# VERTIV™ SALUTES HEROES OF POWER:
## Tommy Flowers

## ENGINEERING CODEBREAKER

Thomas Harold (Tommy) Flowers was a British trained electrical engineer, best known for his pioneering work which led to the first programmable electronic computer, known as Colossus. It was this invention that deciphered important German messages during World War II, which supported the successful Allied invasion.

Flowers' code work coincided with his employment at the telecommunications branch of the General Post Office, which would later become British Telecom. It was here where he explored valve-based electronics for telephone exchanges (i.e. vacuum tubes) bringing about the first all-electronic version. His developments proved 5x faster than existing electro-mechanical systems. In all, some 10 Colossus machines were employed during the war years, some with up to 2400 valves in each, an unprecedented quantity at the time. He proved his invention could be reliable and effective.

**The modern world owes Tommy a bit of gratitude.**



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