

1. Loss of skills coupled with the ability to attract young engineers into the industry.
2. Attract and keep young engineers as CIGRE contributes to staff loyalty.
3. Rapid change of technology, reduction of prices, ability of the industry to respond.
4. Access to skills and technical solutions.
5. Need for regulators to understand impact of renewables on the grid.
6. Need for regulators to be flexible and responsive to new technologies.
7. Informing Governments that total cost of renewable introduction may not lead to reduction in cost to customer.
8. Data management, cyber security.

How can CIGRE be a partner in resolving these issues

The following were the principal actions identified:

1. Involvement of non-technical experts into the CIGRE fold. These include Regulators, policy makers and other areas [economics].
2. More rapid response to issues required – perhaps 6 months turn-around from identification to publication.
3. Involvement of CIGRE in all aspects of power delivery – end to end including distribution.
4. CIGRE seen to be spokesperson for the Industry.
5. CIGRE giving input to education curricula, encouraging young engineers to join the industry.

What can CIGRE do for you? What can you do for CIGRE?

The following were the main points raised:

1. Quicker response to issues raised via Chat room, Webinars, web Tutorials, or using any available similar facility.
2. Instant answers as required by the “market”.
3. Support from CEO level to support participation in working groups.
4. Increase level of visibility to upper management levels in Industry.



CIGRE's proposed response

The main points from the interaction that need to be addressed by CIGRE that have not been addressed are as follows:

1. Rapid response – to address and issue solutions to issues within a short period of time. The Technical Council has undertaken to determine how to reduce time to publication without neglecting the technical content of the CIGRE outcomes. A parallel process may be required as the current Technical Brochure process takes time for agreement to be reached on technical matters. It may also be possible to publish interim reports from WG's in a short time. This could provide information, which can be used by engineers without waiting for a full and final TB publication.
2. Expand the membership to include the involvement of Regulators and policy makers – the methods to do this will be further explored. At present Study Committee C5, dealing with market design and implementation, deals more with the effect of market design on the grid operation rather than Regulation issues. Regulators have been members in the past but the discussion is not around policy in most instances. There is not a simple solution to this but methods will be explored to attract Regulators and Policy makers into CIGRE.
3. Communication to senior management – CIGRE is looking at targeting information to forums such as the CEO forum. At present the communication is not well targeted. This will be addressed at all levels.

Conclusion

The CEO forum provided a great deal of valuable information. Interestingly the issues from various parts of the world were not that different. This convergence enables CIGRE to address issues by the three actions listed above.

The intention of this newsletter is to keep the CEO forum informed of the progress made by CIGRE in addressing issues raised. CIGRE of course, cannot operate without your continued support.

We welcome any comments and suggestions regarding the above. Any specific issues that are felt need a “quick response” solution can also be raised. If there are sufficient members requiring the solution we can action the request. You are also welcome to contribute via an opinion piece or article in a CIGRE publication.

The next newsletter will be in 2019 after the Steering Committee meeting in December. It will contain information on the progress on the actions taken by CIGRE.

Thank you

