

LPRA CHAIRMAN'S / DIRECTOR'S REPORT 2015-16

Dear LPRA Member,

I am very pleased to report that the last year was extremely successful for the LPRA, and I'm proud that once again our members have been at the forefront of innovation in our industry.

It is with great pleasure that I report that we welcomed seven new members during the past 12 months, further strengthening the Association and increasing our significance within our industry. Sadly we also lost some members, mostly due to companies merging resulting in changes of staff or company focus.

A very major part of our activities remains the policy/advocacy and standards work that we do within the EC, CEPT and ETSI to ensure that the interests of our SRD industry are properly represented.

Members of the LPRA council remain in senior positions in the relevant Technical Committees and Task Groups within ETSI as well as attending many of the important meetings in CEPT.

Following on from very successful meetings between LPRA delegations and senior officials of the FCC in Washington, the TRA in Dubai, Ofcom in London and MEPs in the UK and Brussels we are looking to arrange similar meetings with other Regulatory bodies in the coming months.

The impact of the Radio Equipment Directive (RE-D) will be a major focus of the LPRA this year as we continue to look to protect the interests of our members.

As you know 2015 was the LPRA's 25th Anniversary and in recognition of this ETSI very kindly hosted our Radio Solutions Conference at their HQ near Nice, France (10th & 11th March 2015). The exciting free, one and a half day event brought together 15 speakers and 54 registered delegates from around the world to discuss the most crucial topics affecting the future of our industry. The event was a huge success and the feedback received by those attending and a subsequent survey by ETSI was overwhelmingly positive.

To maintain the momentum and build on the success of last year's event we are currently in discussion to set a date for the next Radio Solutions

Conference in 2017. In order to expand the appeal and increase attendance numbers we are considering alternate venues and co-hosters for next year's event.

Our industry still faces very tough challenges, however, I am confident that the LPRA is better positioned than ever to protect and promote the interests of our members.

Once again I should like to thank members of the Council and Secretariat for all of their hard work over the past year. The activities of Council Members are entirely voluntary so I should like to say how much I appreciate their efforts.

I would like to say a very special thank you to John Falck and John Hallatt for their outstanding contributions over many years, sadly both will be standing down as LPRA Council Members at the AGM. At the time of writing we have received nominations for two new LPRA Council Members who together with the existing Council are all committed to working together to strengthen the Association and continue to protect the interests of our members.

Dr. Saad Mezzour
Chairman
The Low Power Radio Association