

John S. Hewitt Team Achievement Award – AECL Finned Strainer

The development of the finned strainer by the Atomic Energy Canada Limited team enhances safety at CANDU and other nuclear plants. It removes debris of all sizes from recirculated coolant following a loss-of-coolant accident. It is a compact design with a very large surface area, which can be backfitted into limited available space.

The team at AECL consisted of David Rhodes, Ailsa Eyvindson, Daryl Kalenchuk, Nigel Fisher, Jim McGregor, Gord Brown, Les Pratt, Micky Gutzman, Ligu Sun and Binh-Le Ly.

This technology has been applied under a wide variety of plant configurations and conditions. To date, five CANDU nuclear power stations in Canada and two outside Canada in Romania and Argentina have been equipped with the new strainers. AECL is adapting its finned strainer for use in Electricite de France's nuclear stations.

Satisfactory implementation of this strainer in each station requires close coordination with utility staff. The finned-strainer team is strongly commended for their ability to adapt the design to specific needs, and for their dedication to complete the projects to the demanding schedules.

Purpose of the Award:

The Award aims at recognizing the recipients for “outstanding team achievements in the introduction or implementation of new concepts or the attainment of difficult goals in the nuclear field in Canada”.