

Distinguished Leadership Award Winner 2022 Prof. Roberto Sorrentino

EuMA | European
Microwave
Association



The first awardee of the DLA is a posthumous award to Professor Roberto Sorrentino who died on Tuesday, 3 March 2020. He was an electronic engineer who had a distinguished career in the field on microwave and mmWave circuits and antennas. He received in recent years the IEEE Microwave Career Award, the EuMA Distinguished Service Award and the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic.

He began his career as an Assistant Professor at "University of Rome "La Sapienza" in 1974. From 1986 to 1990 he was a Professor at the University of Rome "Tor Vergata" and in November 1990 he became a Professor at the University of Perugia. Between 1983 and 1986 he was a Research Fellow at the University of Texas at Austin, where he worked with Professor Tatsuo Itoh.

In 2007 he founded RF Microtech srl, a successful spin-off company from the University of Perugia specializing in microwave and RF technologies. This Umbrian company became a leader in the field of antenna design and satellite communication systems, employing 25 people.

Roberto Sorrentino was one of the six Founder Members of the European Microwave Association, which was created in 1998 to manage the annual European Microwave Conference and to create the European Microwave Week. He served as the first President of the Association from 1998 to 2009.

In 2010 the EuMA presented him its Distinguished Service Award.

In 2014 he was the General Chair of the 17th European Microwave Week, which was held in Rome.

He was an active member of the IEEE and the Microwave Theory and Techniques Society (MTT-S) throughout his career, he was elected an IEEE Fellow for his contribution to the modelling of planar and quasi-planar microwave and mmWave circuits.

In 1993 he received the IEEE MTT-S Meritorious Service Award, in 2000 the IEEE Third Millennium Medal, in 2004 the IEEE MTT-S Distinguished Educator Award, and in 2015 the IEEE Microwave Career Award.

He was Vice Chair and then Chair of the International Union of Radio Science (URSI) Commission D (Electronics and Photonics) and from 2007 he was the President of the Italian Commission of URSI. He was one of the founders and from 2002-08 the first President of the Italian Electromagnetic Society (SIEm).

In January 2020 Roberto Sorrentino was awarded the prestigious honor of the Grand Officer of the Order of Merit of the Italian Republic for his commitment in the field of research. The award was conferred by the Head of State, Sergio Mattarella.

Roberto Sorrentino was an outstanding member of our technical community because his achievements combined excellence in different fields. He was a gifted educator and many of his former PhD students are now well-respected members of the microwave community.