We are in the home stretch in finalizing the program for the ASME Power 2014 conference in Baltimore, Maryland. This year’s conference theme is: “Plant Optimization and Knowledge Transfer: Getting The Most Out of Your Megawatts.” This year’s theme hits home because as engineers, optimizing and efficiency are always in the forefront of any task or project that we undertake. The 2014 conference program will include over 150 technical papers and an additional 25 presentations/tutorials/panel discussions covering 14 different tracks pertaining to energy conversion. We are honored and excited to have Congressman David McKinley P.E. (R-WV) to provide our opening keynote address along with Robert Sims, ASME President 2014-2015 and author James Chiles rounding out the keynote program. Through the diligent efforts by ASME and ASME member volunteers like yourselves, the program has taken shape to be an informative exchange of information and ideas current to the power industry. I invite you to join us in Baltimore on the Inner Harbor for the ASME Power 2014 Conference. This will certainly be a great opportunity to take in the technical program and the sights of Baltimore, while networking with colleagues and industry experts from the United States and around the world.

See you there,

James Wieters - Chair ASME Power Division

MESSAGE FROM THE CHAIR

KEYNOTE ADDRESS!

As James mentioned above we are very honored and excited to have Representative David B. McKinley, P.E. (R-WV) providing our opening Keynote Address. In light of the many regulatory challenges facing our industry today it will be very interesting to hear the prospective of a respected individual who is not only a U.S. Representative, but also an Engineer!

David McKinley has been a strong advocate for common sense, market driven reforms to help government operate more efficiently for many years. He also recognizes that the coal industry is the backbone of West Virginia’s economy and the attacks on coal from Washington must be stopped. This is why David B. McKinley is proud to represent the 1st District of West Virginia in our nation’s Capitol.

Born in Wheeling in 1947, David attended public schools and worked his way through college graduating from Purdue University with a degree in Civil Engineering. After college he spent the next 12 years in the construction industry and taught night classes in local technical colleges.

He then established McKinley and Associates – an architectural and engineering company that has grown to include offices in Wheeling and Charleston, WV and Washington, PA.

As a successful former small businessman, David has created hundreds of jobs and understands the vital role of small businesses in creating private sector jobs and strengthening the economy. He has been recognized twice by West Virginia Executive Magazine as one of the 50 most influential people in West Virginia.
How would you like to get more value out of the Conference? Maybe you would like to be involved in solutions to current industry issues or just to extend your networking opportunities? If either of these is the case then you are encouraged to attend one of the many ASME Power Division Technical Committee Meetings that will take place during this year's Conference. The Technical Committee Meetings are scheduled to be held the afternoon of Tuesday July 29th. Please check the Conference Program to verify the exact times and location of these opportunities.

Further opportunity to volunteer exists with Administrative Committees. These Committees include: Honors & Awards, International Relations, Public Affairs & Education, Program Coordination, and Student Competition. Similar to Technical Committees these Committees are always looking for motivated volunteers interested in being a driving force with in the ASME Power Division. These Committee meetings are scheduled to be held during the lunch break on Wednesday July 30th. Again please check the Conference Program to verify the exact times and location of these opportunities.

**COMBINED CYCLE COMMITTEE**

**BENJAMIN DENG - CHAIR**

The ASME Power Division Combined Cycle Committee promotes all technological aspects of gas turbine combined cycle (GTCC) power plants. GTCC, as the best weapon of today's industry, will continue to play a dominant role in the power market in North America. During this year's conference, the committee will be holding technical sessions and panel discussions addressing issues such as gas turbine design and upgrade, maintenance practices, flexibility and cycling operations. I encourage you to participate in committee meetings and other activities. I believe that you will find the experience of the involvements really rewarding.

For more information contact Benjamin Deng (bdeng@hatch.ca)

**PANEL SESSIONS**

Panel Sessions are always very popular at ASME Power as they bring together a group of industry experts with first hand knowledge and experience in the issues affecting our industry today. While each Panel Session focuses around a theme there are no rules as to which way the discussion will lead. So do not hesitate to pose difficult questions to the Panelists and be prepared for lively discussion.

This year we are pleased to announce we have twelve panel sessions covering different topics which are as follows:

- Converting Steam Generators to Natural Gas Firing
- Feedwater Heater Level Control and Troubleshooting
- Steam Turbine Repairs, Refurbishments and Retrofits
- Steam Turbine Upgrades for Combined Cycle Plant Repowering Applications
- Instrument and Controls Tutorial
- Best Practices in Knowledge Transfer
- Reducing Human Error in Power Plants and RAM Standard for Power Generation
- RAM Tutorial I & II
- Gas Turbine Cycling Operation
- ASME’s New Industrial Desalination Handbook
- Energy-Water-Agricultural Nexus - Challenges & Opportunities