

Biography



Andy Bechtolsheim
Vice President, General Manager
Gigabit Systems Business Unit
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Andy Bechtolsheim is Vice President and General Manager for the Gigabit Systems Business Unit at Cisco Systems. He is responsible for the Catalyst 4000 Gigabit Switch family, which has received numerous awards and recently has become the highest volume modular switching platform in history.

Prior to Cisco, Andy was President of Granite Systems, a Gigabit Ethernet Switching startup company he founded in 1995 that Cisco acquired in September of 1996.

Prior to Granite, Andy was a cofounder and Vice President of Technology of Sun Microsystems, where he led the workstation development, including the highly successful SPARCstation product family.

Bechtolsheim earned a master's degree in computer engineering from Carnegie Mellon University in 1976. He was a doctoral student in computer science and electrical engineering at Stanford University from 1977 to 1982. He has been honored with a Fulbright scholarship, a German National Merit Foundation scholarship, the Stanford Entrepreneur Company of the year award, the Smithsonian Leadership Award for Innovation, and is a member of the National Academy of Engineering.