



AEIC Committee/ Connection

ASSOCIATION OF EDISON ILLUMINATING COMPANIES

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AEIC's Cable Engineering Committee – Developing Specifications and Guides Used Around the World



The AEIC Cable Engineering Committee's goal is to improve service and reliability, reduce costs (both material and operating) and improve the quality of underground cable systems that are being installed. Additionally, the CEC is considered an industry watchdog, because it monitors industry issues and takes action to address them whenever the need arises.

The Thorough Process of Developing CEC Documents

Cable Engineering Committee documents are created to address what the Committee believes to be deficiencies in existing industry standards, improve business efficiencies, extend the life of underground cables and systems and provide information for those who are relatively new to underground cable systems.

Whenever the CEC identifies an area that needs to be addressed with a specification or guide, the Committee Chair establishes a Task Group to address the issue. A Chair and Vice-Chair are assigned to lead the Task Group, and interested committee members volunteer to participate.

The Task Group develops the final specification or guide, based on the experience of those on the Task Group and, as necessary, the input from knowledgeable outside sources.



After the Task Group approves the document, the Task Group Chair will submit it to the entire Committee for ballot. After acceptance by the CEC, the document is forwarded by the Task Group Chair to the document Editor for a final review. The Editor then forwards the document to AEIC Headquarters for publication. The new document or revision is then announced on the AEIC web site and through its digital outlet.

Collaborating to Improve Industry Standards

The CEC works with cable manufacturers to assure an open exchange of information between the manufacturers and ultimate users of cable. Four meetings a year are scheduled to discuss emerging issues and review drafts of documents. As a result of this open exchange, the Committee has seen many of its CEC requirements incorporated directly into the standards that are written by the cable manufacturers.



Members Sharing Information – Like Having 30 Consulting Engineers On Call

One of the major benefits of the CEC is the sharing of information among Committee members. During scheduled committee meetings, within Task Groups, through conference calls and emails, members regularly exchange operational ideas and concepts and discuss problems and issues and their solutions.

This is information that is voluntarily shared and taken back to AEIC member companies and many times becomes industry best operating practices among member companies. Shared information and best practices often are incorporated into the specifications and guides produced by the Committee.



One Cable Engineering Committee member pointed out that by having a member on the CEC, a company can have access to over 30 seasoned consulting engineers, who volunteer their knowledge and experience at no cost to AEIC companies needing information.

Committee Members are Involved in the Industry

CEC members are involved in many different industry activities. Most CEC members are members of the IEEE Insulated Conductors Committee, where they serve on working groups, discussion groups, and standards writing committees. Many CEC members also serve on regional utility exchanges or committees.

The Committee has members serving on ANSI and IEEE standards writing committees, members that interface with international standards writing groups, and members involved with the National Electric Safety Code, EPRI, and NEETRAC. This means is that CEC members have access to extensive expertise and resources.



Addressing Special Issues

Increased interest in the use of high stress (reduced diameter) cables prompted the CEC to develop a guide for reduced diameter cables. This was done in an effort to help those trying to find an acceptable replacement for their aging Paper Insulated Lead Covered (PILC) cables.

The CEC realizes that underground transmission is expanding, and the reliability of this underground system depends not only on the cables but also on the associated accessories. Therefore, the CEC has expanded its transmission cable specifications to cover cables and accessories through 345 kV.

Reducing Costs

The CEC formed a Task Group to develop cost reduction strategies and to identify activities that would have the greatest impact on costs. As a result, the CEC developed a guide for minimizing the cost of extruded dielectric shielded power cables rated 5 kV through 46 kV. It is also investigating other areas of concern, including cable and accessories used in underground electrical vaults.

The Value of Cable Engineering Committee Membership

Companies considering membership in the AEIC organization and the Cable Engineering Committee should look at the total value of that membership fee. One single membership fee provides access to a staff of seasoned engineers with extensive knowledge and experience to help overcome or prevent problems, as well as providing up-to-date information about industry trends and activities.

In addition, with a single year's membership in AEIC, member companies have the opportunity to let employees affiliate with the other six AEIC technical, working committees and subcommittees: Power Generation, Power Delivery, Power Apparatus, Meter and Service, Load Research and Analytics, and Customer Service.



**AEIC's Cable Engineering Committee.
Industry Expertise – Industry Leadership**

View CEC Members Here: <http://aeic.org/committees/cable-engineering/members/>

Cable Engineering Committee Specifications and Guides may be purchased at this address:
<http://www.techstreet.com/aeic/>



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