Meeting Announcement: Computer Society of the IEEE Fort Worth Section

When: Monday, October 20 - 11:30 to 12:30   (You may bring your lunch)

Topic: Open Source Software

Presenter: Mr. John McGowan, J.D., Associate General Council for Intellectual Property, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company

**Location: Cafeteria, Lockheed Martin Aeronautics, Bldg 502,
         101 Academy Blvd, Fort Worth TX 76108**

<mark>RSVP REQUIRED</mark>

CONTACT: Candy Robinson at candy.robinson@ieee.org by COB - 16 October

IEEE Computer Society must provide names of non-Lockheed badged attendees to Lockheed Security in advance.

If you are a foreign national, we must receive your name at least one week in advance to request access for you. Foreign nationals should RSVP by COB Friday October 10.

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Abstract:

Open Source Software (OSS) refers to software the is freely transferable to other users without charge, but often there are conditions placed on the user of the software, either in how the software can be used or what must be done if the software is modified or incorporated into software which was developed by the user. Each OSS license agreement carries its own restrictions. The use of OSS carries the potential of serious inherent risks of copyright infringement, which typically is not mitigated by supplier indemnities. At present, OSS is neither approved nor disapproved by the U.S. Government. This unresolved status makes program, project, and developer decisions regarding OSS difficult. Users must ensure that any use of OSS does not place it at risk of infringement and inclusion in its products does not compromise either the copyright integrity of user's ownership nor require users to disclose valuable trade secrets in return for using the OSS software. Assuming a project manager can justify these expenses and acceptable legal risk, if one is using Open Source for Mission / Safety Critical or Information Assurance, there are additional product certification processes that can add enormous cost to the code base. All these risks have to be assessed and appreciated before one can say "It's *free,* but is it *cheap?*"

About the Speaker:

Mr. McGowan is the Associate General Counsel for Intellectual Property for the Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company. The Lockheed Martin Aeronautics Company is the world's largest manufacturer of military aircraft. Mr. McGowan is responsible for all intellectual property legal matters including the knowledge management program. He is the management advisor for all licensing and other transactions involving intellectual property including commercialization of developed technology, and is responsible for advising the company on government contract issues related to software and data, infringement actions, product clearances, patentability opinions, negotiating and drafting licensing and cooperative research agreements. From May 1995 to November 1999, Mr. McGowan was the Corporate Intellectual Property Attorney at RadioShack Corporation. From June 1994 until May 1995 Mr. McGowan was an associate with Nath, Amberly and Associates a Washington, DC patent firm. Prior to beginning his legal career, Mr. McGowan was a naval aviator serving in a variety of duties including operational antisubmarine helicopter squadrons, acquisition assignments in the Naval Air Systems Command, and the helicopter class desk for the Commander Naval Air Force Pacific Fleet. He retired from active duty in 1994. Mr. McGowan holds a Bachelor of Science degree in Naval Science from the U.S. Naval Academy, Master of Science degree in Systems Technology from the Naval Postgraduate School, Master of Business Administration degree from the University of Dallas, Graduate School of Management and a Juris Doctor degree from the University of San Diego School of Law.

Directions: From I820, take Clifford or White Settlement going west. At Academy Blvd, take a left and turn into the entrance at your first left. Inform the guard that you are attending an IEEE Computer Society meeting in the cafeteria and need to check into the Building 500 lobby. Security Officer will direct you to visitor parking. The building will be in front of you as you enter the gate, but visitor parking will be to the left. Bring your government issued ID to Bldg 500 lobby to check in, and ask the security officer to direct you to the cafeteria building 502, which is just north of Bldg 500 and an easy walk.