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# Vita

Xubin Song was born on October 3, 1966 in Zhejiang Province, China. Throughout most of his childhood, he stayed with his grandmother, a loyal Christian, with the solid financial support from his parents. He was fascinated in automatic machines and flying planes. After finishing high school at his hometown in June of 1982 at Yiwu County, Zhenjiang Province, he began his undergraduate study at Nanjiang University of Aeronautics & Astronautics. Surely his major concentrated on automatic control. As soon as he got his Bachelor degree of Electrical Engineering with excellent academic performance in July of 1986, he was recommended to join the graduate program for his Master degree at Beijing Institute of Control Devices (BICD), China Academy of Launch-Vehicle Technology. According to the degree requirement, he spent one year completing most of his graduate courses at Harbin Institute of Technology. At the end of 1988, he received his Master degree of Electrical Engineering and was immediately employed by BICD as an engineer. In August of 1994, he began his Master degree of Mechanical Engineering at North Carolina A&T State University, Greensboro, NC. He joined Virginia Tech to pursue his Ph.D. of Mechanical Engineering in May of 1996. In February of 1999, he joined the Product Engineering Department of MSX International in Auburn Hills, Michigan. Xubin completed his degree requirements in December of 1999, and received his Ph.D. from Virginia Tech in the same month.