

The Engineering Institute of Canada 2022 Award Citation EIC Fellow



Vaughn Betz

Nominated by IEEE Canada

Dr. Vaughn Betz is a Professor of Electrical and Computer Engineering at the University of Toronto, where he holds the NSERC/Intel Industrial Research Chair in Programmable Silicon. His work has revolutionized the use of field programmable gate arrays (FPGAs), to allow engineers to rapidly create new hardware systems and realize their design visions.

As a doctoral student, Betz created a packing, placement and routing tool and methodology, known as Versatile Place and Route (VPR), which is now the world's most popular toolset for modelling new FPGA ideas. He cofounded Right Track CAD Corporation in 1998, growing the company to several million \$ in annual revenue. After the company's acquisition by Altera in 2000, he played a key role in the design of their next-generation chips, now used by tens of thousands of engineers.

In 2011, Betz joined the faculty of the University of Toronto, where he continues to lead research to improve algorithms and design software. He mentors future entrepreneurs and has personally established several engineering scholarships. He holds more than 100 U.S. patents and has received 14 best paper awards from the field's top conferences, and is a Fellow of IEEE and the U.S. National Academy of Inventors.

Ladies and gentlemen, and Ms. President, please welcome Vaughn Betz as a Fellow of the Engineering Institute of Canada.