

Region 8 History Activities – Final report 2023-2024

Composition and contact information

- Coordinator (2021-2024): Martin Bastiaans
- Corresponding member: Past Coordinator (2013-2020): Anthony Davies
- Corresponding member: Antonio Savini, IEEE History Committee member (2022-2024)
- Corresponding member: Evgen Pichkalyov, IEEE History Committee member (2022-2023)
- Corresponding member: Sergei Prokhorov, IEEE History Committee member (2022-2024)
- Corresponding member: Stefano Selleri, IEEE History Committee member (2023-2024)
- Corresponding member: Ahmed_Zobaa, IEEE History Committee member (2024)
- Corresponding member: Mathini Sellathurai, IEEE History Committee member (2024)
- We can be contacted at history@ieee8.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.

Mission and Statement of authority

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 — 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

The History Activities Operations Manual can be found [here](#) (.pdf).

Milestone dedications

- 03-04-2023 [The birth of electrodynamics, 1820-1827](#), Paris, France Section (#234)

- 28-09-2023 [MPEG multimedia integrated circuits, 1984-1993](#), Grenoble, France Section (#238)
- 10-10-2023 [First robotic control from human brain signals, 1988](#), Skopje, North Macedonia Section (#240)
- 07-12-2023 [Invention of sonar, 1915-1918](#), Paris, France Section (#243)
- 04-06-2024 [Development of the cavity magnetron, 1939-1941](#), Birmingham, UK and Ireland Section (#257)

The total number of dedicated [Milestones in Region 8 \(.xlsx\)](#) is currently 64, with 66 plaques located in 18 Sections: UK and Ireland (21); Italy (9); France (7); Germany (6); Benelux (4); Israel, Poland, Russia (Northwest), Spain, Switzerland (2); Croatia, Denmark, Hungary, Norway, Serbia and Montenegro, South Africa, Sweden, and Ukraine (1). Note that France and UK and Ireland have one Milestone (#44) in common, with different citations on the plaques, and that one of the Milestones in Poland (#205) has a duplicate plaque in Germany. Multiple plaques for the same Milestone in the same Section are not added to the count.

In addition to the actual Milestones, there are 2 Special Citations: one in Serbia and Montenegro (Belgrade) and one in Germany (Paderborn).

Milestone approval dates, not yet dedicated

- 23-06-2024 [Long distance electric power transmission using three-phase alternating current, 1891](#), Germany and Poland Sections
- 27-09-2024 [Anderson bridge, 1891](#), UK and Ireland Section
- 27-09-2024 [Integrated circuits for satellite digital radio, 1996-1997](#), France and Italy Sections

Submitted Milestone proposals currently under discussion by the IEEE History Committee

- 16-04-2021 [Asymmetric Digital Subscriber Line \(ADSL\) enabling broadband internet, 1993-1997](#), Benelux Section
- 01-12-2023 [Unipolar conduction of metal-semiconductor junctions, 1874](#), Germany Section
- 30-12-2023 [Rijndael and the Advanced Encryption Standard \(AES\), 1995-1998](#), Benelux Section
- 29-08-2024 [The Deutsches Museum, Special citation in history, 1903](#), Germany Section
- 25-09-2024 [Northern cross radio telescope, 1964](#), Italy Section

HISTELCON

- The proceedings of HISTELCON 1 through 7, available at IEEE Xplore, are now freely accessible for everyone without any payment; see also the [HISTELCON entry](#) on ETHW.
- [HISTELCON 2023](#), *Science and technology or technology and science?*, took place as a hybrid event in Florence, Italy, on 7-9 September 2023.

HISTELCON 2023 received 91 submissions (full papers or abstracts); 84 papers were accepted (based on 48 full papers and 36 abstracts). The number of participants was 97 (including a few online), of which 77 were presenting authors. More information in [IEEE Antennas & Propagation Magazine, Vol. 65, Nr. 6, December 2023, pp. 56-57](#).

- [HISTELCON 2025](#) will take place in Bonn, Germany, on 30 September – 2 October 2025.

Updates in the [Region 8 History book](#) (.pdf) and the associated excel sheets on the [Region 8 History webpage](#)

- Section 2.4 [Chronological list of Region 8 Sections and Subsections](#) (.xlsx)
- Section 2.5 [Chronological list of Geographic Unit statistics at year end](#) (.xlsx)
- Section 2.6 [Chronological list of membership statistics at year end](#) (.xlsx)
- Section 3.1 [Chronological list of Region 8 Directors](#) (.xlsx)
- Chapter 5 [Chronological list of Region 8 Committee meetings](#) (.xlsx)
- Chapter 6 [Chronological list of Region 8 Conferences](#) (.xlsx)
- Section 7.5 [Chronological list of Region 8 Student Paper Contest finals](#) (.xlsx)
- Chapter 8 [Chronological list of Region 8 Award Recipients](#) (.xlsx)
- Section 9.2 [Chronological list of IEEE Milestones in Region 8](#) (.xlsx)
- [List of Oral Histories related to Region 8](#) (.xlsx)

Special projects

- [Scanned versions](#) of all Region 8 News issues until November 2001 (Vol. 4, Nr. 4) have been made available, together with an index to Section news in issues 1 (December 1967) until 122 (May 1998).
- (Scanned) versions of almost all Region 8 Committee meeting minutes have been made available: [1962-1970](#) (.pdf), [1971-1983](#) (.pdf), [1984-1993](#) (.pdf), [1994-2009](#) (.pdf), and [2010-2022](#) (.pdf).

Miscellaneous

The History Activities Coordinator gave presentations in three Region 8 Committee meetings ([Bucharest](#), 25-26 March 2023; [Vienna](#), 2-3 March 2024; [Bordeaux](#), 19-20 October 2024) and in the Region 8 Life Members Affinity Group in-person meetings ([Budapest](#), 5-6 December 2023; [Brugg-Windisch](#), 11-12 October 2024 – Alpine Day), and attended the Milestone dedication ceremonies in Skopje (23 October 2023) and Birmingham (21 June 2024).

Moreover, he attended the IEEE History Committee meeting in Florence (6 September 2023) in conjunction with the Italy Section Life Members Affinity Group meeting (partly online) and [HISTELCON](#) (7-9 September 2023).

He was happy to be invited to attend the Germany Section's 60th anniversary in Berlin (September 2023) and to attend the opening of the ENTER Technikwelt museum in [Solothurn/Derendingen](#) (30 November 2023), where he also gave a presentation to the Switzerland Section Life Members Affinity Group.