



NEWS RELEASE

April Conference Basks in Spring Sunshine

The first meeting of the RF & Microwave Society in 2015 proved popular as ever, with a sell-out of overnight places at the Oxford, UK conference. Some determined delegates, who were too late to book overnight places that included accommodation at the venue, found their own hotel rooms and attended the meeting and the conference dinner. The gathering of 89 engineers, academics and business people from across the industry were treated to a full commercial exhibition of 20 table top displays. These included the latest in test equipment and components from some of the largest companies in the sector to small and medium sized businesses. Meeting up with suppliers and customers as well as the general networking opportunities have always been a strong element in the success of the Society meetings.

Fourteen papers were presented which ranged across history, (was the earliest radar a ship detection system from Germany in 1904? – read Mark Walden’s paper on Automotive Radar) and technology, from the helix TWT to the latest advances in MMIC mixer design. The Best Paper prize, sponsored by NI/AWR was awarded to Sema Dumanli of Toshiba Research Europe for her paper on the “Challenges of Wearable Antenna Design” and the second place went to Chris Marki of Marki Microwave for his paper, “A Paradigm Shift in MMIC Mixers Using Novel Schottky Diode Technology”. Chris also won the honorary title for the furthest travelled speaker.

University participation was again high with papers from the universities of Manchester, Sabanci (Istanbul), and Nottingham. The Young Engineers awards were presented to Colin Viegas of Manchester University and Joseph Williams of Filtronic Broadband. ARMMS provides sponsorships for up to 2 engineers, (aged 28 and under), who are presenting papers. This covers all conferences fees and a contribution towards travel costs.

Digits are creeping higher in frequency and have an established place amongst the conference themes; Andrew Glascott-Jones of E2V, presented a paper on direct conversion to X-band using 4.5 GS/s SiGe DACs, whilst Jonathan Riley of Slipstream, described the use of FPGAs in direct synthesis of S band waveforms. Howard Venning of Aspen brought the upcoming “Physical Agents” Directive to the attention of the delegates; whilst the EMF monitoring requirements will no doubt be a burden on many companies there are opportunities for the industry.

For those interested in copies of the papers, they will be available from April 2016 on the ARMMS website, where details of the next conference can also be found. The society is grateful to Mehmet Karaaslan of E2V, Technical Coordinator, who did an excellent job bringing together such an interesting program. E2V were also the conference sponsors.

Bookings for the November conference in Cambridge can be made on the website from the 1st of May.

The ARMMS - RF & Microwave Society is an independent professional society comprised of Electronics Engineers with an interest in high frequency (RF & Microwave) design and measurement. www.armms.org

Prepared by Dominic FitzPatrick, PowerFUL Microwave 22nd April 2015

dominic@powerful-microwave.co.uk

www.powerful-microwave.co.uk