
Newsbriefs

The U.K.'s Royal Academy of Engineering awards prestigious Silver Medal to Nortel employee Simon Brueckheimer

Simon Brueckheimer, an architect in Nortel's Harlow (U.K.) laboratories, has been awarded the Royal Academy of Engineering Silver Medal. This honor is granted annually to only four engineers across Great Britain, under the age of 50, who have made outstanding contributions to British engineering.

At the awards ceremony in London in June, Simon was recognized as one of the U.K.'s leading communications engineers for his prolific patents portfolio – 46 filed, 40 granted to date – and specifically for his foundational inventions that are central to the development of next-generation networks.

For instance, Simon conceived of a novel method of separating call routing and connection control, as well as a method of performing frame synchronization in packet networks. Other patents encompass using the packet

network dynamically to send voice communications, as well as unbundling services and moving them to servers accessed by a single core network, paving the way for simple and cost-effective delivery of broadband and new multimedia services. One particular patent, in fact, has been cited no less than 19



times in subsequent U.S.-granted applications.

These innovations have revolutionized the design of communications networks, says Philip Hargrave, Nortel's Chief Scientist for Europe, Middle East, and Africa (EMEA) and a Fellow of the Royal Academy. "Simon's innovations have led to a new range of products for Nortel, and have contributed to the industry's body of knowledge, with ideas that are now universally accepted under the banner of next-generation networks."

Simon, who joined Nortel in 1986, continues his work at Nortel both in a customer-facing role with the sales community and as a key member of Nortel's advanced technology community, working on architectures and product strategies for both wireless and wireline networks. ■

Nortel's Kelly Krick recognized with IEEE Communications Quality & Reliability Chairman's Award

Kelly Krick, Nortel's customer operations leader for the Cingular Wireless account in Atlanta, Georgia, recently received the IEEE's Communications Quality & Reliability Chairman's Award at a ceremony during the organization's annual workshop in St. Petersburg, Florida.

In receiving the award, Kelly was cited for his sustained contributions in the fields of network system quality, overseeing the publication of valuable technical materials, and bridge-building throughout the international community.

Kelly has been involved with the IEEE Communications Quality & Reliability Technical Committee for the past 18 years. A former chairman of the committee, he has played a major role

in organizing the committee's annual workshops – and most notably, in extending participation to the international community by organizing workshops in Japan and Greece. The workshops explore leading-edge ideas about what the telecommunications industry should be



doing to address the issues of emerging networks. Past workshops have focused on such key issues as software quality assurance, TL 9000 specifications, and the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) mandates on outage tracking.

Kelly began his career at Nortel in 1984 doing proposals during the height of Nortel's efforts to install digital switches into RBOC (Regional Bell Operating Company) networks in the United States. Kelly's prior roles at Nortel included network engineering, software quality assurance, and total quality management in support of various business units and in various locations. With his engineering background, Kelly says his greatest personal satisfaction comes from working with customers to solve network issues. ■