

IEEE Region 8



IEEE R8 History Activities Committee / IEEE Milestones

Martin J. Bastiaans, Region 8 History Activities Coordinator

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Outline of this presentation

1. **Region 8 History Activities Committee** – Charter, Composition, Contact, ...
2. **IEEE Milestones Program**
 - Milestones (if time permits: more details on the process at the end)
 - Special citations
 - Activities at the Section level; **Section Milestone coordinator**
3. **Engineering and Technology History Wiki (ETHW)**
 - Oral histories
 - First-hand histories
 - ...
 - Section histories
 - Documenting the history of Sections at ETHW; **Section History coordinator**
4. **Region 8 history book**: A short history of IRE Region 9 / IEEE Region 8
5. **Region 8 History** webpage
6. **Region 8 History Activities** webpage

1. R8 History Activities Committee – Charter

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Mission

To stimulate in the Region's subunits the **awareness and importance of history**, the **proper documentation of their history**, and the **organization of history-related activities**.

Statement of authority

1. Document the **Region's history** and make the documentation publicly available on the Region's website and through the [Engineering and Technology History Wiki](#).
2. Support the **Region's subunits** in properly documenting their **history**.
3. Support the **Region's subunits** in their **history-related activities** — such as (but not limited to) preparation of [IEEE Milestones](#), arranging of [Oral Histories](#), and organization of history-related meetings and conferences (e.g., R8 HISTELCON) — and assist in establishing necessary **contacts with relevant IEEE organizational units**.
4. Maintain a strong relation with the [IEEE History Committee](#) and the [IEEE History Center](#) (see also <https://history.ieee.org/>).

1. R8 History Activities Committee – Composition

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- **Martin Bastiaans**, History Activities Coordinator (2021–2025)
- **Tony Davies**, Past History Activities Coordinator (2013–2020) [**† 22-03-2025**]
- **Antonio Savini**, current IEEE History Committee member (2022–2025)
- **Mathini Sellathurai**, current IEEE History Committee chair (2024–2025)
- **Evgen Pichkalyov**, past IEEE History Committee member (2022–2023)
- **Sergei Prokhorov**, current IEEE History Committee member (2022–2025)



1. R8 History Activities Committee – Contact ...

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- We can be contacted at history@ieeer8.org (but put m.j.bastiaans@ieee.org in CC).
- We maintain two webpages on the R8 website: [History Activities](#) and [History](#).
- The R8 [History Activities](#) webpage is updated on a regular basis. Visit the page to see the latest news about **recent, ongoing, and future history activities** in Region 8.
- The Region 8 [History](#) webpage and the [Region 8 history book](#) are updated when new information becomes available. This webpage and the history book are also great **sources of information for Sections' histories**.

Other possible sources for Sections' histories

- The **minutes** of almost all Region 8 Committee meetings are now available as pdf: [1962-1970](#), [1971-1983](#), [1984-1993](#), [1994-2009](#), and [2010-2022](#).
- [Scanned versions](#) of all **Region 8 News issues** are available and an **index** to news of each Section is provided for easy reference.

2. IEEE Milestones Program

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- The IEEE Milestones program honors **significant technical achievements in all areas associated with IEEE** (see IEEE Bylaw I-104.11). It is a program of the **IEEE History Committee**, administered through the **IEEE History Center**.
- **IEEE Milestones** recognize the **technological innovation and excellence** for the benefit of humanity **found in unique products, services, seminal papers and patents**. Milestones honor the achievement, rather than a place or a person.
- Milestones are **proposed** by any IEEE member, and are **sponsored** by any one or more IEEE Organizational Unit(s) (OU) such as IEEE section(s), society(ies), chapter(s) or student branch(es).
- **Special Citations** recognize **events or institutions** which – although not technical achievements as defined by the Milestone Program – have contributed to the profession. Examples might be: museums or archives with substantial holdings pertaining to the history of electrical engineering and computing, the holding of a seminal conference, or the formation of a technical society.

2. IEEE Milestones Program

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- The total number of dedicated [Milestones in Region 8 \(.xlsx\)](#) is currently **69 (?)**, with plaques located in Belgium (1), Croatia (1), Denmark (1), England (15), France (7), Germany (7), Hungary (1), Ireland (4), Israel (3 ?), Italy (10), Netherlands (4), North Macedonia (1), Norway (1), Poland (3), Russia (2), Scotland (4), Serbia (1), South Africa (1), Spain (2), Sweden, (1), Switzerland (3), Ukraine (1).
- In addition to the actual Milestones, there are **2** Special Citations: one in Serbia and Montenegro (Belgrade) and one in Germany (Paderborn).
- [List of achievements suitable for Milestones](#)
- [List of achievements suitable for Milestones featuring women](#)
- Consider to appoint a **Section Milestone coordinator** and register him/her in vTools.

