Communication technologies have been key enablers of today's connected world, where pervasive access to communications and computation is often taken for granted. Striking as progress in technological capabilities has been, equally impressive has been the resulting cost reduction.

Improvements in capabilities and cost stem from the advent of mixed-signal technologies that offer extraordinarily high performance though they are Si-based. Through integration with state-of-the-art design enablement, best-of-breed products have been obtained with minimum investment.

The related IBM achievements, grouped within the IBM Communications and Research Development Center and evidenced by the papers in this issue, have been numerous and significant. I am extremely proud to have been associated with them.

Bernard S. Meyerson, IBM Fellow

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