

New Zealand ComSoc Chapter Report

- New Zealand's IEEE membership is distributed over a large geographical area. Although a majority of members are located in just a few main centers, particularly Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch it is important to be inclusive of all members.
- The IEEE Communications Society New Zealand Chapter was established in 1998 as a joint chapter for the New Zealand North and New Zealand South Sections. Although there were sufficient members to form two Chapters, it was considered sensible to form just one chapter to avoid unnecessary overlap of activities and effort.
- To mark the inauguration of the NZ ComSoc Chapter an IEEE New Zealand Wireless Workshop was held in November 1998. It proved to be very popular and relevant to New Zealand industry and academia. IEEE NZ Wireless Workshops are now an annual event which are keenly anticipated by the New Zealand wireless research and development community. These workshops are now the primary annual networking opportunity for this group and a number of collaborative initiatives have their origins at an IEEE NZ Wireless Workshop.
- The 2004 IEEE NZ Wireless Workshop will be held in Lower Hutt, New Zealand. More than 140 participants will hear more than thirty presentations from engineers from industry and academia, and from radio spectrum regulators. The Workshop is free to all participants, both IEEE and non-IEEE members. The Workshop is sponsored by industry, who fund the cost of lunch and coffee breaks.
- Throughout the year there are regular one-hour seminars held mainly in Auckland and Christchurch. These seminars are also advertised to IEE and IPENZ (Institute of Professional Engineers of New Zealand) members, with whom the IEEE New Zealand Sections have agreements for mutual support and activity promotion.