

INDUSTRY ADVISORY COUNCIL  
REPORT TO THE ARRL BOARD OF DIRECTORS  
JANUARY, 2005

IAC members are Martin Jue K5FLU (MFJ), Chip Margelli K7JA (Vertex Standard), Scott Robbins W4PA (Ten-Tec), Paul Middleton K4NUH (Kenwood), Wayne Wilson WR5S (Radio Shack), Ray Novak N9JA (ICOM), Eric Swartz WA6HHQ (Elecraft), Kay Craigie N3KN (ARRL – Chairman).

The IAC had no assigned tasks from the Board this year.

Topics discussed on the committee reflector since I became chairman at mid-year have been

- opinions about convention schedules (input passed to Field Services Department for consideration)
- when manufacturers might migrate from COMM interfaces to USB interfaces (I posed the question – respondents indicated change would not happen soon)
- the proposals drafted by the Industry Relations Study Committee to move industry relations into a new era (responses were very positive)

The lack of tasks given to the IAC in recent years reflects the fact that ARRL's approach to industry relations has evolved beyond what the Board envisioned when the IAC was created in 1992. At the time it was created, the IAC broke new ground and fostered more cordial and collegial relations between the League and the for-profit sector than had existed in the past.

Today, however, the IAC concept does not represent the best possible approach to maintaining good industry relations and creating opportunities for mutually-beneficial cooperative projects.

Consequently, a motion will be introduced at the 2005 Annual Meeting to recognize the evolution of the ARRL's industry relations activities and to dissolve the Industry Advisory Council with the Board's thanks to all the companies which have participated in the Council. The IAC members have been informed of this impending change and have expressed no objections. Quite to the contrary, in fact; several have expressed enthusiasm for the new ideas developed by the Industry Relations Study Committee.

Respectfully submitted,

Kay Craigie N3KN  
Chairman