
THE PROFESSIONAL GROUP ON RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE

N E W S L E T T E R

Number 1

January 2, 1958

OPEN LETTER FROM THE NATIONAL CHAIRMAN

I would like to take this opportunity to thank everyone who has helped make possible the formation of the new Professional Group on Radio Frequency Interference. I would like to specially thank the other members of the Administrative Committee who have given their time and effort in getting the group organized, Mr. Cumming and Mrs. Duffy of IRE Headquarters for their assistance and kind co-operation, Messrs. C. Engleman and J. W. Worthington for their helpful advice and encouragement and all the people who have offered their services and support (material and moral) to get the group organized. Also, last but not least, to the four gentlemen who discussed the possibilities of forming an RFI organization that morning of February 27, 1957 which gave my colleague, Mr. M. Kant and myself enough stimulation to undertake the task of doing something about starting an organization, for without this spark of enthusiasm we would probably still be talking about an RFI group instead of having one.

The last statement needs an explanation which can best be given by a short history of our efforts to organize the group. At the Second Conference on RFI Reduction conducted by the Armour Research Foundation in 1956 there was talk of forming an organization for people interested in RFI. This thought was printed in a paper devoted to RFI called "Quasies and Peaks" published by the Interference Testing and Research Labs. of Boston, Massachusetts. In essence the statement asked people interested in forming an RFI organization to contact Mr. Kant. Evidently people then were only interested in talking. Only three replies were received and nothing resulted.

At the Luncheon on February 27, 1957 at the Third Conference on RFI Reduction conducted by the Armour Research Foundation, Mr. Fred Nichols, then Vice-Chairman of the Radio Interference Technical Committee, an RFI group organized in the Los Angeles area, was to deliver an after-luncheon speech about his group. In the early hours of the morning of February 27, 1957, before this speech was given, six men discussed the idea of forming an organization for people interested in RFI. These men were Messrs. A. Zimbalatti, J. Lucyk, A. Ruzgis, S. Nellis, M. Kant and myself. It was decided that we would ask Mr. Nichols to give a plug for a proposed group in the New York Area, which he did in his speech. This was followed up in a few weeks by a letter to a number of people in the New York Area inviting them to attend a meeting to discuss the formation of an organization for people interested in RFI. This meeting was well attended and after a discussion of either affiliating with the IRE or forming an independent group similar to the RITC, it was voted that steps be taken to petition the IRE for the establishment of a Professional Group on RFI. The petitions were prepared, circulated and submitted to the IRE which approved the formation of the group on October 10, 1957.

I cannot help feeling satisfied at the way things have turned out even though the hardest job is still ahead. The success of this group like any other organization depends upon its members and I am personally asking all members to pitch in and lend a hand. I am sure that you will. I know a lot of people in the RFI field and I'm positive that they realize the benefits that can be had from this group and won't let it fail from lack of effort.

Your Administrative Committee is already planning activities for the coming year. These include a symposium, publication of a Transaction, sponsoring sessions at the National IRE Convention in March 1958 and others. As I said before, the success of these activities will depend on you, please support them.

Harold Schwenk
Chairman, PGRFI

FIRST MEETING OF THE ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE

The first meeting of the Administrative Committee of the PGRFI was held on Wednesday evening, November 20, 1957 at Asbury Park, New Jersey during the Signal Corps Symposium on Electromagnetic Interference. The minutes of this meeting are included at the end of this newsletter so that only the highlights of the meeting will be covered here.

(a) Election of Officers:

The following were elected as officers of the PGRFI:

Harold Schwenk	(Sperry Gyroscope Co.)	Chairman
Leonard Milton	(Filtron Co.)	Vice-Chairman
Albert Kall	(Ark Engineering Co.)	Secretary
James McNaul	(USA Signal Eng. Labs.)	Treasurer

The members of the Administrative Committee are:

<u>One Year Term</u>	<u>Two Year Term</u>	<u>Three Year Term</u>
R. Fairweather	S. Burruano	W. Crichlow
L. Milton	J. McNaul	Z. Grobowski
B. Schenker	A. Kall	M. Kant
H. Schwenk	W. Pakala	R. Showers

(b) Assessment:

The Administrative Committee authorized an assessment of \$2.00 to be charged to members of the Group. These funds will be used to pay for the publication of the Group TRANSACTIONS and Newsletters and for other Group functions.

(c) Preparation of Group Constitution:

A committee consisting of M. Kant, L. Milton, J. McNaul and R. Fairweather was appointed to prepare a draft of a Constitution for the Group for submission to the full Administrative Committee and then for approval by the IRE.

Note: Although the Constitution has not been prepared, it will probably include the following Standing Committees:

- Membership Committee
- Meetings Committee
- Sectional Activities Committee
- Constitution and By-Laws Committee
- Paper Study and Procurement Committee
- Publications Committee
- Awards Committee
- Liaison Committee

Members of the Group wishing to serve on any of these Committees should so notify the Chairman (H. Schwenk) as soon as possible.

