

ECCE Session Will Focus On Workforce Development And Careers In Power Electronics

At the upcoming IEEE Energy Conversion Congress & Expo (ECCE 2017), October 1-5, in Cincinnati, Ohio, the U.S. Power Electronics Industry Collaborative (PEIC) will lead a 90-minute Special Session on workforce development and careers in power electronics. The intent of this special session is to bring together a cross section of the industry involved with applications such as electric vehicle, solar/wind power, energy storage, variable speed motors & solid-state lighting. Several PEIC members from the semiconductor industry, end equipment manufacturers, national laboratories, and universities involved in power electronics R&D will describe some of the key problems and opportunities they face and the types of new talent they seek to add to their organizations to address those problems and opportunities.

As one PEIC's goals is to ensure America has a great workforce in power electronics, PEIC is focused on industry enablement by attracting & grooming new engineering talent. This comes with reaching out to aspiring minds to help them to understand the many power electronics-related challenges and opportunities facing industry, society and government.

For example, for those considering a career in this field, what level of specialization is required at the start? Do engineers entering the power electronics industry benefit from a deep and relatively narrow education and/or experience in power electronics or an adjacent field? Or is it anticipated that hiring companies are placing greater emphasis on broader based skill sets and experiences tying together multiple disciplines of electrical, mechanical and thermal? The short answer is that both ends of the spectrum are and will be needed.

For more information, or to inquire about participating in this session, contact PEIC Board president [Keith Evans](#) or see the PEIC [website](#). Or for more general information on ECCE 2017's Special Sessions, contact ECCE Special Session chair [Peter Wung](#).