

MICROWAVE APPLICATIONS AWARD



Les Besser

"For development and application of COMPACT, a microwave design program".

Les Besser received his BS from the University of Colorado, majoring in EE and Business Administration, where he was awarded the "Outstanding Engineering Student" title. He also holds an MSEE degree from the University of Santa Clara. From 1966 to 1970, he was with Hewlett Packard Company, working on the development of broadband thin-film microwave components and conducted seminars on scattering parameter design techniques. In 1970, he joined the Microwave Division of Fairchild where he became the Manager of Circuit Development, concentrating on MIC's, CATV Systems and Low Noise GaAs FET Amplifiers. Between 1972 and 1976 he was directing the Microcircuit Design and Development at Farinon Electric.

Mr. Besser was the founder and President of Compact Engineering, a firm that provided software and seminars to microwave design engineers. In 1980 his firm merged with Communication Satellite Corporation to form the foundation of Comsat General Integrated Systems. Mr. Besser then became Senior Vice President and was the COO of the Palo Alto Operations. He stepped down from that position at the end of 1982 but remained with CGIS in the capacity of a consultant. He is the author of two major general purpose microwave circuit optimization programs, SPEEDY and COMPACT. He has published over fifty papers and articles on modern computer-aided circuit design and was a contributing author of two books — Electronic Measurements and Instrumentation, McGraw Hill, 1971; Computer-Aided Design of Microwave Circuits, Artech House, 1981. He holds the basic patent for the first thin-film amplifier circuit used in the CATV industry. He has also been active in a one-week continuing educational seminar entitled Modern Microwave Circuit Design. Mr. Besser organized the courses in 1976 at UCLA; since then over 1000 practicing engineers have attended this course.

Mr. Besser is a member of Sigma Tau, Tau Beta Pi, Eta Kappa Nu honorary societies, and a Senior Member of the IEEE. He was listed in the "Who's Who Among Students in American Colleges and Universities" as well as "Who's Who in the West". He was the past Chairman of the San Francisco Bay Area Chapter of the IEEE Circuits and Systems Society, as well as the MTT Society, organizing several weekend seminars within both societies.