

Surge Protection Hall of Fame



Professor Asle Schei

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Engineer, Professor, Inventor and Founder
of TransiNor

Asle Schei is a person known well in the IEC and CIGRE circles where he participated, lead and convened working groups for nearly 30 years. His most recent position in arrester standards was as Convenor of the now MT4 until 1995 which was responsible for all IEC medium and high voltage arrester standards of significance at that time.

Because his career spanned so many accomplishments, it is difficult to point at one as his most significant, but the founding of [TransiNor](#) along with two others entrepreneurs has to be close to the top of the list. As the managing director of the business from 1986 to 1995, he led its effort to introduce a technically superior arrester condition monitor that is still on the market today. The company specialized in transient analysis and related fields. TransiNor was purchased by the Dobel Company in 2001.

During the 15 years at TransiNor Professor Schei was staff member of the Division of Electrical Power Engineering, The Norwegian Institute of Technology, and University of Trondheim. His position was part-time professorship and he offered graduate course in Insulation Coordination and worked as supervisor for doctorate students in his field of speciality. He also conducted several project and diploma students through their work. Professor Schei is known as an excellent teacher and has had the privilege of reputation as such among the students.



Prior to the TransiNor venture, Professor Schei worked for 12 years in research, development and consulting at the Norwegian Research Institute of Electricity Supply (EFI) in Trondheim, Norway. His speciality was covering insulation systems and insulation coordination of high voltage transmission lines and stations including GIS, Off-shore installations and short circuit power questions related to human safety.

Prior to his work at EFI, Mr. Schei was employed at ASEA AB in Ludvika, Sweden in research and management of research work on insulator contamination, radio noise and corona losses on overhead transmission lines, surge arresters for HVDC and HVAC systems including GIS (Gas Insulated Stations), overvoltage protection of series capacitor banks and insulation coordination in general. The last five years his position in ASEA was Manager of the Surge Arrester Department with responsibility of research and design of Surge Arresters.

Professor Schei earned his Master Degree in Electric Power Engineering in 1960 from The

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Norwegian Institute of Technology (NTH). His career as an electrical engineer started with one year of training in industrial research and design at ASEA AB in Sweden covering turbine regulation, circuit breaker testing, design of distance relays, design of synchronic generators, research work on DC-AC Converters and circuit breakers.

Other Significant Accomplishments

Mr. Schei has been active during nearly 30 years within several CIGRE and IEC committees and working groups, where he obtained competence on high international level has resulted in positions as Convener of IEC Working Group on Metal Oxide Surge Arresters and Convener of CIGRE Working Group on Insulation Coordination Procedures for Overhead Lines and Stations. He has also often been selected as responsible person for surge arrester and insulation coordination subjects at several international Colloquia arranged by CIGRE.

He is personal member of CIGRE and IEC and retired chairman of the Norwegian Committee of IEC TC37 and retired Chairman of TC42.

Mr. Schei is member of The Norwegian Academy of Technological Sciences (NTVA), member of the Norwegian Society of Chartered Engineers (NIF) and The Norwegian Association of Electrical Engineers (NEF).

He is Fellow of IEEE with citation "For development and design of overvoltage protection systems and contribution to international standardisation".

Mr. Schei received the IEC 1996 Award as Expert of IEC Technical Committee 37 Surge Arresters with citation "For his unique understanding of the technical needs of all

interest groups, his ability in organizing the technical experts to maximize their individual strengths, his skill in presenting all modifications and revisions to national committees in a timely manner, and the personification of the qualities of commitment and devotion to international standardization sought in IEC volunteers."

Professor Schei offers these words of Wisdom to up and coming Engineers. "Engineers are very lucky people; their job leads them to very interesting problems when you dig deep for the solution. Also never be surprised when the outcome of an experiment is different from what you thought it would be. "

Professor Schei was born in 1936 in Mosjoen Norway. He married Kirsten in 1958 and they are still enjoying a healthy and happy life together in Trondheim Norway. They raised a daughter and son, both of which graduated from the Norwegian Institute of Technology in Trondheim and became engineers. He is enjoying his retirement with woodworking and his four grandchildren.