



Trace Laboratories, Inc.

5 North Park Drive  
Hunt Valley, MD 21030

1150 West Euclid Ave.  
Palatine, IL 60067

## IPC CELEBRATES 50 YEARS OF SERVING THE ELECTRONICS INTERCONNECTION INDUSTRY

### Method/Trace Staff In It From The Beginning

March 2007

“In the fall of 1957, six printed circuit board manufacturers came together to create the Institute for Printed Circuits. What did they have in common? A desire to promote the new technology of printed wiring boards and the need for industry standards to create common ground between themselves and their customers. From that day, IPC was dedicated to removing supply chain obstacles, creating industry standards, and supporting the advancement of the industry.” (Excerpt from *IPC Review*, Vol. 48, No. 1: January 2007, page 12)



**IPC Founding Members - Seated on far right: William McGinley, Methode**

Employees of Methode Electronics and subsidiary, Trace Laboratories Inc., are very proud of this company’s involvement in IPC since the beginning. The late William J. McGinley, one of Methode’s founders, served as the IPC’s first president from 1957 through 1960, and is recognized as one of IPC’s founding members. Additionally, twenty-two individuals in IPC’s fifty-year history have received the IPC Hall of Fame Award. “This award is given to individuals in recognition of the highest level of achievement, extraordinary contributions and distinguished service to IPC and in the advancement of the industry, including the creation of a spirit of mutual esteem, respect and recognition among members consistent with the goals and missions of IPC on a long



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term basis.” (*From Vacuum Tubes to Nanotubes: An Amazing Half Century*, IPC – Association Connecting Electronics Industries, Bannockburn, IL, 2007) William McGinley was the first to receive this award in 1977.



The experts who served on the historic first “measles” committee. George Smith standing, center.

George Smith, founder of Trace Laboratories, MD was also honored with this award in 1990. Smith’s government positions with the DoD and NSA gave him the experience needed to begin a test laboratory dedicated to assuring the quality of printed circuit boards supplied to the military, as well as the telecommunication, medical and commercial fields. George Smith knew the importance of being on the forefront of new technology and testing. Continued involvement in IPC has maintained that advantage.

Through Bill McGinley, George Smith and others’ lead, Methode/Trace has stayed actively dedicated to improving the printed circuit board industry. Currently, Trace Laboratories’ employees take a leading role in many IPC committees, as well as make significant contributions to numerous others. Below, are three individuals who have served the IPC for 12, 15 and 21 years.



Renee Michalkiewicz, Laboratory Director, Trace Laboratories, MD (12-year member)

- TAEC Member
- Chair of the Testing Committee
- Vice-Chair of the Assembly and Joining Committee
- Vice-Chair of the Assembly and Joining Material Sub-committee
- Chair of the Flux Specification Task Group (J-STD-004)
- Contributing member of IPC-6012, IPC-6013, IPC-A-600, J-STD-001, J-STD-005, J-STD-006, and Legend and Marking, SIR, ECM/CAF Task groups

John Radman, Senior Technical Director, Trace Laboratories, MD (15-year member)

- Chair of the Ionic Conductivity Test Task Group
- Vice Chair of UL796F and UL746F Task Group
- Contributing member of IPC-4101, IPC-9701, JEDEC/IPC JP002, J-STD-020, J-STD-006, and SMT Accelerated Reliability, SMT Attachment Reliability, and Bare Board Cleanliness Task Groups.

Debora Obitz, Senior Engineer, Trace Laboratories, MD (21-year member)

- TAEC Member
- Vice Chair of the Cleaning and Coating Committee
- Vice Chair of the Conformal Coating Task Group
- Contributing member of IPC-6012, IPC-A-600, IPC-6013, J-STD-001, J-STD-002, J-STD-003, IPC-SM-840, and IPC-CC-830

Please visit [www.ipc.org/50th](http://www.ipc.org/50th) to view the insightful information brought together to remember this 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary.