



International Electrotechnical Commission  
Commission Electrotechnique Internationale  
Международная Электротехническая Комиссия

2019-02-05

## **Intended retirement and succession of the General Secretary**

Dear NC Presidents,  
Dear NC Secretaries,  
Dear CB Members,

I am writing to inform you that General Secretary Frans Vreeswijk has informed the Executive Committee of his desire to retire from his position at IEC in early 2020. Frans has made his intention known now to allow sufficient time for a search over the next months with the goal of presenting a candidate for approval by the Council at the General Meeting in Shanghai in October.

The search for Frans's successor will be conducted by the Executive Committee and we will retain the services of a search firm to assist in recruiting and vetting the candidates. Frans has agreed to stay at IEC for a period of one to three months after the new General Secretary is chosen to ensure a smooth transition. As soon as we can we will announce which firm has been retained to assist with the search and the schedule we will follow.

The Executive Committee and I want to thank Frans for his tireless efforts on behalf of IEC over the last seven years. All of us recognize that these have been very challenging times not just for IEC but for all businesses and organizations as we navigate our way through a period that has been shaped by disruptive technologies and political and economic instability around the world. We have been very lucky to have Frans as the public face of our organization and the most visible advocate of our mission throughout these challenging times.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'James M. Shannon'.

James M. Shannon  
IEC President