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Looking Ahead to 2011: Choosing Topics for Articles

Gary Breed
Editorial Director

Three months ago, we started planning for our editorial coverage in 2011. Part of that work resulted in our Editorial Calendar, which we've published on page 51 of this issue. But all of you should note that this calendar represents less than half of the topics that will be covered in next year's technical articles. After all, it's impossible to know exactly what engineering topics will be most important many months from now—technology moves fast!

The purpose of our Editorial Calendar is basic planning. It is a broad outline of our plans for 2011:

- Making sure a wide range of product types get attention in our Featured Product section,
- Identifying a few highly active, or newly emerging, areas of technology to explore in our Technology Report column,
- Covering a variety of subjects for our ongoing commitment to tutorial-level "continuing education," and
- Providing information to our current and prospective advertisers—what conferences and trade shows we plan to attend, how to submit press releases, and the various deadlines.

For our readers, the value of this calendar is quite simple. You can see that we work hard to stay abreast of developments in the industry and in the engineering profession. But, please remember that we will cover a LOT more that what appears in the calendar!

We are able to plan for only a few of the in-depth technical articles we run during the course of a year. This is not really a problem because it allows us to be flexible and responsive. We can publish a high quality article quickly, without worrying whether it fits into our planned coverage. Most of those articles are submitted by our readers (often with the encouragement of their employers), and we actively recruit articles when we know good work has been done on an interesting topic.

Writing for HFE...

If you have considered writing an article for *High Frequency Electronics*, take a look at the Editorial Calendar. If your selected topic is aligned with our product or technology coverage, you know it is an appropriate topic.

The calendar will be helpful if the article you are considering is at the tutorial level, or if you are doing high level system planning or product definition work on one of our Technology Report topics. You can see when we plan to cover a particular subject.

But also remember that virtually any subject of interest to an engineer working at high frequencies will be considered. There are far too many active areas of research and development to include them all in our advance planning, but there are a few specific areas of high interest we're following closely:

- Wireless systems for Smart Grid and Smart Home applications
- Electrically tunable technology
- Sensors and sensor networks
- Upper mm-wave and THz research and applications
- High speed digital signal integrity analysis, design and measurement
- Design for 4G (and beyond) wireless systems
- Extremely wide bandwidth short range wireless (e.g., video streaming, real-time work collaboration, massive data collection systems)
- ZigBee and IEEE 802.15 ultra low power applications
- ...and many others

Of course, there is an ongoing need for the exchange of ideas in traditional areas of high frequency/high speed engineering: power amplifiers, modulation methods, receiver design, software-defined radios, filters, couplers, antennas, test and measurement, using EDA tools, etc.

We never have too many articles to choose from! Even if we have more good manuscripts and proposals than we need, it's nice to have additional topics and points of view to choose from. And I'll repeat: virtually any topic is OK!

So send me your article ideas. We look forward to seeing what kinds of work our readers are doing that makes them want to write about it. We also enjoy seeing the kind of work that supplier companies are doing in the area of product development, which adds another level of interest to our selection of articles

From November 2010 *High Frequency Electronics*