DAVE SMITH RECEIVES IEEE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN POWER DISTRIBUTION ENGINEERING
For engineering contributions in distribution secondary networks, transformer applications and analysis

We are proud to congratulate Dave Smith, from the PTI Pittsburgh, Pa office, on his receiving the IEEE Award for Excellence in Power Distribution Engineering. Dave received this award at the IEEE Awards Luncheon on June 8 in Denver, CO.

Dave has practiced distribution engineering for over 40 years. He graduated from Penn State with a BSEE and from the University of Pittsburgh with an MSEE. He began his career at Westinghouse Electric Corporation, becoming intimately involved in secondary network systems and equipment design, and in 1988 Dave joined PTI in the Pittsburgh office.

Throughout his career, he has been an industry leader in power distribution system analysis, design, equipment application, special studies, failure investigations, and educational programs. He conducted pioneering work in ferroresonance in four- and five-legged core distribution transformers, sequence impedances and circulating currents in circuits employing multi-wire concentric neutral cables, voltage unbalance in four-wire delta circuits, low-side surges in three-wire services, neutral sizing in low-voltage networks, and the digital simulation of simultaneous faults.

He has made significant contributions in developing functional characteristics for micro-processor based network protector relays, protection schemes for 480-volt spot networks, and application of closed transition switching and cogeneration on spot networks. His efforts have resulted in enhancements to network protectors and test equipment that provide increased safety for the operators. He also developed network simulation software that allows students to better understand the factors affecting real and reactive flows in spot networks, and the impact of network relay close and trip characteristics/settings on protector response to varying loads.

Dave’s teaching experience has included courses on power distribution engineering at Carnegie Mellon University and the University of Pittsburgh, and he is presently the instructor of PTI’s courses on Low-Voltage Networks and Distribution Transformer Applications. He is a holder/co-holder of five patents, with three on network protector relays.

He was active in the Performance Characteristics Subcommittee of the IEEE Transformers Committee, and the Capacitor and Distribution Subcommittees of the IEEE T&D Committee. He has been an author/presenter of IEEE tutorials on Distribution Transformers, LV Networks, and Recloser/Sectionalizer use. Dave was elected to Fellow Grade in the IEEE in 1986 in recognition of his contributions to the analysis and design of power distribution systems and equipment. Contact Dave Smith at david.smith@shawgrp.com.