



Chapter News

2005 IEEE Israel AP-S/MTT-S Chapter Symposium

■ Shmuel Auster, IEEE S-AP/MTT-S Chapter Chairman, Israel Section

In 1982, having just received my B.Sc. and begun working at Elisra Electronic Systems as an R&D engineer only two years earlier, I was asked by my boss to present one of my recent developments in millimeter-wave technology at the local (Israel) AP-S/MTT-S Chapter Symposium. I was very excited during my talk and was glad to see that the audience was interested at my presentation.

In August 2003, 21 years later, I became AP-S/MTT-S joint chapter chair and tried to use my long experience serving as a member of several organizing/management/technical committees of international IEEE and European conferences over the last decade to implement ideas and increase attendance in our Chapter activities. Until 2003, the main Chapter activity was an annual full-day chapter symposium with 10–12 topics in one session and about 40–70 attendees maximum.

In 2004 and 2005, I succeeded in increasing the number of attendees at this annual symposium to 170 and 300 attendees, respectively. The 2005 AP-S/MTT-S Israel Joint Chapter Symposium took place at Beit Chel-Haavir in Hertzlia on 9 May 2005.

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The MTT-S provides many services to their Chapters. There are Distinguished Microwave Lecturers, the Technical Committees Speakers Bureau, mini workshops, and videotapes available for your technical programs. Review the various offerings detailed on the MTT-S Web page (<http://mtt.org/index.html>) and ask your local Chapter to invite the presenters and topics you are interested in.

Your Chapter can apply for financial support from the Society annually to support your technical program and to help your Chapter chair attend one of the Chapter chair meetings held at the International Microwave Symposium, European Microwave Conference, and the Asia Pacific Microwave Conference. There is also a reward for membership promotion to IEEE Senior Member when sponsored by the MTT-S. See the MTT-S Conference Calendar (<http://mtt.org/index.html>) for more information.

The MTT-S has produced a membership-recruiting brochure for you to hand out along with IEEE membership applications. Your Chapter chair can request, through the local IEEE Section, a list of all MTT-S members in your section so that you can invite them to attend your meetings and use it to recruit new officers. The chair is a nonvoting member of the MTT-S Administration Committee and welcome to attend all open session committee meetings and events. To find out who your Chapter chair is, consult the MTT-S Chapter Officer's Handbook (http://mtt.org/chapters/mttcoh_04_05.pdf).

Be a part of your local MTT-S Chapter, and contribute to your local microwave community!

Jim Weiler
MTT-S AdCom Chapter Activities

Some key parameters that created the successful participation at the 2005 symposium follow.

The Symposium Program

This year's program offered a very impressive list of speakers that

included expert R&D engineers, top scientists, and managers. Up-to-date and fascinating topics were presented that enriched our microwave, antenna, and wireless communication community with knowledge, ideas, applications, and challenges. The 2005

symposium included four sessions with 34 topics.

Invited keynote speakers from the United States and Israel presenting during the Opening Session were:

- Mr. Brian R. Dornan, VP at Merrimac Ind.
- Mr. Gerald (Jerry) Cornwell, chief technologist at M/A COM Inc.
- Dr. Joseph Shapira, president at Comm&Sens and winner of the Bergman Award given by the President of Israel for his contributions in electromagnetic R&D.

The microwave, antenna, and poster sessions were held simultaneously and offered over 30 additional speakers and topics. These sessions addressed a wide range of activities and developments in microwave technology, antennas, and wireless communication. The poster session allowed students to present their projects done in conjunction with academic and industry supervisors.

In memory of Prof. Shmuel Shtrikman, who was a senior scientist at the Weizmann Institute, a presentation on antennas was given by two of his former Ph.D. students: Dr. Haim Matzner and Dr. Eli Levine. Prof. Shtrikman received the 2001 Israel Prize in Physics and the Israel Defense Prize twice. He was a member of the Israel Academy of Sciences and Humanities, an IEEE Life Fellow, an electromagnetic and antenna R&D scientist, and a language researcher who spoke fluent Chinese, Japanese, Mongolian, and Tibetan.

A Professional Microwave Exhibition and Social Event

The exhibition was organized alongside the symposium halls. Companies and agencies presented CAD tools, test equipment, and radio-frequency, microwave, and millimeter-wave components and modules for electronic systems applications. The exhibition helped to better publicize and attract the symposium.

This symposium was a valuable, enriching, enjoyable event and a social opportunity to meet and socialize with colleagues. The symposium site was selected specifically for its uniqueness and accessibility. We created elegant decorations and gave excellent service. A professional coffee maker with an Italian

coffee machine served the delegates with variety kinds of coffee and fresh cakes. A rich and tasty lunch was served (included) during a one-hour break. This event was supported and generously sponsored by Agilent Technologies in cooperation with Orbit/FR. The sponsorship allowed us to reduce the registration fees, improve the organization quality, and promote the symposium. The delegates received a beautiful bag with the symposium book of proceedings.

Organization and Marketing

A professional secretariat company organized the symposium. A large marketing campaign was launched via selected mailing lists of microwave companies and agencies in addition to the distributions made by the symposium secretariat. I used a professional public relations office and personal contacts to distribute press releases in

local hi-tech/electronics magazines and on Web sites. By these means, we broadcasted our Chapter's symposium to the maximum potential number of scientists and engineers in our small community.

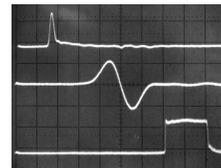
In addition to our annual Chapter symposium, we cooperate with other IEEE Chapters and the IEEE Section in organizing additional joint technical meetings each year. The 2005 symposium was very successful, with merely 300 participants from many companies and academies, which challenges us to organize similar or even greater event in 2006.

The 2006 AP-S/MTT-S Israel Joint Chapter Symposium is scheduled for 8 May 2006 at the same location. We found out that, with hard work, new ideas, support, and cooperation from others, we can promise inspiration and enhanced quality for our future chapter symposiums.



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