3. Engineering and Technology History Wiki

The Engineering and Technology History Wiki (ETHW) is a wiki-based platform that allows IEEE members and Organizational Units to collaboratively **preserve and share their history**. ETHW hosts the Milestones, Oral Histories, and Archives programs, and also allows IEEE members to contribute to Wikipedia-style topic articles or to preserve their own First-Hand Histories.

- List of links to Oral Histories related to Region 8 on ETHW (.xlsx)

ETHW is also a place to store the **history of Sections** and other Organizational Units.

- List of links to Region 8 Section histories on ETHW (.xlsx)
- Document the history of your Sections and put it on ETHW.
- Appoint a **Section History coordinator** to do this job and register him/her in vTools.
- A Section may benefit from its Life Members AG or individual Life Members.
- The Region 8 History book (.pdf) and the Region 8 History webpage may be a source of information and inspiration.

4. A short history of IRE Region 9 / IEEE Region 8

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1. Preliminary steps towards and the early history of a new Region

1. Information taken from the Benelux Section archives
2. *IRE Region in Europe* – Bruce B. Barrow
3. A Region's 'Birth Certificate'
4. *The start of Region 8 and its Sections* – Robert C. Winton
5. *IRE/AIEE Merger* – Bruce B. Barrow

2. The later history of IEEE Region 8

1. The creation of IEEE Region 10 and the extension of Region 8
2. *The Eastward spread of Sections in Region 8* – Tony Davies
3. *Yugoslavia Section from 1971 to 1992* – Baldomir Zajc
4. The present IEEE Region 8 Sections ([link to .xlsx](#), with links to ETHW for Sections' history)
5. Geographic Unit statistics at year end ([link to .xlsx](#))
6. Membership statistics at year end ([link to .xlsx](#))

3. IEEE Region 8 Operating Committees and Appointed Members

1. Operating Committees ([link to .xlsx](#), with all Directors from Region 8)
2. Appointed Representatives / Appointed Coordinators and Subcommittee Chairs
7. Past Directors gallery

4. A short history of IRE Region 9 / IEEE Region 8

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4. Personal reflections of Past Directors

1. Jean D. Lebel (Director 1965–1966)
2. Rolf Remshardt (Treasurer 1983–1998, Director 1999–2000)
3. Anthony C. Davies (Director 2003–2004)
4. Baldomir Zajc (Director 2005–2006)

5. IEEE Region 8 Committee meetings ([link to .xlsx](#))

6. IEEE Region 8 conferences ([link to .xlsx](#))

1. EUROCON 71 – Reminiscences by Fritz Eggimann
2. Conference activities in Region 8 – The first 30 years – Jacob Baal Schem
3. Conference activities in Region 8 – After the first 30 years – Baldomir Zajc

7. Student activities

1. The early years of IEEE Region 8 Student Activities – until 1984
2. Student Activities Committee meetings – until 1984
3. Student Branch (and GOLD / Young Professional) Congresses
4. Cross-Sectional Student Branch (and GOLD / Young Professional) Congresses
5. Student Paper Contest Finals ([link to .xlsx](#))

4. A short history of IRE Region 9 / IEEE Region 8

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8. **IEEE Award recipients from Region 8** ([link to .xlsx](#); see also [Awards & Contest History](#))
 1. Medal of Honor
 2. IEEE Major Medals
 3. IEEE Recognitions
 4. IEEE Service Awards
 5. IEEE Corporate Recognitions
 6. IEEE Prize Paper Awards
 7. IEEE Technical Field Awards
 8. Presidents' Change the World Competition
 9. Joint Awards established with National Societies
 10. Member and Geographic Activities Board Awards
 11. Region 8 Awards
 12. Life Members Awards

4. A short history of IRE Region 9 / IEEE Region 8

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9. Miscellaneous lists

1. Region 8 News ([link to older issues with an index to Sections' news in issues 1-122](#))
2. IEEE Milestones in Region 8 ([link to .xlsx](#), with links to ETHW for details of each Milestone)
3. Miscellaneous

10. History papers presented at HISTELCON 2012

1. *Researching the roots of IEEE Region 8* – Martin J. Bastiaans ([link to .pdf](#))
2. *Setting up the basis for Region 8* – Jean D. Lebel ([link to .pdf](#))
3. *Conferences, technical societies and development – a history* – Jacob Baal–Schem ([link to .pdf](#))
4. *...Go East, Region 8, Go East ...* – Anthony C. Davies ([link to .pdf](#))

• Appendices

- A. Minutes of the meeting of the IRE Inter-Sectional Committee
- B. Birth certificate
- C. IEEE Regions after the merger
- D. Invitations/agendas for the IRE Region 9 Committee meetings
- E. Minutes of the two IRE Region 9 Committee meetings
- F. Invitations/agendas for the early IEEE Region 8 Committee meetings
- G. Minutes of the early IEEE Region 8 Committee meetings

5. Region 8 History webpage

The [Region 8 History](#) webpage is updated when new information becomes available.

