



Message from the Chair

As we close an eventful year for Study Committee B2, it is with great satisfaction that we reflect on the successful completion of the **CIGRE 2025 International Symposium in Montréal**, held from 29 September to 3 October 2025 and hosted by CIGRE Canada and Hydro-Québec. The symposium brought together global experts to address the future of resilient, de-carbonized, and flexible energy systems, and firmly reinforced the central role of overhead lines in meeting these challenges.

Study Committee B2 served as Technical Co-Chair of the symposium and delivered the largest technical contribution of the entire event, a clear indicator of the strength, relevance, and technical leadership of our community. The week was intense, productive, and impactful, with 10 Working Group meetings, three Technical Advisory Group meetings, Strategic, Technical and Administrative sessions, one Technical Tutorial, one international Workshop, and 12 technical paper sessions, the highest number across all Study Committees. Apart from Paris, the CIGRE Montreal symposium was the largest CIGRE symposium ever held, attracting 2400 delegates from 57 countries.

The breadth of topics addressed—ranging from AI-driven inspection, HTLS conductor lifecycle, long-span design, climate change adaptation, to safety in construction and maintenance—highlighted how multidimensional overhead line engineering has become and how effectively SC B2 continues to respond to evolving industry needs.

Beyond Montréal, 2025 has been a year of strong global engagement for SC B2, marked by the successful **CIGRE Trondheim Symposium** in May 2025 and the launch of a new SC B2 **CIGRE West Africa Initiative** in March 2025, including a meeting in Ghana that brought together experts from CIGRE and West African Power Pool (WAPP) nations. These initiatives underline our commitment to capacity building, regional development, and inclusive knowledge sharing across the CIGRE community.

SC B2 marked a key technical milestone in 2025 with the publication of two new Technical Brochures for a total of 103 SC B2 Technical Brochures. **TB 964** provides practical guidance on reinforcing existing overhead line structures, while **TB 969** addresses methods for forecasting dynamic thermal line ratings to support safe and efficient system operation.

Looking ahead, 2026 promises to be an exceptionally active year, with major SC B2 activities planned in **Dakar, Senegal**, and the **CIGRE Paris Session 2026**. These activities will further strengthen collaboration, technical progress, and global participation within Study Committee B2. *To ensure the success of these events, we need your support as reviewers for CIGRE Paris. If you have not yet volunteered, please contact us.*

We would like to express our sincere gratitude to all contributors, organizers, Working Group members, authors, reviewers and participants who made the 2025 events such a success. Your dedication and expertise continue to drive the impact and relevance of SC B2. As we approach the end of the year, Vivek & I extend our season's greetings to all members and colleagues. We wish you and your families a **Merry Christmas** and a very **Happy, Healthy, and Prosperous New Year** and look forward to continuing our collaboration and momentum in the year ahead.

With our best regards,



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NEWSLETTER

STUDY COMMITTEE B2 - OVERHEAD LINES



Recent Events Completed

Here's a quick look at what's been happening this year in the past few months.

THE CIGRE 2025 INTERNATIONAL SYMPOSIUM



This symposium hosted by CIGRE Canada and Hydro-Québec in Montreal [29 Sept - 3 Oct 2025], brought together global experts to address the future of resilient energy systems. Study Committee B2 (Overhead Lines) served as Technical Co-Chair, delivering the largest technical contribution of the entire symposium—a clear signal of the central role overhead lines play in grid resilience, decarbonization, and system flexibility.

SCB2 at a Glance – A Busy, Impact-Driven Week.

- 10 Working Group meetings
- 3 Technical Advisory Group meetings
- Strategic, Technical and Administrative meetings
- 1 Technical tutorial
- 1 International workshop
- 12 Technical paper sessions (highest of all SCs)

Working Groups covered everything from AI-driven inspection, HTLS conductor lifecycle, long-span design, climate change impacts, to safety in construction and maintenance—a reflection of how multidimensional overhead line engineering has become.

Detailed Summary of the events can be access at CIGRE KMS under the Study Committee B2 section - [Summary Link](#)



Top Left: SCB2 Workshop - Adapting design practices: Evolving requirements for overhead transmission line structures [2000-2025]

Top Right: Session chairs and presenters of session B2-5

Bottom: SCB2 Tutorial - Assessment of the methodologies to analyze wind induced overhead line conductor's motion: applications and limitations by Giuseppe Bucca





Recent Events Completed

The CIGRE 2025 International Symposium

The Best Paper Awards

A total of five papers [one from each preferential subject, one NGN paper and one student paper] were selected for the Best Paper awards. The three best papers will be published in CIGRE Science & Engineering:

