Siemon Announces Retirement of Industry Icon and Distinguished Engineer Valerie Maguire

Watertown, CT - The Siemon Company, a leading global network infrastructure specialist, today announced the retirement of distinguished engineer Valerie Maguire, BSEE effective June 30, 2022, following more than 30 years of service to the company and industry.

Valerie began her Siemon career when structured cabling was still in its infancy, assembling connecting hardware on the production floor while pursuing her Bachelor of Engineering degree at the University of Connecticut. Since that time, Valerie has played an instrumental role in Siemon’s customer-focused innovation and advancing the industry. With expertise focused on balanced twisted-pair and optical fiber cabling and transmission, Valerie engineered solutions that raised the bar on the performance of 100-ohm balanced twisted-pair components in support of growing bandwidth needs. Her contributions included the integration of printed circuit boards with noise cancellation into outlets, test and qualification methods to ensure consistent patch cord modular plug terminations, and validation of the fundamental operation and performance of screened and shielded twisted-pair cabling. Her work resulted in the development of groundbreaking standards test methods and an industry patent.

Considered one of the industry’s foremost experts on standards, Valerie previously held positions as a global sales engineer and director of standards and technology for Siemon where she melded her leadership roles within TIA, ISO/IEC, and IEEE industry standards bodies, and her technical expertise to educate the global ICT community and provide support for both internal and external Siemon customers. She was appointed liaison to IEEE 802.3 by the TIA TR-42 Telecommunications Cabling Systems Engineering Committee and has held several leadership positions within the TIA-TR-42.7 Copper Cabling Subcommittee over eight two-year terms. She was also Treasurer of the IEEE 802.3 Ethernet Working Group, Secretary of the IEEE 802.3 Maintenance Task Force, and editor for multiple IEEE 802.3 Ethernet projects, including
serving as chief editor of the more recent IEEE Std 802.3cg™ 10 Mb/s Single-Pair Ethernet (SPE) project.

“I consider myself extremely fortunate to have been able to dedicate my career to this amazing industry and contribute to the establishment of standards-based digital technologies that are now improving lives and increasing efficiencies around the world,” says Valerie. “Working alongside world-class transmission and subject matter experts to drive innovation, all with the support of my Siemon family has truly been an honor. While I look forward to starting my next chapter, I hope to watch the company’s continued success for many years to come.” Valerie plans to spend her retirement enjoying her love of restoring antique copper cookware and her antique Volvo, as well as spending time with family and friends—of both the two-legged and four-legged persuasion.

Valerie is well-known throughout the industry for her keen ability to explain complex technologies to a wide variety of audiences, often sharing her knowledge at industry events around the world and authoring more than 50 technical articles and engineering papers. She was named one of Cabling Installation & Maintenance’s Top 20 Positive Contributors to the Cabling and Networking Industry, presented with the Harry J. Pfister Award for Excellence in Telecommunications, and received the inaugural TIA Top 2% Star Award for contribution to Telecommunications Standards development.

In regard to her impact on the company, John Siemon, chief technology officer and vice president of operations says, “Valerie has been the sensei to our technical support group and to our customers. Every time she was involved in a project, it was a positive experience—our customers always walked away from a conversation with Val knowing more and being able to make informed decisions.”

“If I had to pick one word to describe Valerie’s character, it would be 'integrity,' said Carl Siemon, chief strategy officer, and former president and CEO. “That, combined with her knowledge, built trust in and respect for her work. Valerie will be greatly missed, and we wish her the very best in her well-deserved retirement.”

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About Siemon
Established in 1903, Siemon is an industry leader specializing in the design and manufacture of high-quality, high-performance IT infrastructure solutions and services for Data Centers, LANs, and Intelligent Buildings. Headquartered in Connecticut, USA, with global sales, technical, and logistics expertise spanning 150 countries, Siemon offers the most comprehensive suites of copper and optical fiber cabling systems, racks, cable management, and Intelligent Infrastructure Management solutions. With more than 400 patents specific to structured cabling, Siemon Labs invests heavily in R&D and the development of Industry Standards, underlining the company’s long-standing commitment to its customers and the industry. Through an ongoing commitment to waste and energy reduction, Siemon’s environmental sustainability benchmarks are unparalleled in the industry, including 179% global carbon negativity and zero-landfill status.

Siemon Interconnect Solutions (SIS) is a Siemon business unit comprised of a team of dedicated technical sales professionals supported by Siemon Labs, mechanical, electrical, and signal integrity engineers committed to solving industry and customer driven interconnect challenges. We provide custom network infrastructure solutions to OEMs, Leading Manufacturers, Value-Added Resellers, and System Integrators.

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