**Constitution - IEEE Reliability Society**

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# Article I - Name and Objectives

Section 1. This organization shall be known as the IEEE Reliability Society.

Section 2. The objectives of the Society shall be scientific, literary, and educational in character. The Society shall strive for the advancement of the theory and practice of electrical engineering and of the allied arts and sciences, and the maintenance of a high professional standing among its members, all in consonance with the Constitution and Bylaws of the IEEE and with special attention to such aims within the field of interest of the Society as are hereinafter defined.

Section 3. The Society shall aid in promoting close cooperation and exchange of technical information among its members and to this end shall hold meetings for the presentation of papers and their discussion and, through its Committees, shall study and provide for the needs of its members.

# Article II - Membership

Section 1. Membership in the Society shall be available to members of the IEEE in any grade, including Student, having a professional interest in any phase of the field of interest of the

Society.

Section 2. Nonmembers of the IEEE may become Affiliates of the Society and may participate in Society activities, as provided by the Society Bylaws and subject to the applicable IEEE Bylaws.

# Article III - Field of Interest

Section 1. The Society is concerned with the strategies and the best practices for attaining, assessing, assuring, and sustaining system reliability throughout its life cycle.

Additional statements to aid in the clarification of the purpose and the focus of the RS are provided in the Operations Manual.

Section 2. The field of interest of the Society may be enlarged, reduced, or shifted moderately as the needs of the occasion indicate, with the provision that such revisions shall be processed as an amendment to this constitution. The new field of interest must also be approved by the IEEE Technical Activity Board (TAB).

**Article IV - Financial Support**

Section 1. The Society shall collect an annual assessment or dues from its members, as prescribed in the Society Bylaws.

Section 2. The Society may make registration charges at its Society meetings, symposia, conferences, and conventions. The registration fee for nonmembers of the IEEE shall be higher than for IEEE members.

Section 3. The Society may raise revenues by other means, such as advertising, shows, request for contributions, sale of publications, and charges for sending out notices to non- Society members, provided such means are consistent with applicable IEEE Constitution and IEEE Bylaws, and do not encroach on revenue fields of prior established Societies or sections.

Revenue means not explicitly covered by the IEEE Constitution or IEEE Bylaws must be approved by IEEE before being adopted by the Society.

# Article V - Organization

Section 1. The Society shall be managed by an Administrative Committee (AdCom) of 18 elected members-at-large plus members ex-officio with vote as specified in the Bylaws. (Note: There may also be members ex-officio without vote.)

Section 2. Technical Committees may be established as needed to develop specific areas of the Field of Interest.

Section 3. Sub-societies may be formed as provided in the IEEE Bylaws, and the supervision of sub-society affairs, other than by the AdCom, shall be as prescribed in the Society Bylaws.

Section 4. The terms of the 18 members-at-large of the AdCom shall normally be for three years, with 6 members to be elected each year. Only two consecutive terms are permitted, but eligibility is restored after a lapse of one year. The AdCom shall have the right to approve special provisions affecting the length of member terms, and shall document those provisions within the Society Bylaws.

Section 5. The AdCom shall annually elect one of its members as President, and four others as Vice-Presidents, whose terms shall be for one year. A Secretary and a Treasurer shall also be appointed annually for one-year terms. These two appointed officers need not be elected members of the AdCom, and they may be reappointed. The Junior Past President (most recent past President) and the Senior Past President (next most recent past President) are non- elected members of the AdCom and are officers of the Society with vote.

Section 6. The President, under direction of the AdCom, shall have general supervision of the affairs of the Society. The President of the AdCom shall have no vote on the AdCom except if the vote is by secret ballot or unless the President’s vote can change the outcome of the vote. The President shall preside at meetings of the AdCom, at general meetings of the Society, and at the Annual Meeting of the Society, and have such other powers and perform such other duties as may be provided in the Society Bylaws, or as may be delegated by vote of the Society AdCom. In the President's absence or incapacity, his/her duties shall be performed by one of the Vice-Presidents, selecting one of their number to act as President.

Section 7. The AdCom may utilize the services of IEEE Headquarters as bursar for all or part of the Society funds, as provided by the IEEE Bylaws. If any part of the Society funds are received and deposited separately, the terms and conditions shall be in accordance with IEEE Bylaws and subject to the provisions of the Society Bylaws and to any special limitations imposed by the AdCom.

Section 8. The duties and responsibility of the officers shall be as defined hereunder and in the Society Bylaws and as delineated by the AdCom.

Section 9. The Vice-Presidents, as soon as expedient after election, shall appoint the standing Committees provided by the Society Bylaws. Other special or ad hoc Committees may be authorized by vote of the AdCom and shall serve until their successors are appointed or the Committee dissolved.

Section 10. The President shall be an ex-officio member of all Committees of the Society. The President is a member of the IEEE TAB and, when notified of a meeting of said Board, shall represent the Society at the meeting, or send an alternate in accordance with the process outlined in the TAB Operations Manual.

Section 11. The newly elected President, Vice-Presidents, and members of the AdCom shall assume office in January of each year, unless a different time is provided in the Society Bylaws. The newly elected AdCom members and the officers shall be installed at the January AdCom meeting.

Section 12. The officially constituted officers of the Society shall have the authority to obligate the funds and assets of the Society to promote the Society's activities, as prescribed in the IEEE Bylaws. Contracts may be executed only by the IEEE. Proposed contracts for Reliability Society activities shall be submitted to IEEE Headquarters for review and execution.

Section 13. An Officer elected by the voting members of AdCom may be removed from office, with or without cause, by a vote of the voting members of the AdCom, following the affirmative vote of two-thirds of the votes of the members of the AdCom present at the time of the vote, provided a quorum is present, on a motion to remove such individual.