- Detection of construction sites near infrastructures using satellite technologies
Authors: Mandana Taleb, Antoine Boivin, Maria Papadomanolaki, Alexander Blauw
- Mitigating AC Electromagnetic Interference near rail corridors. A case study
Authors: Chen Wang, Emerson Adajar
- AI-Augmented systems for enhancing safety and efficiency in Live-Line maintenance of electrical transmission lines
Authors: Janos Toth, Balint Nemeth, Levente Racz, Gabor Gocsei

Best NGN Paper

- Development of precast materials for power transmission towers
Authors: Soh Kato, Yoshinori Aoki, Keisuke Fujishima, Takanori Seki, Kenta Takahashi, Hiroshi Saito, Seishi Numakura, Hiroyuki Yokoyama, Keisuke Takemori, YoshiFumi Niino.

Best Student Paper

- Comparison of the environmental impacts of aluminum and steel transmission towers in Quebec
Authors: Rozensky Joseph, Ben Amor, Sébastien Langlois.



CIGRE Iran 2025

CIGRE-Iran organized their **First Technical Session** on Overhead Power Transmission Lines. This event took place in Tehran, Iran, on October 26/27, 2025.

The session began with keynote speakers, including an offline presentation by Konstantin Papailiou, president of CIGRE, who discussed "CIGRE and the Energy Transition". Subsequently, Mr. Masoud Negarpour, SC B2 National representative and the session manager/coordinator, provided an introduction to CIGRE, CIGRE-Iran, and CIGRE Study Committee B2, Overhead Lines.



The event featured five specialized sessions, comprising a total of 24 presentations, each aligned with the specific needs of Iran's electricity network. The session topics included: Intelligentization of the Overhead Lines, Preventive Maintenance, Foundations and Towers, Challenges and Solutions, Transmission Lines Insulators, Modification & Optimization and Capacity Enhancement.



New Working Group

The CIGRE Technical Council approved in **March 2025** the creation of a new Working Group under Study Committee B2 proposed by the Strategic Advisory Group:

WG B2.96 – Composite Insulated Cross-Arms for New-Build and Retrofitted Transmission Line Supports

- Convenor: Roberto Paulo Da Silva Junior [Brazil]
- Secretary: Carlos Kleber [Brazil]

[Click Here to Nominate](#)

National Committees can nominate experts to join the Working Group.

Early 2026

A new Working Group is under final approval by the CIGRE Technical Council.

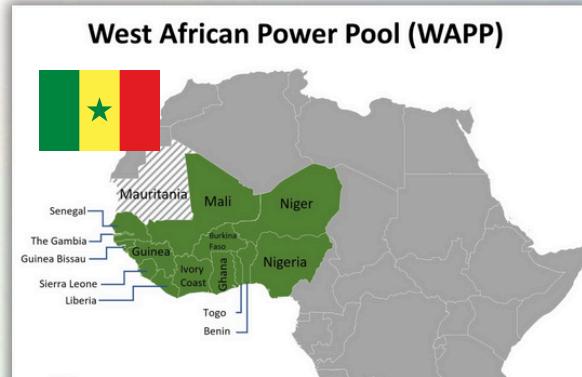
WG B2.97 – Galloping effect on Overhead Line [OHL] Components and Mitigations

- Convenor: Giuseppe Bucca [Italy]

Important dates and upcoming SC B2 events

2026: CIGRE ACADEMY IN WEST AFRICA - AN SC B2 INITIATIVE (MARCH 2026)

- Largest capacity-building initiative organized to date by CIGRE Academy / WG Africa
- Location: Dakar, Senegal
- Dates: 23–27 March 2026
- ~30 international experts expected from Study Committee B2
- Builds on strong regional engagement with 24 West African engineers participating in Ghana (March 2025)
- Working Group meetings, parallel tutorials / workshops scheduled over four days
- Technical / Cultural tour planned on the concluding day



2026: CIGRE PARIS SESSION, AUGUST 23RD TO 28TH

Preparations for the 2026 CIGRE Session are in full swing, and it promises to be an extraordinary event with numerous contributions. We received 209 synopses for the symposium, and after review, 150 were accepted. Full papers are expected by February 2, 2026, and they must be reviewed by March 20. We have an excellent team of Special Reporters covering the three preferential subjects.



Preferential Subject Special reporters

PS1: OHL modernization and emerging technologies
Janos Toth, Hugo Valente

PS2: Health assessment and refurbishment of OHL
Sébastien Langlois, Nancy Fulk

PS3: Sustainability and climate changes impacts [with C3]
Ruy Menezes, Chandra Kant

We need three reviewers per paper, and given the volume of submissions, we need your support. Please volunteer to review papers in **PS1** & **PS3** by contacting Vivek and me, and register in [ConfTool](#).

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