IEEE 802 LAN/MAN STANDARDS COMMITTEE
Milestone Project

Monday, Jul. 10, 2023
Status Update

Geoff Thompson
GraCaSI S.A.

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What is a MILESTONE?

• Commemoration of a historic event in the history of engineering.
• A bronze plaque placed at the site of the event.
• Example:

At this location, 391 San Antonio Road, the Shockley Semiconductor Laboratory manufactured the first silicon devices in what became known as Silicon Valley. Some of the talented scientists and engineers initially employed there left to found their own companies, leading to the birth of the silicon electronics industry in the region. Hundreds of firms in electronics and computing can trace their origins back to Shockley Semiconductor.

May 2018
SEE NEXT SLIDE
SIGNIFICANTLY DIFFERENT FROM LAST REPORT
IEEE Milestone

Initiation of IEEE LAN Standard Project 802, 1980

The necessity to standardize computer Local Area Networks (LANs) resulted in the Computer Society sponsoring IEEE LAN Standard Project 802 in 1980. Three 802 Working Groups have been particularly successful and transformative: IEEE 802.1 (Bridging) and IEEE 802.3 (Ethernet), and IEEE 802.11 (Wi-Fi®) for wireless LANs. IEEE 802 standards have defined ever-expanding networking speeds and features, thus enabling the seamless interconnection of computing devices worldwide.

Date of Plaque
STATUS:

- ACCOMPLISHMENTS:
  - Major rewrite of plaque text now stable (I think)
  - Proposed submission included proposed text for accompanying “background text” (See backup slide for rules)
  - Thought I was done for submit to early July History Committee Meeting when things blew up.
    - Issue was reviewer issue with “not enough said about Bob Stuart”
    - Region 6 “History Guy” refused to submit
This was all at last minute

UTTER FRUSTRATION!
See the application state for yourself:

https://ieeemilestones.ethw.org/Milestones_Status_Report#Completion

Docket Number 2021-11

or directly at:

https://ieeemilestones.ethw.org/Milestone-Proposal:IEEE_802
THANK YOU!
GraCaSI
Standards Advisors

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BACKUP SLIDES
The approved site for the Milestone Plaque is the entrance garden for The Computer History Museum
1401 N Shoreline Blvd
Mountain View, CA 94043

There is a wall of (currently) 10 Milestone plaques. Most of these are duplicates of ones at now obscure or hard to visit sites.
See a video of the wall at:
https://tinyurl.com/ygsybzam
SITE:

This is the main entrance to the Museum. The plaques are on the other side of the wall to the right.
SITE of the Milestone Plaques
is the entrance garden for
The Computer History Museum
1401 N Shoreline Blvd
Mountain View, CA 94043

https://tinyurl.com/ygsybzam
Plaque text rules:

• The achievement must be more than 25 years old.

• It honors the achievement, rather than the person or place. (i.e. Names of persons is generally forbidden)

• The body text is limited to 70 words, 60 preferred.

• Everybody down the line tends to fiddle with the text

More complete rules and on-line "help" is at:
.ieeemilestones.ethw.org/Milestone_Guidelines_and_How_to_Propose_a_Milestone
Geoff
I won't be able to work on this until April, but in time for what would likely be a late May/early June History Committee meeting. I will ensure that it has smooth sailing for that process. I would not expect that a dedication date could not occur until late this year or early 2024. The SCV Section can be relied upon for funding the plaque, which I will ensure is able to be mounted at the CHM. As you know, this is an unusual situation as we are putting this together assuming it can be mounted at the CHM, which is somewhat unorthodox. However, I know the ropes enough that I feel I can make this happen. The optimal dedication venue is the CHM itself, but renting Hahn Auditorium is somewhat costly - all told with an evening event and food and drink, that can cost in excess of $10-12K. I do know how to publicize these things widely, and so we can join forces and get a good crowd to attend. Tom Coughlin will be IEEE President in 2024, and so we should ensure that the dedication fits with his busy schedule. I have worked with some party planners by way of the CHM, so that is one way to help put it all together, and they have a list of good food suppliers. Including alcohol of course makes it more expensive, and I am not sure how to price this all. The idea of t-shirts is up to you, but I don't think they get worn more than once anymore frankly. Let me know if you have other questions. It's great to work with you, and I feel we will have great success. BTW, see https://www.price.utah.edu/ieee-milestone-events for a big event I have been planning for late this month in Utah. As such, I have very extensive experience with planning these events, frankly more than probably anyone else in the world.
Cheers, Brian