

# Asia Pacific Drying Conference 2005

December 13-15, 2005

## CITATION

### Professor Arun S. Mujumdar

The Organizing Committee of Asia-Pacific Drying Conference 2005, Kolkata is honoured to announce this special award to Professor Arun S. Mujumdar of The National University of Singapore for his outstanding Global Leadership in the area of Industrial Drying and Transport Phenomena. His mammoth contribution over last 30 years to the Asia-Pacific region cannot be summarized in few lines; however, ADC 2005 committee would like to highlight several features of his personality which makes this award a unique one.

Professor Mujumdar has advised and continues to advise PhD and post-doctoral researchers from several Asian countries over last three decades while a professor at McGill University, Canada and National University of Singapore. He has published many books in India, China, Indonesia and Thailand solely to make R&D results accessible inexpensively and to promote drying R&D in this rapidly developing region of the globe accounting for over half of the world's population. He provided pro bono advice to numerous companies and academic institutions Asia who wished to develop indigenous drying technologies. He tirelessly conducted several workshops, seminars and lecture series on drying in many institutions in China, India, Thailand, Indonesia, Vietnam, Cambodia, Laos and Malaysia. These meetings were attended by several academics as well as industry personnel. Professor Mujumdar distributed freely numerous books, journals, lecture notes, reprints of his works to scores of institutions in the region to encourage drying R&D. His diligent efforts have provided guidance in formulating new research areas in drying. His numerous keynote and plenary lectures on focusing on innovation and new areas for research have been instrumental in the growing interest in Asia in drying R&D. He has organized numerous conferences, workshops in India and several other countries in the region and published papers in many Asian journals. His widely acclaimed Guide to Industrial Drying has already been translated in many languages.

In token thereof, and in recognition of his distinguished and global scale contributions to research and exceptional service to academia and industry in the Asia-Pacific Region, ADC05 proudly bestows upon him this **“GLOBAL LEADERSHIP AWARD- 2005”**.



# Lifetime Achievements Award

*Citation presented to*

## **PROFESSOR ARUN S. MUJUMDAR**

Professor Arun S. Mujumdar, or widely referred to by the global drying research community as the “Drying Guru,” is a proud alumnus of the Institute of Chemical Technology of Mumbai University, where he received his first degree in Chemical Engineering. He then proceeded to obtain his master’s and doctorate in Chemical Engineering from McGill University in Canada.

It might be a surprise to most audiences but his two theses written at McGill had no connection to his beloved field of drying! It was only in mid-1970’s when he started to have much interest in drying as he found that, although old and thought to be well understood, there was not much serious technical information on drying at that time. That point of *enlightenment* was indeed the starting point of a decades-long friendship between Drying and the Guru.

Professor Mujumdar’s contributions to drying are enormous. He initiated and studied many novel ideas of drying at both the fundamental and applied levels. These include the novel idea of using superheated steam to dry paper, two-dimensional spouted bed, and intermittent spouted bed. During the process he has mentored scores of young researchers, some of which have started to contribute further to the area.

He initiated the International Drying Symposium series where researchers in drying find an effective forum to discuss and disseminate their thoughts and new findings since 1978. It is mainly through this series of events that drying has prospered as another important field of research on a truly international scale. A few years later, with the launch of Drying Technology, the only journal in the world devoted solely to the science and engineering of drying, the field has expanded further. Under his editorship since 1984 the journal has grown almost exponentially and represents a reliable archival source of peer-reviewed information where drying researchers turn to. Also, numerous regional and national conferences devoted to drying have emerged around the world over the past decade from his efforts.

It is our pleasure and honor to have the Guru here with us today. This event has indeed been made possible because of his vision, kind assistance and encouragement. We fervently believe that together we can make even further improvements and lasting contributions to this area.

In token thereof, and in recognition of his outstanding contributions to Drying R & D on global scale, IWSID-2004 and MUICT has duly resolved to bestow upon Professor Arun S. Mujumdar of the National University of Singapore this *Lifetime Achievements Award*

