



William D. Mensch Jr.

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First Annual

“Mensch Award”

1st Prize	\$500.00
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Promoting Innovation

Prizes will be awarded to the class or individual that designs Innovative technology using the NCS 2056T breadboard computer kit



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THE WESTERN DESIGN CENTER, INC. **65xx** MICROPROCESSORS

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William D. Mensch, Jr. is Founder, Chairman, and CEO of The Western Design Center, Inc. (WDC). He holds twenty– two patents for microprocessors, microprocessor peripheral devices and microprocessor systems, and was recognized in both 1991 and 1996 at the Microprocessor Forum as a pioneer in the microprocessor industry. Mr. Mensch’s patents were used on Motorola’s original NMOS 6800 microprocessor and MOS Technology’s NMOS 6502 microprocessor families. The 6502 technology has been credited with creating the PC and video game industries. It was first used in the Commodore PET personal computer; Vic 20 consumer computer; Commodore 64 consumer computer (6510); Acorn personal computer; Apple I personal computer; Apple II personal computer; Atari video game system (6507) and personal computer (6502); and Nintendo video game system. The 6502 microprocessor is featured in a display in the Smithsonian Museum of Science and Technology in Washington DC.

Mr. Mensch’s solely– owned patents are implemented in The Western Design Center’s proprietary CMOS 65xx Microprocessor family of chips and related systems. This technology is used today in an ever growing variety of products including medical life support, automotive, industrial, consumer and personal computers. The foundation for this widespread use of the technology began when two of WDC’s 65xx Microprocessor family members were used in the introduction of groundbreaking PC and video game products. The W65C02S 8–bit microprocessor was first used in the Apple IIc personal computer and the Apple IIe personal computer. The W65C816S 16–bit microprocessor was first used in the Apple IIgs personal computer and Super Nintendo video game system.

In the fall of 1996, Mr. Mensch was honored for his outstanding contribution to the information technology industry at a ceremony during which the 6502 was recognized at COMDEX as the first of seven “defining” products in the twenty–five year history of the microprocessor. He has become recognized as the person most responsible for the continued success and proliferation of use of the 65xx technology which has been enhanced and expanded with the development of the WDC 65xx Microprocessor family products.

In January, 2004, the book *Leaders of the Information Age* identified Mr. Mensch as one of 250 individuals dating back to the 15th century who set the foundation of today’s Information Technology industry. (See www.hwwilson.com/print/leaders_info.cfm for a complete list.)

William D. Mensch, Jr. received a Lifetime Achievement Award from the University of Arizona’s College of Engineering on December 8, 2005, at a luncheon held at the Arizona Biltmore.

Contest Rules

- Applicants must be an individuals, group, or classroom from an elementary or secondary educational system. You may submit your application anytime before the judging deadline.
- Entries must be designed by students and their instructor with no outside help. The final design may be software based or hardware based, including the addition of robotics or other interfaces in conjunction with the NCS 2056T computer.
- Entries using copyrighted or patented ideas will be disqualified from the contest. This contest is intended to promote innovation in individuals and only the entries following these guidelines will be considered.
- Submissions for judging can be made using video or photographs showing the final design in operation. Final submissions should be sent to APATCO Technologies.
- The winning entries will be decided by a panel of Judges hand picked by APATCO Technologies and Western Design Center. The cash payouts will come from Western Design Center & William D. Mensch Jr.
- Applications may be made by sending an e-mail to menschaward@apatco.com and indicating “application” in the subject line.