

David A. Kahn - Biography

David's career in the UK and Canada includes positions with Plessey, N&Z Aviation, BNR (Nortel), the Government of Canada. Currently he is directing the optical wireless development program at Plaintree Systems Inc. He has degrees from the University of Wales (Bangor) and the University of Southampton where he specialized in quantum and optoelectronics.

David was involved in the development of early optical wireless systems for voice and video but then transferred into the fibre world. He developed several of the base concepts including terminal units for the first demonstration of long distance transmission of video and the demonstration of WDM in 1975. He also developed coherent phase-modulated optical communications systems for both atmospheric and fibre applications

At BNR, he helped design the 1981 Elie fibre to the home (FTTH) system. In 1989 and 1990 he chaired the SPIE conferences on fibre in the subscriber loop. For ten years, he presented the systems portion of the optical communications postgraduate course at Carleton University and recently resumed teaching at Ottawa University. David has about 35 patents and is a member of IEEE LEOS.

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