



Introduction

Erik H.M. Heijne, CERN, Erik.heijne@cern.ch

Microelectronics profoundly impacts consumer products and habits, and the products themselves put rigorous constraints on microelectronics. This reciprocity is perfectly illustrated by the summer 2008 issue of the SSCS News.

The historical accounts given by some of the actors show how the use of microelectronics circuits in wrist-watches has forced them to improve

power usage far beyond earlier limits. Also required were better understanding and improved tools for device and circuit simulation.

About a year ago, I suggested to Mary Lanzerotti and her colleagues that Eric Vittoz and his contributions to low power microelectronics might be a good subject for an issue of the Society News. Mary has implemented this in a marvelous way by contacting

and stimulating the authors and by coordinating the issue that you have in hand. I am certain that the authors' enthusiasm and informed accounts will lead to new ideas and stimulate many in our community, demonstrating the dynamic of the IEEE as an international community of engineers with high profile and great potential, including expertise in the area of low power.