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CANDIDATE NAME: ROBERT C. RASSA

BIOGRAPHY: Robert (Bob) Rassa is Director of Engineering Programs at Raytheon's Space and Airborne Systems. His primary responsibilities within Raytheon are focused on furthering the discipline of systems engineering within the US Department of Defense and defense industry. He holds the US Patent for a satellite-based Advanced Maintenance System for Aircraft & Military Weapons, issued in August 1999, now being used on the F-22 and F-35. He has more than 40 years of experience in aerospace and defense industry, with technical achievements in electronics design, test systems, radar, logistics, systems engineering, and management and has received the Raytheon Award for Excellence in Engineering

Process Improvement. He is founder and Chairman Emeritus of the National Defense Industry Association (NDIA) Systems Engineering Division. He was the Industry Sponsor of CMMI (Capability Maturity Model Integration), the world-wide-adopted model for process improvement. Mr. Rassa holds a BSEE from the University of California – Berkeley.

CITATION: For leadership in creating the Panel of Conference Organizers (POCO).

DESCRIPTION OF ACCOMPLISHMENT(S) RELATIVE TO THE CREATION, DEVELOPMENT, OR ADVANCEMENT OF THE TECHNICAL OBJECTIVES OF THE IEEE:

Bob Rassa founded the IEEE Panel of Conference Organizers (POCO) in 2006 to provide better information and training to conference organizers for improving conference performance to benefit sponsoring societies/councils, the attendees, and the authors. It has become an important ongoing IEEE-wide activity, bringing together conference organizers and those involved in various meeting roles from across IEEE to improve the organization, promote the technical aims, and increase the efficiency and financial success of conferences across IEEE while responding to the newest developments in the diverse technical community of conferences and their organizers.

He also has led the IEEE Conferences Committee and other TAB committee efforts and conference boards to continually improve conference management and quality of conference publications by providing better tools and processes, including writing a comprehensive manual for major conferences. These efforts have enabled technical society and council conferences to provide for the exchange of technical information among members in their respective disciplines and industries and to significantly improve the quality of the increasing numbers of publications from these conferences.

DATE(S) OF ACCOMPLISHMENT(S):

He founded the Panel of Conference Organizers in 2006.

OTHER IMPORTANT IEEE ACTIVITIES:

Technical Activities Board (TAB): TAB Board Member, 2014-15; 2007-09, 2004-05; TAB Management Committee, Member-at-Large, 2007-10; TAB Awards and Recognition Committee: 2009; 2008. Ad Hoc Committee on TAB Projects: Chair, 2009-10; Member, 2008-09. Ad Hoc Committee on Systems, Chair, 2004-05.

IEEE Society Affiliates Ad Hoc Committee, Member, 2009. IEEE Council Process Ad Hoc Committee, Member, 2006-08. IEEE Products for Practitioners Ad Hoc Committee, Member, 2009. IEEE Panel of Conference Organizers (POCO), Founder and Chair, 2006. IEEE Conferences Committee: Past Chair, 2007-10; Chair, 2006. Conference Publications Committee, Voting Member, 2006-07. Conference Quality Ad Hoc Committee, Member, 2009. IEEE Technical Co-Sponsorship Ad Hoc Committee, Member, 2009.

IEEE Systems Council: Past President, Distinguished Lecturer, and Fellows Evaluation Chair; President, 2014-15, 2008-09, 2005-07; Finance Vice President, 2008-10; Finance Committee Chair, 2009-10; Fellows Evaluation Committee, 2009-10; Nominations and Appointments Committee, 2009-10.

IEEE Aerospace & Electronics Systems Society (AESS) President (2008-2009); Treasurer (2016); Executive Vice President, 2010-11, 2006-07; Board of Governors 2014-2016, 2008-10, 2005-07, 2001-03; Fellows Evaluation Committee Chair; AESS Distinguished Lecturer (2015-2016).

IEEE Instrumentation & Measurement Society (IMS) President 2004-2005; Vice President – Conferences, 2003; Vice President, 1998;AdCom Member-at-Large, 2004-07, 2000-03; Finance Committee Member, 2003-09; Awards & Recognition Committee Chair, 2008-09; Magazine Editorial Board Member, 2000-10;Technical & Standards Activities, Chair, 1991-2004; Meetings Committee Chair, 2003; Awards and Membership Recognition Committee Chair, 2008-09; Technical and Standards Activities Committee Chair, 2001-03; Measurement Systems Modernization Technical Committee Chair, 2001-07.

International Systems Conference (SysCon) Chair, 2006-2016; Conference Chair AUTOTESTCON 2012, 2009, 2006 2003, 2000, 1997, 1994, 1991. International Instrumentation & Measurement Technology Conference (I2MTC): Conference Chair I2MTC 2008; I2MTC Board of Directors, Chair, 2008-09; I2MTC Board of Directors Member, 2003-06.