



EUROMAINTENANCE AWARD 2002

At the occasion of the 10th anniversary of EFNMS, in 1979, immediate past-president Dr. Stefano Salvetti took the initiative to create a bi-annual award for a person or an institution in "recognition of outstanding service to the art and science of maintenance in Europe".

The award consists of a certificate and a money prize of € 1.000,=. It shall be presented at the occasion of the bi-annual EUROMAINTENANCE conference and exhibition.

In its meeting in October of 2001, the EFNMS Council followed the suggestion of the Executive Committee and the Founder to change the name of the Award to

"EUROMAINTENANCE INCENTIVE AWARD"

to indicate that it is not a "reward" at the end of a career, but a recognition for work done and an inspiration for work to do.

Each Member Society of EFNMS has been invited to nominate a person or institution that they deem eligible for the award.

A jury has been formed consisting of the Founder, dr. Salvetti, the EFNMS chairman and a member of the Executive Committee, selected from a country that has not presented a nomination, in this case dr. Tschuschke from Germany. The first time the award was presented was in 1990, during the conference in Wiesbaden.

It took some time to have all relevant information on the several nominees available, but early this year the jury could meet. Reaching a decision on the best candidate from among several good candidates is not an easy task. But thanks to the very rapid communication through the e-mail system, the jury was able to come to a unanimous decision in time for this meeting.

From amongst those nominated, the jury has decided that the EUROMAINTENANCE INCENTIVE AWARD 2002 shall be presented to

Mr. Christer Idhammar

nominated by the Swedish Maintenance Society UTEK.

Mr. Idhammar is a Swedish citizen, born October 11th, 1942, presently residing in the United States where he is owner and President of the firm IDCON, Inc.

Before coming into that position he made a start in the Swedish Merchant Marine, first as an engineer-apprentice, progressing to chief-engineer, working for a variety of shipping companies. This was to be expected after graduating as a marine technician in 1961 and obtaining a degree as a mechanical engineer in 1968.

In 1968 he started his work as a consultant, specializing in the development and implementation of computerized maintenance management systems for, and that was the trend these days, Preventive Maintenance.

In 1973 mr. Idhammar was instrumental in establishing a firm, Idhammar Konsult, which soon became one of the leading European training and consulting companies in the fields of reliability and maintenance training. Sub-divisions were created in the United Kingdom and in Norway, and a publishing branch was added. The firm, in which mr. Idhammar presently has no part, publishes the U&D magazine.

In 1985 his firm merged with a British and an American firm and the forerunner of his present firm IDCON, Inc was established. Operating from Raleigh, North Carolina, this firm provides training and consultancy services in reliability and maintenance worldwide.

Now I come to a difficult stage in this presentation: Mr. Idhammar has been connected with over 500 organizations in more than 40 countries! That may easily take the remainder of this conference. But I will make it short.

- For more than 25 years he was connected to a United Nations training program in Africa, South America and Asia.
- He is connected with the University of Dayton, Ohio, as associate teacher in reliability and maintenance programs.
- Since 1986 he is active in a number of benchmarking programs in many countries all over the world.
- He developed a program under the name of "Current Best Practices" in reliability and maintenance, and many international companies use this program.
- He lectures for professional and educational organisations worldwide on a variety of topics related to maintenance, also recently for EFNMS in Opatija and Copenhagen.
- I will not mention in detail his activities in Europe and the USA, you remember that I will keep it short. Novozymes in North Carolina, Kornäs in Sweden, Buckeye in Florida, Georgia Pacific in Georgia, Proctor and Gamble in Ohio, I let them pass unmentioned.
- I also do not mention his publications. Why not? Because I want to keep it short!. Just the books count to 9, magazines I did not start counting!
- And of course the thing to be expected did happen: People will say: was that really so important? Many people in the profession are familiar with Results Oriented Maintenance Management (ROM). The trick is to be the first one to think about it in such a way that it develops into a workable system. And that is what he did!

And he did not keep it for his own, but he published it widely. And for that he is a worthy recipient of the EUROMAINTENANCE AWARD for the year 2000.

Ladies and Gentlemen

The next item on our agenda, as you have read, is the announcement of the recipient of the 2002 EUROMAINTENANCE INCENTIVE AWARD.

This was planned to be done by mr. Stefano Salvetti, past president of EFNMS and founder of the Salvetti Foundation which provides the funds for the award. Unfortunately, and that is the bad news, mr. Salvetti, due to business obligations, will not be able to be here this morning and he asked me to do the presentation on his behalf. But the good news is that he will be here tomorrow during the Conference Dinner and there he will personally present the certificate and the prize money to the recipient and, a new feature this year, certificates to the nominees who "did not make it". Did not make it, not because they were not good or not up to the standard, but because we have only one prize to give!

We had several nominations! Not 18, as you might expect from a Federation with 18 members. But we have a high standard for accepting a nomination and the Member Societies are very much aware of that! No one wants to be faced with the message: your nominee is not good enough! So there is a selection before the jury receives the names. That makes the task of the jury a difficult one: we only get good candidates!

This morning I will only disclose the name of the recipient. The other nominees will be announced tomorrow at the dinner. Right now all attention shall be focussed on the recipient of the Award.