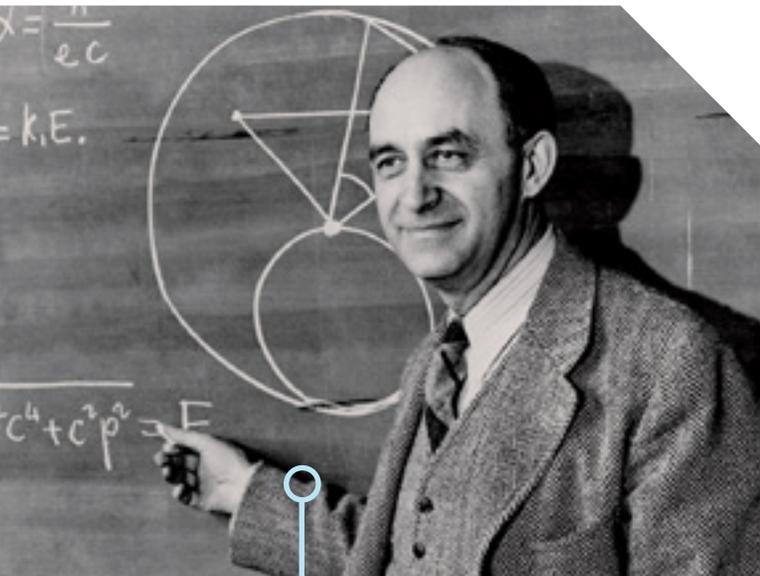


IEEE Honors Historic Milestones

Each year, the IEEE Milestones in Electrical Engineering and Computing program recognizes exceptional technical achievements that occurred at least 25 years ago. In past years, the program has acknowledged the work of landmark inventors like Benjamin Franklin, Alexander Graham Bell, and Thomas Edison.

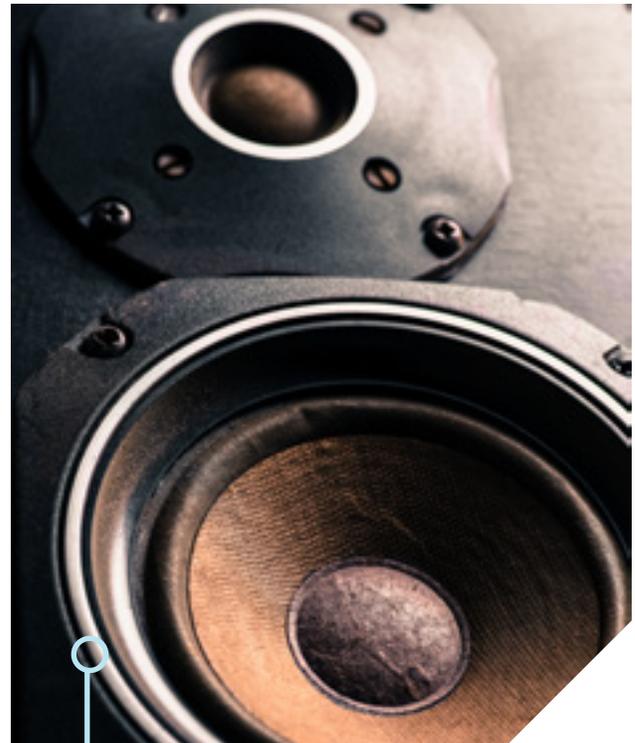
The IEEE Milestones recognized in 2015 included:



Source: The Atomic Heritage Foundation

Semiconductor Statistics, 1924-1926

Nobel laureate Enrico Fermi developed the quantum statistics that would be named after him while teaching at the School of Engineering of the University of Florence. Fermi-Dirac statistics were a fundamental contribution to semiconductor physics and to the development of electronics.



Stereo Sound Reproduction, 1931

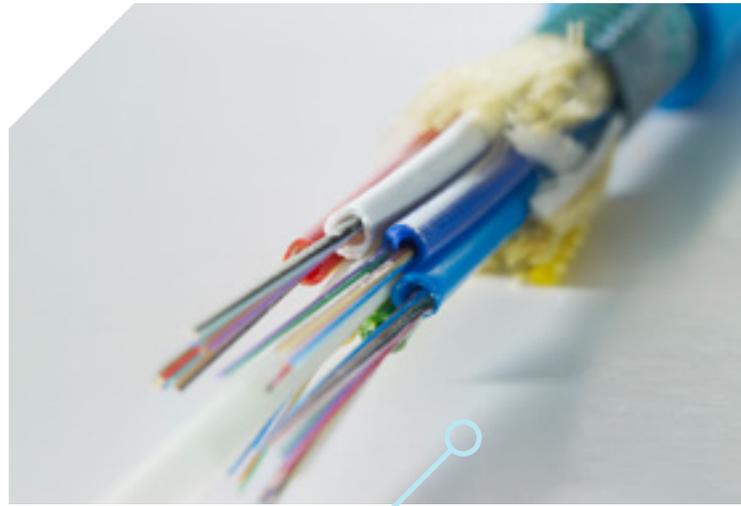
Alan Dower Blumlein filed a patent for a two-channel audio system called "stereo" on 14 December 1931. It included a "shuffling" circuit to preserve directional sound, an orthogonal "Blumlein Pair" of velocity microphones, the recording of two orthogonal channels in a single groove, stereo disc-cutting head, and a hybrid transformer to mix directional signals. Blumlein brought his equipment to Abbey Road Studios in 1934 and recorded the London Philharmonic Orchestra.



Source: The Smithsonian

Interactive Video Games, 1966

The "Brown Box" console, developed at Sanders Associates (later BAE Systems) between 1966 and 1968, was the first interactive videogame system to use an ordinary home television set. This groundbreaking device and the production-engineered version Magnavox Odyssey game system (1972) spawned the commercialization of interactive console video games, which has become a multibillion-dollar industry.



Optical Fibers, 1977-1983

In 1977, Dr. Tatsuo Izawa of Nippon Telegraph and Telephone Corp. (NTT) invented the vapor-phase axial deposition (VAD) method suitable for the mass production of optical fiber. NTT, Furukawa Electric, Sumitomo Electric, and Fujikura collaboratively investigated the fabrication process. The technology successfully shifted from research and development to commercialization. The VAD method contributed greatly to the construction of optical-fiber networks.

Other milestones recognized in 2015:

- Computer History Museum, 1979
- RISC Microprocessor, 1980-1982
- Middle and Upper Atmosphere Radar, 1984
- SPARC/RISC Architecture, 1987
- High-Voltage Converter Station, 1988