

► Industry Committee

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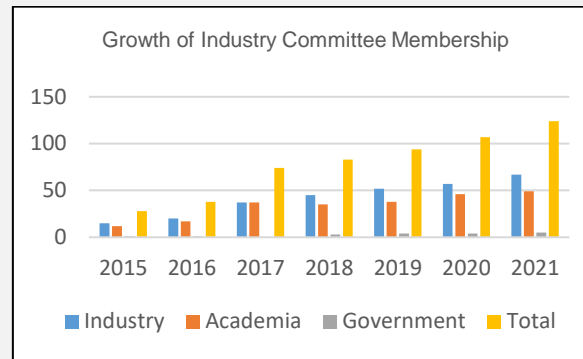
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At the 2017 World Congress in Toulouse, France, IFAC established an Industry Committee (IndCom), reporting to the IFAC Council. The goals of the committee are to:

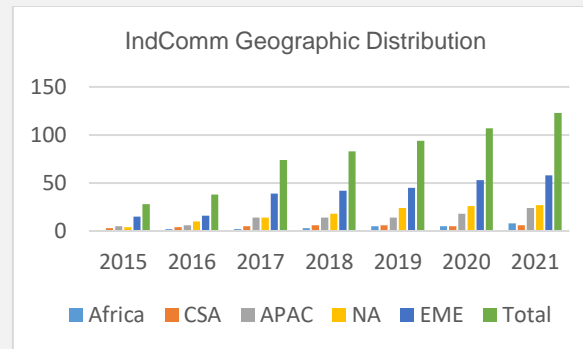
- Strengthen the engagement of industry and industry representatives in IFAC activities
- Enhance the value of IFAC to the industry
- Help control research realize its full potential for industry impact
- Provide industry perspective and guidance to assist research and education in academia to better address industry needs

The committee currently has about 130 members, more than half affiliated with industry (most of the rest have had substantial industry experience over their careers).

The membership has grown over the years as shown below



The geographic distribution of the membership reveals that most of the members are from EME



The information in this brochure (and more) is available on our website. The website includes a roster of all members.

Committee Activities

The committee has created several task forces to carry out its activities. Currently, active task forces include:

- IFAC Industry Connect – webinars in areas of interest
- Control concepts for managerial decision making
- IFAC Industry related awards
- Edited volume on the impact of control on next-generation products and services

- Best practices for TCs and technical events to attract industry participation
- Industry Participation in the 2023 World Congress

Other task forces that have met their goals and ended are:

- Case studies of practice and academic collaboration
- External Industry Outreach

Members have proposed several new task forces

- benchmarks and data sets
- open access to control education resources for professionals

Events

The IFAC Industry Connect Task Force has run several well-attended webinars, including:

- The Impact of Control Research on Industrial Innovation: What would it take to make it happen?
- Machine Learning and Control
- How are optimization, monitoring and control bringing economic value to the industry?

The webinars are on our YouTube channel. Go to YouTube and search for "IFAC Industry Connect".

Publications

Examples of the committee's publications include: "Industry engagement with control research: Perspective and messages" *Annual Reviews in Control*

"A Survey on Industry Impact and Challenges Thereof" *IEEE Control Systems Magazine*

"The impact of control research on industrial innovation: What would it take to make it happen?" *Control Engineering Practice*


"Making Practices Publishable", originally an IFAC blog article.

The best practices task force produced a "Best Practices Guide for IFAC events and Technical Committees" document.

The Indcom has run several surveys; the results of the latest one entitled "Identify needs and opportunities to shape the control research impact on technology" are available on the website.

IndCom Structure

IndCom has an Excom consisting of ten members: Excom holds a meeting approximately every six weeks; the primary purpose of the meetings is to review progress in the various task forces.

	Tariq Samad (chair)	Univ. of Minnesota (US)
	Kevin Brooks	APC SMART/ University of the Witwatersrand (ZA)
	Moncef Chioua	Polytechnique Montreal (CA)
	Stefano Di Cairano	Mitsubishi Electric (US)
	Philippe Goupil	Airbus (FR)
	Steve Kahne	Retired (US)
	Iven Mareels	IBM (AU)
	Silvia Mastellone	FHNW (CH)
	Atanas Serbezov	Rose-Hulman Inst. of Tech. (US)
	Alex van Delft	Consultant (NL)

Meetings of the entire committee are held roughly every six months in two sessions to accommodate different time zones. The agenda for our 1st meeting was:

- Industry Committee Background and Membership
- Task Force Reports
- Panel Discussion on Entrepreneurship
- New Task Force Ideas?
- General Discussion and Q&A

The previous meeting included the bold experiment of breakout sessions with parallel groups of 5 – 10 people. Time was short but interesting discussions were held.

The Industry Committee welcomes additional members with significant industry experience. If you are interested, don't hesitate to contact the IndCom chair, Tariq Samad (tsamad@umn.edu) or the chair of the IndCom Communications subcommittee, Kevin Brooks (kevin.brooks@apc-smart.com). Suggestions for new task forces are welcome, especially if you would be prepared to lead one!