



## Changes are afoot

You may be wondering why there's a big picture of an iPod touch on this page. There is a reason, but I'll get to that in a minute.

As you may already know, starting with the September/October issue, you'll have a choice of continuing to receive *Engineering Dimensions* in its current form or of getting a digital edition delivered to your email inbox (see pp. 16, 34 for details).

This news has to be a big relief to certain members who, for a long time now, have been asking for an alternative to our paper version.

Some reasons they have mentioned for wanting an electronic version are that:

- they don't always have time to read it and feel guilty just recycling it,
- they want to reduce their personal environmental footprint, ...and, the most cruel of all...
- they don't want to receive the magazine at all.

(It's okay. We here at *Engineering Dimensions* have thick skins.)

Another reason is that occasionally engineers marry other engineers, which results in two copies of the magazine being delivered to the same household. Until now, we've had no remedy for this admittedly wasteful situation, since PEO is required to send each member a copy of its official publication.

Well, now we have a solution for all of the above. And, apart from the obvious good-for-the-environment aspect of going digital (printing 75,000 magazines every two months *does* pack an environmental wallop), the digital edition will offer readers a much more flexible source of information about PEO.

In fact, here are 10 things you'll be able to do with the digital edition that you can't do right now:

1. Get your magazine instantly.
2. See the whole magazine at a glance with thumbnail images.
3. Download a PDF file of a maga-

zine article or the entire issue to your desktop.

4. Use keywords to scan for topics of interest.
5. Link to PEO's website, the websites of other engineering regulators and related organizations.
6. Email articles to friends and co-workers.
7. Link directly to advertisers' websites by clicking on their ads.
8. Access magazine and advertising staff



9. Save printing and mailing costs that can be better spent on other PEO programs.
10. Show off your tech savvy side to friends who still get their magazines mailed to them.

Now, remember I said I would explain about the iPod? The deal is that **each member who signs up for the digital edition before September 30, 2008 will be entered into a draw for a 16GB iPod touch**, a great little device that does all sorts of amazing things. If you don't

want to take my word for it, check out Apple CEO Steve Jobs' keynote address on [www.apple.com/itunes](http://www.apple.com/itunes).

Now, I really should get to the topic of the July/August edition—education—and an important focus of PEO at the moment. There has been much talk in the past couple of years regarding an overhaul of the education requirement for licensure.

In this issue, however, we've taken a holistic approach on the topic of education, focusing on the path that a budding engineer might take from elementary school, through high school and university, to licensure—a seamless transition in PEO-speak—and the programs our Education Committee has in place to guide that process.

In "Classroom outreach: the engineering reality show" (p. 43), Nicole Axworthy explores the Engineer-in-Residence and Engineer-in-the-Classroom programs and the various ad hoc education outreach programs that chapters have in place. In "Task force tracks evolving precicensing efforts" (p. 32), Mike Mastromatteo looks at PEO's Engineering Intern Training and Student Membership programs that help keep students firmly on the path to licensure.

And, we also check in with co-op education. Does it lead students to the licence? Does it help their future engineering careers? Find out on page 48.

Going back to my opener, I should mention that the digital edition isn't the only change we're making to *Engineering Dimensions*. There will be even more surprises with our September/October issue. But that's all I'm going to say for now.

*Jennifer Coombes*

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