

Paul Schreinemakers

Candidate for President Elect (Two Year Term)
then President (Two Year Term)



My vision for INCOSE

I am passionate about INCOSE and about being a Systems Engineer. If elected I am committed to work as part of the INCOSE leadership team, giving all my best, in order to progress our organization.

My vision for INCOSE has three themes of strategic focus: our members, our impact and our flexibility & adaptability.

Our Members

INCOSE is a successful and growing organisation, which is reflected in over 10.000 individual members, and over 100 organisations on our Corporate Advisory Board that includes an expanding Academic Council. Success also comes from the enormous range of Working Groups and the seventy chapters, spanning 58 Countries that represent distinctive communities. Whether as an individual member, corporate member, or academic member, you bring much energy and enthusiasm and form the bedrock of our organization.

I am committed to continuously listen to you, using your needs as the basis for plans that the Board of Directors formulates and rapidly implements. I will make sure that INCOSE is transparent and its focus and direction connect with the local Chapters' needs. Improving the communication must facilitate to gain insights that will move INCOSE forward as a stronger organization, creating an environment where you can excel and achieve successes.

I have experience with transforming the needs of our stakeholders into actions for change within INCOSE. For example, based on the voice of many members, as the Technical Director, I took the action in 2016 to evaluate the structure of Technical Operations and led the effort to re-architecture it. This led to the new and transparent Technical Operations organisational structure, as fully implemented by IW2017. Technical Operations is now better aligned to meet the needs of the Working Groups and other Stakeholders.

Our Impact

Over the years, Academia, Working Groups of Technical Operations as well as Chapters have generated many excellent products and initiated good efforts. Think of the Systems Engineering Handbook, Helix, SE Vision 2025, the INCOSE UK Competency Framework, guidelines, periodicals and many papers, as well as the most recently published book "Integrating Program Management and Systems Engineering". At this point in time we are recognized as the authority for Systems Engineering. However, we are still confronted with policy makers that have never heard about our discipline or of INCOSE and are not aware of the value we can bring.

I'm committed to reach-out to the policy makers to grow awareness about the benefits of our discipline and to attract these policy makers in our community. I promise to achieve this by setting up an annual policy-makers specific event under the umbrella of INCOSE or by participating in events at which these policy makers share and discuss their needs and views.

We need to embrace the young systems engineer and make them feel inclusive in INCOSE. They are our future. I believe that every student - and from an early age - should have an understanding of systems thinking. That in itself will have far reaching consequences for the impact we make.

I believe that INCOSE must contribute to "a better world through a systems approach" by accelerating the implementation of the Vision 2025 and by widening the horizon of that same vision. As an example, I led a 2016 effort by the Netherlands Chapter to project the Vision 2025 on the country's specific Systems Engineering needs and to widen its horizon to 2035 where possible. This NL-Vision was published earlier this year. A similar activity by AFIS, the Israel Chapter and hopefully others might be merged into a 2035 future state of our vision for Systems Engineering.

Our Flexibility and Adaptability

As mentioned above we are the world authority in Systems Engineering and a growing organisation with increasing impact in the engineering world. However, this doesn't mean we can sit back, relax and 'enjoy the show'.

The world around us is changing and the world is confronted with ever more challenging and complex system problems like the digital evolution or the enormous growth of healthcare. We need to adapt the application of systems engineering and systems thinking to better address these challenges. To achieve this, we will have to collaborate with academia, government and other professional societies like IEEE, IISE, IET, PMI, IPMA, etc. I believe we will need to continuously evaluate and adjust our course of action to remain the world authority in Systems Engineering, while expanding our collaboration with others. Leveraging our diversity and global footprint will enable us to become a more effective organization.

I'm confident that my 14 years of service for INCOSE as Chapter President, Associate Director for Events, and (Deputy) Technical Director, as well as being a member of the Board of Directors, has provided me insight from multiple perspectives regarding the drivers of our organisation and the changes needed to keep INCOSE and our discipline relevant. Three characteristics of my leadership style are: Inclusiveness, Transparency and Walk the talk. If elected, these insights and characteristics will help to equip me to serve in this demanding role.

Thank you for taking the time to read my vision and please cast your vote in November.

My biography

I'm an ESEP and hold a Bachelor's degree in Mechanical engineering and a Master of Science in Engineering Product Design. My experience covers 27 years of product development and consultancy in various domains, which started as mechanical engineer at SRON, the Netherlands Institute for Space Research. During the 10 years I succeeded in introducing (apply) Systems Engineering while defining, designing and building satellite instruments in international teams. I later joined Thales Communications, being in the frontier of implementing CMMI in a hardware development environment.

Since 2003 I have run my own consultancy company, called SEPIAdvies BV (Ltd) and since 2010 combined forces with a companion in How2SE BV (Ltd). In addition to activities for customers in the traditional domains of Space and Defence, I was instrumental in applying Systems Engineering to the transportation and civil construction industries as well as Oil & Gas. My involvement in many of the projects consists of coaching interdisciplinary and multi-cultural project teams in the Netherlands, Belgium and the US.

INCOSE came into my life in 2001, and over the years I've served in various roles. The first of these roles was as President on the board of directors of the Dutch chapter. I was a member of various Chapter based and International Working Groups. My international involvement in INCOSE got more solid by serving as general chair of the 2008 INCOSE International Symposium in the Netherlands and as the Associate Director for Events in the years 2009 to 2012. At the IW 2013 I became the Deputy Technical Director, and then the Technical Director for the period of 2015 - 2016. During my term as Technical Director we took up the task to 'Systems Engineer' Technical Operations and define its current organizational architecture.