# Article VI - Nomination & Election of the Administrative Committee

Section 1. Nomination and election of the 18 members-at-large of the AdCom shall be as prescribed in the Society Bylaws.

Section 2. Within-term vacancies on the AdCom shall be filled by appointments, for the unexpired terms, by the President with the consent of the AdCom.

Section 3. A Nominations and Awards (N&A) Committee shall be established to identify the candidates for the annual AdCom member election and the candidates for the annual AdCom officer election.

1. The Chair of the N&A Committee shall be the Junior Past President of the Reliability Society. In the event of the incapacity or conflict of interest of the Chair, the most recent Past Chair of the N&A Committee available shall be the Chair of the N&A Committee. With extenuating circumstances, a different individual may be appointed to this position.
2. The Chair of the N&A Committee shall not be eligible to be elected to the AdCom during their term of service.
3. The Chair of the N&A Committee shall appoint members to the N&A Committee. All Members of the N&A Committee shall be Society members.
4. A member of an N&A Committee may be nominated and run for an AdCom position for which such member’s respective N&A Committee is responsible for making nominations only on the following conditions: (i) the nomination is not made by a member of this N&A Committee and (ii) the member resigns from the N&A Committee prior to its first meeting of the year in which the nomination shall be made.

# Article VII - Meetings

Section 1. The Society may hold meetings, conferences, symposia, or conventions either alone or in cooperation with other IEEE entities, or other technical organizations, subject to the IEEE Bylaws. The Society shall sponsor at least one technical conference of national (USA) or international scope each year.

Section 2. Conferences or sessions on governmentally classified material are prohibited.

Section 3. The AdCom shall hold at least three meetings per year. Special meetings of the Committee may be called at the discretion of the President or upon request of at least three voting members of the AdCom.

Section 4. A majority of the voting members of the AdCom shall constitute a quorum. All voting members shall have an equal vote, both elected and ex-officio with vote. Individuals, holding more than one position with vote on the AdCom, shall be limited to one vote on each matter being considered by the AdCom. Proxy voting is not allowed.

Section 5. A majority vote of those voting members of the AdCom attending a meeting and entitled to vote, at the time of vote, provided a quorum is present, shall be necessary for the conduct of business, except as otherwise provided in this Constitution.

Section 6. Business of the AdCom may be handled by correspondence, telephone, or other electronic communication where, in the opinion of the President, matters requiring action can be adequately handled in that manner. All such actions shall be made a matter of record by

citation in the minutes of the following AdCom meeting. A majority vote of the voting members of the AdCom is necessary for approval of actions handled in that manner, unless otherwise provided in the Constitution or Bylaws.

1. The AdCom may meet and act upon the vote of its members by any means of telecommunication. The normal voting requirements shall apply when action is taken by means of telecommunications equipment allowing all persons participating in the meeting to hear each other at the same time.
2. The AdCom may take action without a meeting if applicable (e.g. email voting). An affirmative vote of a majority of all the voting members of the AdCom shall be required to approve the action. The results of the vote shall be confirmed promptly in writing or by electronic transmission. The writings and/or electronic transmissions shall be filed with the minutes of the proceedings of the AdCom. “Electronic transmission” means any form of electronic communication, such as e-mail, not directly involving the physical transmission of paper, that creates a record that may be retained, retrieved, and reviewed by a recipient thereof, and that may be directly reproduced in paper form by such a recipient.

**Article VIII - Publications**

Section 1. Publications undertaken by the Society shall be subject to IEEE policies and to any further guidance or controls prescribed by the AdCom or its duly appointed Committees. The Society shall be responsible for the financial aspects of its publications program.

Section 2. The President, with the advice and consent of the AdCom, shall appoint the Editor of each publication. Other editors may be appointed as prescribed in the Bylaws. The duties of an editor, and his compensation, if any, shall be as prescribed in the Operations Manual.

# Article IX - Amendments

Section 1.Amendments to this Constitution may be initiated by petition submitted by twenty-five members of the Society, or by the AdCom. Amendments may be adopted by at least two-thirds of the voting members present in meeting assembled but not less than fifty percent of the total voting members of the AdCom, provided that notice of the proposed amendment has been sent to each member of the AdCom at least 20 days prior to such meeting; or amendments may be adopted by a two-thirds e-mail vote of the voting members of the AdCom provided a 30 day period is provided for such responses. Amendments to the Constitution must be approved by the Vice President, Techincal Activities.After such approval, the amendments shall be published in the Society Newsletter, with notice that they go into effect unless 10 percent of the Society members object to the AdCom within 30 days after the effective publication date stated in the instructions in the publication. If such objections are received, a copy of the proposed amendments shall be mailed with a ballot to all members of the Society at least 30 days before the date appointed for return of the ballots, and the ballots shall carry a statement of the time limit for their return to the IEEE office. When a mail vote of the entire Society membership is necessary, approval of the amendments by at least two-thirds of the ballots returned shall be necessary for enactment.

Section 2. Suitable Society Bylaws, and amendments thereto, may be adopted by a two- thirds vote of the voting members of the AdCom present in the meeting assembled, provided that notice of the proposed Society Bylaw, or amendment, has been sent to each member of the AdCom at

least 20 days prior to such meeting; or a Society Bylaw, or amendment, may be adopted by a two-thirds e-mail vote of the voting members of the AdCom provided a 30 day period is provided for such responses. A Society Bylaw, or amendment, must be approved by the Vice President of Technical Activities. After such approval, the amendment shall take effect upon AdCom approval and shall be published in the Society Newsletter for member notification and mailed to the TAB Secretary.