

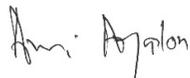
**The University of Haifa**

confers upon

**Stef Wertheimer**  
the  
**Outstanding Leadership Award**

in recognition of his longstanding service to the State of Israel and to the development of Israel's industry and economy; for his great contribution to the advancement of Israel's military industry that is so vital for the continued existence of the State; for his exceptional leadership, setting goals and tirelessly and consistently seeking to realize those goals, as exemplified by his first steps in the industry by turning a small backyard workshop into one of the world's leading companies; for his significant contribution to the community with the understanding that strengthening the periphery is not only financially worthwhile but also a social necessity; and for his continuous and unique activities on behalf of advancing the dream for peace between Israel and its neighbors.

Conferred in Haifa, Israel  
28 Iyar 5771/June 1, 2011



**Ami Ayalon**

Chairman of the Executive Committee



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## STEF WERTHEIMER

Stef Wertheimer was born in Germany in 1926. As a young boy of 10, he escaped the horrors of the Nazi regime, to arrive in pre-State Israel. He left school at 14 and began working in a shop selling and fixing cameras. In 1943, at the height of World War II, he joined the British Royal Air Force and in 1945 joined the Palmach's Flight Training Course. He was arrested in the British "Black Sabbath" Operation, and was detained for four months. In 1947 he joined the Haganah's military industry and served as technical officer in the Palmach Headquarters during the War of Independence.

In 1952 he established a small workshop in his backyard, producing knives and metal-cutting tools, which he sold from the back of his motorbike. This enterprise grew to become Iscar Metalworking Company, manufacturing carbide metal-working tools. The company's development brought it to its prominence today as one of the world's largest companies in its field. In 2006 Iscar received the highest mark of excellence when renowned American investor Warren Buffett acquired ownership of Iscar, a testament to the company's impressive international success.

Integration of business and state began as early as 1967, following the French embargo of Israel, when Iscar began producing blades for jet engines. This was a first milestone in a series of developments that ultimately led the Israel Air Force to cease its reliance on foreign companies only for importing blades.

Just as Wertheimer has always combined business with Israel's security, he has also consistently merged business with social responsibility and contributing to the community. In 1981 he founded Tefen Industrial Park in the Galilee, the first of five industrial parks that he would set up in Israel. The purpose of these parks is to provide an incubator environment for newly established companies, while strengthening Israel's periphery. Besides the business activity that thrives at these parks, they also include cultural and educational institutions for the welfare of the community.

In 1999 Wertheimer, with government support, assisted in the development of a Palestinian industrial park with a "twin" park on the Israeli side, based on the belief and hope for an "economy of peace"; this project, however, was brought to a halt with the second Intifada of 2001.

He has served as a member of the Nahariya municipality, as a member of the Knesset, and has held many other public and volunteer positions. He was awarded the 1991 Israel Prize for his unique contribution to society and to the State of Israel. In 2002 he was awarded the "Knight of Quality Government" for life achievement from the Movement for Quality Government in Israel, and received the Galilee Award of Merit ("Yakir Hagalil") in 2007 from the Ministry for the Development of the Negev and the Galilee. On Israel's 58th Independence Day, Wertheimer was chosen to light a ceremonial torch in recognition of his contribution to the Development of the Galilee.