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IEEE Milestone Award | Manchester Code, 1948 – 1949

April 13 - 1:00 pm - 5:30 pm

IEEE Milestone Award | Manchester Code, 1948 – 1949

The IEEE has recognised the invention of Manchester code in 1948 as a Milestone technical achievement and the Milestone will be awarded at a ceremony at The University of Manchester on the afternoon of 13th April 2026. There will be technical talks describing the invention and its impact as well as the formal handover of the Milestone plaque.

Manchester code was invented for the storage of data in the magnetic drum store of the Manchester Mark I computer. It became a standard for computer magnetic tapes and floppy disks, and was used in digital communications including the Voyager 1 and 2 spacecraft and early Ethernet networks. It found wide use in Radio Frequency Identification (RFID) tags, many control network standards and domestic remote controllers found in millions of homes across the world.

This is a hybrid event. In-person attendance is encouraged and is free of charge, however **registration and tickets are needed** and obtainable below. The event will also be livestreamed.

Details

Date:

April 13

Time:

1:00 pm - 5:30 pm BST

Event Category:

Milestones

Website:

<https://www.eventbrite.co.uk/e/ieee-milestone-award-manchester-code-1948-1949-tickets-1975175949435>

Organiser

Prof Jim Miles


Email

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The University of Manchester
Nancy Rothwell Building, Oxford
Road
Manchester, M13 9PL
 + Google Map

Agenda

13:00–13:55		
Registration		
In the ground floor lobby of the Kilburn Building, enter from the North (city centre) side		
14:00	Welcome and Introduction	Prof Tom Thomson <i>University of Manchester, local meeting chair</i>
14:10	Welcome to the University of Manchester	Prof Duncan Ivison <i>President and Vice Chancellor, The University of Manchester</i> Prof Nalin Thakkar <i>Vice President, The University of Manchester</i>
14:20	The IEEE Milestone Program	Dr Tom Coughlin <i>2024 President, IEEE</i>
14:40 Unveiling of the Plaque		
14:50 Technical Seminar		
14:50	The Invention of Manchester Code	Prof Jim Miles <i>The University of Manchester</i>
15:15	The Impact of Manchester Code in Data Storage	Prof Kees Schouhamer Immink <i>Turing Machines Inc.</i>
15:40	The Impact of Manchester Code in Digital Communications	Prof Peter R. Green <i>FSE Teaching College, The University of Manchester</i>
16:05	IEEE UK and Ireland Section Thanks	Prof Nagham Saeed

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16:10	Closing remarks and vote of thanks	Prof Tom Thomson <i>University of Manchester, local meeting chair</i>
16:15–17:30	Reception	



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