

2003 Outstanding Contribution Award – Mr. Frank Stern

For over 45 years, Frank Stern has been an outstanding provider of innovative thermalhydraulic R&D services. He graduated in mechanical engineering at the University of London and emigrated to Canada in 1952. Frank joined Canadian Westinghouse in Hamilton, transferred to the newly formed Atomic Power Division and was attached to Chalk River Laboratories when many of the basic concepts for CANDU reactors were being formulated.

He returned to Hamilton in 1959 and secured contracts that led to the establishment of the System Test Laboratory in 1962. With AECL support, he added a new facility that included a loop to perform critical-heat-flux testing of CANDU fuel. Frank expanded the business, taking on a large variety of thermalhydraulic projects for domestic and international customers. His team members became experts in conducting complex experiments in support of safety analyses, responding rapidly and efficiently on request.

In 1988, Frank and other employees purchased the facility from Westinghouse and established Stern Laboratories as a private employee-owned company. He has been a mentor to many engineers who were first introduced to nuclear power through their employment in his company. The business has continued to expand in volume and scope, and Stern Laboratories serves a worldwide base of customers, with Frank remaining very active in the company's operations.