PGRFI TO SPONSOR SESSIONS AT THE IRE NATIONAL CONVENTION

Although approved only last October, the PGRFI is participating in the IRE National Convention to the extent of sponsoring one session by itself and jointly sponsoring another session together with the Professional Group on Military Electronics and the Professional Group on Communications Systems. The PGRFI session is tentatively scheduled for Monday afternoon, March 24, 1958 and the joint session for Thursday morning, March 27, 1958. The PGRFI session will present papers dealing with various aspects of the interference problem while the joint session will feature papers on interference effects on Communications and Military Electronic Systems. If you will be in New York for the Convention, don't miss these sessions. If you can't make it, this is a reminder that a copy of the IRE National Convention Record Volume containing these papers will be sent to all paid up members of the PGRFI. The participation of the PGRFI is due to generosity of the representatives of the other professional groups on the Technical Papers Committee of the IRE convention in referring papers on various aspects of interference to this group. Since the PGRFI did not exist at the time the call for papers went out, authors could not indicate it as the proper group to present the papers.

1958 PGRFI NATIONAL SYMPOSIUM

One of the main functions of a Professional Group is to sponsor a national symposium. In the past the Armour Research Foundation has held three conferences on Radio Interference Control and the U.S. Army Signal Engineering Laboratories has recently sponsored a Symposium on Electromagnetic Interference. We are all grateful to these organizations for furthering the work of radio interference control, but believe that now that a professional group has been formed for this purpose, it should be the proper organization to sponsor a national symposium. Therefore, the Administrative Committee has tentatively decided to sponsor a symposium either alone or jointly with other groups or organizations in the fall or winter of 1958, if arrangements still can be made at this time. We hope that this advance notice will prompt potential authors to start preparing papers for this symposium.

LOCAL CHAPTERS

Mr. Z. Grobowski has indicated an interest in forming a Chapter of the PGRFI in the Washington Area. Anyone else interested in assisting in starting this chapter should contact:

Mr. Grobowski
Jansky & Bailey, Inc.
1339 Wisconsin Avenue, N.W.
Washington 7, D. C.

Anyone else interested in forming a local chapter of the PGRFI should contact the Chairman for a list of members in their area and the procedure to be followed in starting a local chapter.

PAPERS WANTED FOR PUBLICATION IN GROUP TRANSACTIONS

In order to be able to publish a group TRANSACTIONS, technical papers on the various aspects of Radio Frequency Interference are required. Therefore, until an Editor of the TRANSACTIONS is appointed, authors having papers should send their manuscripts to:

Mr. H. Schwenk, PGRFI Chairman
Sperry Gyroscope Company
Mail Station I-37
Great Neck, L. I., New York

Submission of three copies of manuscripts, including figures, will expedite the review.

M. Kant
Newsletter Editor

(Attached are Minutes of November 20, 1957)

IRE PROFESSIONAL GROUP ON RADIO FREQUENCY INTERFERENCE
MINUTES OF ADMINISTRATIVE COMMITTEE MEETING
HELD AT HOTEL BERKELEY-CARTERET, ASBURY PARK, NEW JERSEY
NOVEMBER 20, 1957

A meeting of the Administrative Committee of the newly formed IRE Professional Group on Radio Frequency Interference (PGRFI) was held on November 20, 1957 in Hunt Suite "A" of the Berkeley-Carteret Hotel, Asbury Park, New Jersey. This meeting was called by acting committee chairman Harold Schwenk, by letter of October 21st addressed to the committee members. The occasion chosen for the meeting was the U. S. Army Signal Engineering Laboratories' Symposium on Electromagnetic Interference which was held at the Berkeley-Carteret Hotel on November 19-21, 1957.

Mr. Kall was designated secretary pro tem by Mr. Schwenk, to take the minutes of this present meeting.

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 P.M. by acting chairman Schwenk. In attendance were the following Administrative Committee members:

1-year term members: R. W. Fairweather, L. Milton, B. Schenker, H. Schwenk.

2-year term members: Lt. J. P. McNaull, A. R. Kall, W. E. Pakala.

3-year term members: W. Crichlow, Z. V. Grobowski, M. Kant, Dr. R. M. Showers.

The above 12 committee members are identified in the minutes of the May 2, 1957 meeting held at IRE Headquarters, New York City.

The following visitors were also present:

Rexford Daniels:	Interference Testing and Research Laboratory.
C. L. Engleman:	Past Chairman of Professional Group on Military Electronics.
C. Pearlston:	Filtron Company (representing S. Burrmano).
J. W. Worthington:	Chairman of Professional Group on Communications Systems.

