Distinguished Service Award Winner 2021

Prof. Stephen Nightingale

Stephen (Steve) Nightingale received his Electrical Engineering degree from the CEI in 1974 and a PhD in Electronics from Kent University in 1980. He worked for Philips Research Laboratories, UK, designing microwave circuits and systems until 1982.
He then joined General Electric, Syracuse, USA, as the EHF Technology Manager supervising and designing Gallium Arsenide MMICs up to 94 GHz with specific responsibility for the US Milstar and DSCS programmes.

From 1986 to 1996, he worked for THORN EMI Electronics/Racal/Thales as a MMIC Technology Consultant, Department Manager and Technology Manager responsible for technology acquisitions for Radar and EW systems. This included technology acquisitions for the 4-nation military phased-array radar programme, COBRA.

In 1996, he joined ERA Technology/Cobham, UK, designing and manufacturing Mach Zehnder optical modulator drivers operating at 2.5 and 10Gb/s. Production reached over 12,000 per annum and the developed designs became industry standards.
From 2001, he became Chief Consultant for Electronic Design developing interference mitigation systems for civil and military platforms using direct RF cancellation and TDM. Notable deliveries were for the US Rescue 21 programme, various Australian Army equipment upgrade programmes and a number of UK MoD requirements.
Steve was appointed a Visiting Professor at Surrey University in 2002 sponsored by the Royal Academy of Engineering.

He was a Founder Member and Past Director of the EuMA. He has served the EuMA and the EuMC in various capacities for more than 30 years and was Chair of the EuMW and EuMC in 2001.

Steve has also served on various boards in UK universities and industries, including Imperial College, London, and ECIT, Belfast.
Steve has published and lectured widely in the UK and abroad, has contributed to 4 books and been awarded 8 patents in the microwave field.
He became a Fellow of the IEEE in 2002 with the citation 'For Contributions to Planar Microwave and Millimeterwave Circuits'. He has also received several Sir Alan Cobham Awards for technical innovation, team leadership and sustainability.