

Bylaws of the “European Thermoelectric Society”

§ 1 Name

1. The name of the association is “European Thermoelectric Society”.
2. It will be registered in the register of associations.
3. Domicile of the society is Stuttgart.
4. Working language of the society is English.

§ 2 Aims

1. The society answers exclusively and directly non-profit purposes in accordance with the paragraph “Steuerbegünstigte Zwecke“ of the German Fiscal Law.
The society does not primarily pursue any profit or commercial interests.
The funds of the society may only be used for purposes in accordance with the bylaws.
Members do not receive allowances from the society funds.
Excessive payments or spending not in accordance with the purposes of the society are prohibited.
2. The “European Thermoelectric Society” is an association of industrial and academic persons with interest in the phenomenon of thermoelectricity and its usage.
3. The aims of the “European Thermoelectric Society“ are:
 - a) to promote cooperation and the exchange of information and ideas between individuals and groups with interest in thermoelectricity;
 - b) to organize conferences and training courses on the subject of thermoelectricity for members and other interested persons;
 - c) to encourage collaboration in thermoelectricity in applied and fundamental research and in teaching;
 - d) to bring in contact and to support and facilitate communication between industry and academics regarding business application of thermoelectric facilities;
 - e) to represent Europe in international thermoelectricity organizations;
 - f) to promote research projects in the field of thermoelectricity;
 - g) to award prizes for outstanding merits or achievements in the field of thermoelectricity.

§ 3 Membership

1. The society is open to individual persons with activities or interests in thermoelectricity from industry or academic institutions.
2. Admission of new members requires the agreement of the Executive Committee and begins after payment of the membership fee.
3. Registration for the *European Conference on Thermoelectrics* (ECT) involves an obligatory one-year membership of the “European Thermoelectric Society”. The membership fee will be covered by the conference registration fee.
4. The Executive Committee may appoint a person as honorary member in recognition of his achievements.
5. Resignation takes automatically effect at the end of the period covered by the membership fee.

§ 4 Organs

1. The organs of the society are:
 - The General Assembly;
 - The Executive Committee;

- The Extended Committee;
- The Auditors.

§ 5 The General Assembly

1. The General Assembly consists of all individual members of the society.
2. The General Assembly will meet once a year (opening session of the ECT).
3. Decisions of the General Assembly will be made with a simple majority. Changes of the bylaws and dissolution of the society require a two-thirds majority of the members present at the assembly.
4. The General Assembly will elect the members for the Executive and Extended Committee for a term of three years.

§ 6 The Executive Committee

1. The Executive Committee consists of a president, secretary, and treasurer.
2. The Executive Committee manages and represents the society. It implements the decisions of the General Assembly and decides on all questions not covered by the General Assembly. In addition, it is responsible of accounting.
3. Decisions of the Executive Committee will be made with a simple majority and communicated to the members.
4. Once a year, the Executive Committee summons the General Assembly in writing two weeks in advance. The announcement of the ECT (*European Conference on Thermoelectrics*) published on the internet is deemed to be the invitation.
5. Voluntary work: The members of the Executive Committee work in a voluntary capacity and are not eligible for refund.

§ 7 The Extended Committee

1. The Extended Committee acts in an advisory capacity and comprises a minimum of 6 and a maximum of 11 persons. It consists of
 - a. Elected Members
 - b. Born Members: The chairmen of the last, this and next year's *European Conference on Thermoelectrics* (ECT).
2. Together the Executive and the Extended Committee form the "board".
3. The board meets at least once a year. The meeting will be summoned by the president combined with the announcement of the agenda.
4. The business plan and invoices of the previous year as well as budget and membership fees for the following year will be resolved by the board.

§ 8 The Auditors

The Auditors are annually elected by the Extended Committee from within its ranks and are responsible for auditing last year's financial report. They present the audit to the Board.

§ 9 Financing

The aims of the society will be financed through membership fees, sponsoring by companies, and donations. Only the society's assets are liable.

§ 10 Dissolution of the society

In case of dissolution of the society, remaining assets will be donated to an organization or association with similar objectives. Distribution to the members is excluded.

July 17, 2012