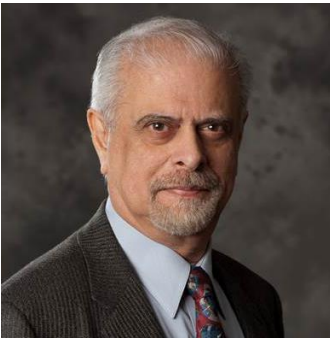




FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Dr. Azad Madni inducted into National Academy of Engineering

LOS ANGELES, CA – FEBRUARY 2021 – The [National Academy of Engineering](#) (NAE) announced that Azad Madni, Founder and Chairman of Intelligent Systems Technology, Inc. (ISTI), has been inducted in the organization’s latest round of members. Dr. Madni is a tenured full Professor of University of Southern California’s Astronautical Engineering Department, and the Executive Director of the Systems Architecting & Engineering Program.



Election to NAE membership is considered one of the highest professional honors for engineers. NAE members are elected by their peers and the honor is reserved for leading figures in business and academic management, technical positions, academia, and government and private engineering organizations.

The citation for Dr. Madni reads: “For advances in low-cost simulation-based training using interdisciplinary model-based approaches.”

Madni is a pioneer in the field of *transdisciplinary systems engineering*, the integration of systems engineering with other disciplines to solve problems that appear intractable when viewed solely through an engineering lens. His research focuses on intelligent systems, distributed autonomy, formal and probabilistic system modeling methods, and machine learning.

A science student at St. Xavier’s College in Mumbai, India, his dreams of space were bolstered by President Kennedy’s “we choose to go to the moon” speech in 1962. Years later, as a doctoral student at UCLA, where he had earned a bachelor’s and a master’s degree in engineering, he was recruited by Rockwell International to work on NASA’s Space Shuttle Program, bringing to fruition his space aspirations.

Hired as a lead simulation engineer in the Guidance, Navigation, and Control Group, he led the development of an innovative, probabilistic model-based approach for navigation system performance testing that produced significant cost savings for Rockwell in Shuttle navigation system performance testing for the orbiter’s approach landing tests and orbital flight tests. For these important contributions, he earned multiple Technology Utilization Awards from Rockwell and a NASA commendation.

In 1977, he was recruited by his advisor to head up the R&D group of Perceptronics Corporation, a UCLA startup. He led the R&D in AI and human-machine systems, and game-based networked training simulators. He held several technical and executive leadership positions culminating with Executive Vice President and Chief Technology Officer of the company.

In 1994, he founded Intelligent Systems Technology, Inc. (ISTI), to conduct R&D in innovative uses of AI in complex systems engineering, education, and training. At ISTI, he created award-winning products and was the recipient of U.S. Small Business Administration's National Tibbetts Award for California for his innovative DARPA-, Navy-, and Air Force-supported R&D in integrated product-process development. He went on to win *Developer of the Year Award* from the Technology Council of Southern California in 2000 and 2004.

In 2011, he received INCOSE's highest award, the *Pioneer Award*, for advancing the field of systems engineering through innovative methods, processes and tools. In 2019 he received IEEE AESS's highest award, the *Pioneer Award* for his seminal contributions to simulation-based training and intelligent decision aiding for aerospace systems. In 2016, Boeing honored him with a *Lifetime Achievement Award and a Visionary Systems Engineering Leadership Award* for his "impact on Boeing, the aerospace industry and the nation." In 2020, he received the IEEE Systems, Man and Cybernetics Society's *Norbert Wiener Outstanding Research Award*, the highest award given by SMC.

Most recently, Madni was the recipient of the 2020 National Defense Industrial Association's *Lt. Gen Thomas R. Ferguson Award* for Excellence in Systems Engineering, 2020 IEEE-USA *Entrepreneur Achievement Award* for a "lifetime of innovation, mentoring and philanthropy," and 2021 IEEE Aerospace and Electronic Systems Society's *Judith A. Resnik Space Award* for innovative and sustained contributions to space systems engineering.

The recipient of more than sixty international awards and honors, he is a Life Fellow/Fellow of IEEE, INCOSE, AIAA, AAAS, SDPS, IETE, and the Washington Academy of Science. He received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. from the University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA). He is also a graduate of the Stanford Executive Institute.

About Intelligent Systems Technology, Inc.

ISTI is a leader in modeling and simulation approaches to systems engineering, training, and education. The company was ranked for four consecutive years in the Deloitte and Touche Los Angeles Technology Fast 50, and twice in the Deloitte and Touch U.S. Fast 500. The company was selected by *Computerworld* to the 100 Top Emerging Companies to Watch in 2000. ISTI is headquartered in Los Angeles, California.

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