1. Election of Committee Officers

The first order of business was announced by Mr. Schwenk: election of committee officers. He said that Mrs. G. B. Duffy (Assistant to Mr. L. G. Cumming, Technical Secretary of the IRE) had observed that if officers are elected on a temporary basis now and new elections are held again next year to coincide with the terms of the Administrative Committee appointees, the break in continuity would be undesirable.

There was then some discussion on this point. Mr. Grobowski noted from the Professional Groups Manual that the chairman and vice chairman of a professional group must be on the Administrative Committee. Mr. Schenker proposed that the formal term of office of committee officers start with next July 1st (1958). Mr. Engleman said that if we followed the procedure successfully adopted by his own professional group, our first term of office will run from now to July 1959.

Mr. Milton then moved: That the term of Administrative Committee officers to be elected tonight extend from tonight to July 1959 for the entire slate, that the terms of Administrative Committee members run the same way (first year to July 1959), and that all succeeding terms run from July to July thenceforth: all in accordance with the recommendation of our temporary chairman, in turn based on views of the IRE headquarters. Mr. Grobowski seconded. Passed unanimously.

The floor was then opened for nominations.

Chairman: Mr. Milton nominated Mr. Schwenk. Mr. Kall seconded. Dr. Showers moved that nominations be closed; Mr. Pakala seconded. Dr. Showers suggested that the acting secretary cast a unanimous ballot, in accordance with formal parliamentary procedure where a single nomination is made. Therefore, Mr. Schwenk was elected unanimously.

Vice-Chairman: Mr. Kant nominated Mr. Milton. Dr. Showers nominated Mr. Grobowski. Mr. Kant moved that nominations be closed. Lt. McNaul seconded. Mr. Milton and Mr. Grobowski then left the room while a closed paper ballot was held. Result: For Mr. Milton, 7. For Mr. Grobowski, 2.

Secretary: Dr. Showers nominated Mr. Kall. Mr. Milton moved that nominations be closed. Mr. Kant seconded. The acting secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot.

Treasurer: Mr. Milton nominated Lt. McNaul. Mr. Pakala moved that the nominations be closed. Mr. Kall seconded, and the acting secretary was instructed to cast a unanimous ballot.

The results of the election thus stand as follows:

Chairman:	Harold R. Schwenk
Vice-Chairman:	Leonard Milton
Secretary:	Albert R. Kall
Treasurer:	Lt. J. P. McNaul

2. Revision of Scope

Chairman Schwenk then brought up this next item: the re-writing of our scope in accordance with recommendations by Dr. Baker (Chairman, IRE Professional Group Committee). Dr. Baker had written to Mr. Schwenk stating an objection to the inclusion of "spectrum utilization" in our scope, because this field is the primary responsibility of the FCC. The following comments were offered by the members.

Mr. Schwenk suggested that Lt. McNaul (whose work involves spectrum utilization) write to Dr. Baker. Mr. Schenker suggested that we leave out paragraph 2 of our scope (which contains the controversial item, spectrum utilization). Mr. Grobowski, on the other hand, urged that paragraph 2 be retained. Mr. Pakala offered his own alternate suggested scope to take the place of our entire scope:

"Methods of measurement and control of radio noise, its origins, classification and its effect on communications, and other electronic devices or systems. Cooperation on technical problems with other professional groups, committees, government agencies, and other organizations active on radio noise problems of interest in their special field."

Lt. McNaul said this substitute should not be adopted. Mr. Kall urged that we must not at this late date attempt to change our original scope completely, which had been laboriously arrived at by careful steps at the meeting at IRE Headquarters. Referring to the minutes of that earlier meeting, Mr. Kall also observed that "spectrum utilization" had been substituted for the original term "frequency allocation". There was more discussion on this point, and then Dr. Showers said that he had written to Mr. Cumming (IRE Technical Secretary) who spoke to Dr. Baker on this point: Dr. Baker said that our scope is too big. We may be able to make spectrum utilization less inclusive by specifically excluding the area of allocation of frequency. To this Lt. McNaul agreed, adding that it might be well for us simply to write Dr. Baker, showing him our feelings in this matter.

Dr. Showers then moved that Chairman Schwenk write Dr. Baker, explaining the background for the items of our scope and how the present version of our scope was established. Lt. McNaul seconded. (This motion will be reviewed below).

Further discussion:

Mr. Worthington, in a brief note, said he had originally thought radio interference should be covered by other professional groups now in existence. Since the majority approve formation of our new group (PGRFI), of course the group should come into existence, but then our present scope is too inclusive. Mr. Schwenk, confirming the need for a separate group, replied that in industry radio interference work is carried on by separate groups. Mr. Engleman observed that his Professional Group on Military Electronics covers many fields of overlap. He also urged a simple scope. Mr. Pakala then defended his alternate (simplified) scope, presented above: if we adopt a scope like his, which is not restrictive in original form, we can include other areas later. Dr. Showers defended a detailed scope. Mr. Kant urged retention of the present scope. Mr. Milton said that when we wrote it we thought of all the separate areas we were working in (one man on susceptibility, one on measurements, etc.), and we intentionally wanted to attract a wide number of people.

