

PROF. JACOB BORTMAN

Full Professor in the Department of Mechanical Engineering at Ben-Gurion University of the Negev and the Head of the university's Prognostics and Health Management (PHM) Laboratory.

He also serves as Director of Business Development at Odysight.ai Ltd., a leading company specializing in predictive maintenance and AI-driven diagnostics. In addition, he is a board member of Robotican and AI Prof. Bortman retired from the Israeli Air Force with the rank of Brigadier General after 30 years of distinguished service. His final military position was Head of the Material Directorate, where he led strategic technological and materials programs critical to national defense readiness and performance.

He plays a central role in advancing the PHM community both nationally and internationally. Prof. Bortman is the founder and chair of the Israeli Organization for PHM, dedicated to promoting and developing the field in Israel.

His achievements have been recognized with several prestigious honors, including a nomination for the PHM Society Lifetime Achievement Award (2022), the Israeli National Defense Prize (2020) for leadership of a strategic program with Israel Aerospace Industries (IAI), and the Prime Minister's National Prize for Excellence in Public Service.

Prof. Bortman has authored over 80 peer-reviewed journal articles and several book chapters.