Current content:

- Region 8 History book
- Engineering and Technology History Wiki
- Other sources on the Region 8 website
- Miscellaneous weblinks

This page is also a great **source of information for the history of Sections.**

6. Region 8 History Activities webpage

The [Region 8 History Activities](#) webpage is updated on a regular basis. Current content:

- Team
 - [List of Region 8 Section history officers \(.xlsx\)](#)
 - [List of Region 8 History Network subscribers \(.xlsx\)](#)
- **News**
- IEEE Milestones
- Engineering and Technology History Wiki
- Region 8 History book
- Documents archive
- IEEE History Center – a selection of additional weblinks

Visit this webpage to see the latest news about **recent, ongoing, and future history activities** in Region 8.

Using History Activities to engage (life) members

IEEE – Inspire with Energy, Enthusiasm and Experience

Thank you!

Martin J. Bastiaans – m.j.bastiaans@ieee.org

The R8 History book is available at a https://ethw.org/w/images/a/a6/R8_history.pdf.

The R8 History results are always available at <https://ieeer8.org/category/history/>.

The current R8 History Activities are always available at <https://ieeer8.org/category/member-activities/history-activities/>.

IEEE Milestones Program

Celebrating achievements in IEEE's fields of interest

The IEEE Milestones program is one of the most visible ways IEEE celebrates the profession. It is a program of the **IEEE History Committee**, administered through the **IEEE History Center**. **IEEE Milestones** recognize the **technological innovation and excellence** for the benefit of humanity **found in unique products, services, seminal papers and patents**.

Milestone plaques are mounted in **publicly-accessible places** such as University Campuses, Railroad Stations, Public Parks, Historic Buildings, and Corporate Buildings. They are seen by hundreds of thousands of people every day.

Contact the IEEE History Center staff at ieee-history@ieee.org or +1 732 562 5450

IEEE Milestone process in brief

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- Milestone proposals can be submitted by any member (even a student member) on ethw.org, sponsored by any IEEE organizational unit
 - Obtain the sponsorship of an IEEE Organizational Unit (Section, Society, Council, Chapter, etc.) that will pay for the plaque(s) and ceremony – Endorsement by the appropriate Section is required
 - Obtain the permission of the owner of the site where the Milestone plaque will be mounted
- An advocate is chosen to review proposal and assist proposers
 - Ensures sufficient citations and references to support the claim
 - Helps develop a concise and accurate citation
 - Recommends IEEE History Committee action on proposal
 - Advocate must be member or former member of the IEEE History Committee

IEEE Milestone process in brief

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- Review by experts and approval by the advocate, including the wording of citation
- Approval by the Milestones Subcommittee in case the proposed citation contains the name of a person
- Approval by the IEEE History Committee
 - IEEE History Committee votes whether or not to recommend IEEE Board of Directors final approval
 - If the History Committee recommends approval, History Center staff submits proposal to the Board of Directors for final action
- Approval by the IEEE Board of Directors
- Milestone dedication ceremony

Contact the IEEE History Center staff at ieee-history@ieee.org or +1 732 562 5450

IEEE Milestone dedication ceremony

- Dedication ceremonies are in the hands of the sponsoring IEEE Organizational Unit. May be as elaborate or simple as desired
- Opportunities for local press, corporate, and political involvement, and high visibility for IEEE
- IEEE President and/or VIPs often attend. Do not forget to invite a representative of the Region (Director, past Director, History Activities Coordinator, ...)
- The approval process takes about 12-14 months, depending on History Committee and Board of Directors meeting schedules
- Proposers should allow time to plan the dedication ceremony and to cast plaque(s) – Plaques take 9 weeks to cast

The full [Milestone Program](#) with [guidelines and how to propose a Milestone](#) can be found on ETHW

IEEE Milestone status report

The process can be followed via the [Status Report](#) on ETHW:

- A. Proposals needing advocates
- B. Proposals being written and awaiting completion and submission
- C. Proposals submitted, awaiting advocate and/or expert reviews
- D.1 Proposals approved by advocate and awaiting Milestones Subcommittee chair approval
- D.2 Proposals approved by advocate and awaiting citation approval
- D.3 Proposals awaiting name-in-citation approval by Milestones SubCom
- D.4 Proposals awaiting further development or evaluation by Milestones SubCom
- D.5 Proposals awaiting History Committee action
- E. Proposals approved by History Com and awaiting Board of Directors action
- F. Milestones approved by Board of Directors and the dedication ceremonies are being planned