Lt. McNaul called for a vote on Dr. Showers' motion.

Mr. Pakala asked this: if Dr. Baker agrees with our present scope version, does this mean that we, the entire committee, are in agreement? Mr. Milton replied that this present group came up with this scope, it was presented to the IRE, and was approved by Dr. Baker except for one point (the one under discussion). Mr. Pakala then withdrew his counter-scope.

Mr. Grobowski suggested that we have an alternate in case Dr. Baker rejects. Lt. McNaul urged firmness, that we not hedge on this point: if we are satisfied with our scope as written, let's go ahead; if Dr. Baker disagrees, he will come back with his own alternative. Lt. McNaul then offered an amendment (in the form of a motion) to the motion on the floor: specifically to exclude any prior alternative in Mr. Schwenk's letter. Mr. Kall seconded Lt. McNaul's amending motion. Dr. Showers, commenting on this amendment to his original motion, said that we may be too severe in this: it may be better to let Mr. Schwenk use his good judgment, without prior injunction.

Mr. Grobowski commented that Dr. Baker undoubtedly had read our original scope carefully and probably has a valid objection. Mr. Kant also spoke out against Lt. McNaul's amending motion. Further comment by Lt. McNaul and Mr. Milton. Then the second (amending) motion was put to a vote and defeated 5 to 4. Dr. Showers' original motion was passed, unanimous.

3. Drafting of Constitution

Mr. Kant moved that the Chairman appoint a committee to draft our constitution and bylaws. Dr. Showers seconded. Discussion: Lt. McNaul said that the Chairman should circulate a draft to the other members by mail before the next meeting.

Mr. Worthington: His vehicular communications group recently revised their constitution and bylaws. Mr. Milton gave a copy of these documents to the Chairman.

Mr. Engleman (past chairman of Professional Group on Military Electronics) related how his own group had gone through the process of drafting a constitution and bylaws.

Mr. Kant's motion was then voted: passed, unanimously.

Mr. Schwenk asked for volunteers for the constitution-drafting committee. The following names came forward: Messrs. Kant, McNaul, Milton, and Fairweather. No chairman was appointed.

There was some general discussion on committee appointments.

4. Financial

The Chairman then brought up the subject of raising money to finance publication of our TRANSACTIONS. He proposed an initial \$2 assessment.

Mr. Milton moved that a \$2 fee be made our regular annual amount. Dr. Showers seconded, but objected to advance assessment. Mr. Schwenk reminded the members that Mrs. Duffy, at the IRE Headquarters meeting, had said that money could be raised by any suitable means we choose. Mr. Pakala said that the constitution (which would presumably include items such as dues) should be drafted first. Mr. Engleman said that the matter of finances will be in our constitution anyway, and we might as well anticipate it now. The IRE Headquarters will bill the members of the PGRFI immediately. Mr. Milton's motion was then voted: passed, unanimously.

5. Other Items

Mr. Milton suggested that the Chairman appoint key men to publicize our new professional group in different companies. Mr. Engleman suggested that this activity were better left to the membership committee.

Dr. Showers then suggested that we discuss, now, what our immediate and long-range activities shall be- in other words, now that we are a professional group, what are we going to do?

Chairman Schwenk brought up the subject of the next IRE convention (March 1958) and said that he had received a letter notifying him that the 1958 IRE convention meeting will be held at IRE Headquarters November 22 (2 days from tonight). He asked for volunteers to attend on our behalf: Lt. McNaul volunteered.

Mr. Milton urged that our TRANSACTIONS have as many papers as possible. Lt. McNaul said that he has many papers he received for this present Symposium which he could turn over to us. As an incidental point, he mentioned that the Symposium next year may be our responsibility. Asked whether the Signal Corps would sponsor another Armour Research Foundation Symposium next February-March, McNaul replied that that date was too close to this present Symposium, and was therefore definitely out. The Signal Corps may sponsor a Symposium in February 1959. Dr. Showers said that if we are to hold a Symposium some time a year from now, we must get started on it now. Mr. Engleman suggested that the Chairman appoint a committee to handle separate functions attendant to a Symposium: publicity, papers, etc.

Mr. Kall asked how these minutes should be distributed. It was decided that a copy be sent to all members of the Committee here and to the IRE Headquarters.

Mr. Kant said that a newsletter should be sent discussing what has taken place in our Professional Group.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30 P.M.

Respectfully submitted by

Albert R. Kall
Secretary, IRE-PGRFI

Minutes Issued:
December 21, 1957