

INCOSE UK Launches a new Interest Group looking at Energy Systems.

UK energy systems face some particular challenges as we embrace decarbonisation and seek to integrate a stream of innovations into effective solutions for the future. This new Interest Group aims to come together to share knowledge and promote whole systems thinking in the energy sector, thus helping to address the challenges ahead.

Michael Gainford, a long-standing member of INCOSE UK who works at the Energy Systems Catapult, suggested that INCOSE UK consider creating an Energy Systems Interest Group. Around 50 people from a variety of organisations had expressed interest in participating in the group and 19 attended the inaugural meeting, which took place at the Institute of Directors (IoD) headquarters on Tuesday 10 April 2018.

Attendees at the meeting elected Michael Gainford as Chair of the group, and Professor Jianzhong Wu of Cardiff University was elected as Co-chair. Tony Byrne of MMI Engineering was elected as Secretary. The group will meet three times a year at different locations around the country.

The objectives of the group are to:

- Discover the exemplars of Systems Engineering / systems thinking in the UK energy systems sector
- Promote opportunities for sharing this best practice within the energy sector
- Find opportunities for bringing best practice from other sectors into the UK energy systems space

Michael Gainford, Chair of the INCOSE UK Interest Group for Energy Systems, said:

“Our ability to employ a Systems Engineering approach to a given project is, without doubt, directly linked to overall project performance, particularly in more complex settings such as the energy systems space.

“There are many experts in the energy domain and indeed in Systems Engineering, but the fundamental purpose of this new Interest Group is to provide an opportunity for the two to come together to greater promote whole systems thinking in the energy sector. This is key if we are to unlock the significant benefits of a decarbonised energy system across the UK, and beyond.”

Kirsty Akroyd-Wallis is the President-Elect of INCOSE UK and oversees the various groups. On the formation of the new Energy Systems Interest Group, she stated:

“INCOSE UK are keen to promote Systems Engineering across all domains, and from our Council’s point of view, it is always exciting when a member steps forward to start a new group with clear objectives to engage in a new domain. I would like to wish Michael and the other members of the group every success and look forward to hearing about their progress.”

Dated: 23 April 2018

Press Release



For more information contact:

Emma Jane Taylor
INCOSE UK Secretariat
Tel: 01460 298217
Fax: 0845 2805304
Email: emmajane@incoseonline.org.uk
Web: www.incoseonline.org.uk

Hazel Woodcock
INCOSE UK Communications Director
Email: communications-director@incoseonline.org.uk

INCOSE UK Ltd, the Dyers Building, 21 Silver Street, Ilminster, Somerset, TA19 0DH

Information for Editors

INCOSE UK Ltd

The UK Chapter of the International Council on Systems Engineering (INCOSE), with over 1,000 individual and 37 corporate members, exists primarily to serve UK-specific needs and is a key chapter within INCOSE. It has strong links with other UK institutions and it plays a prominent role in both the domestic and the international scenes. It holds one conference and one training day each year, has active regional, working and special interest groups and publishes a variety of guides and other products tailored for UK members.

Despite its focus on UK-specific needs, the UK Chapter attracts members from territories around the globe.

The 'flavour' of Systems Engineering most prevalent in the UK has developed into an open and inclusive practice that facilitates the application of systems thinking and Systems Engineering principles in domains outside of the traditional domains of defence and aerospace. In recent years, the membership of INCOSE UK has widened significantly from its roots, expanding to include domains such as transportation - particularly rail - energy, civil engineering, space, medicine, and security.

For more information, please visit www.incoseonline.org.uk.