



The Institute of Textile Science

Incorporated, Canada 1956

Citation for Erhardt Schumann on Award of 'Fellow' to the Institute

The Institute of Textile Science awards its Fellowship to those who have made a major contribution to textile science and technology in Canada over many years. Erhardt Schumann has done this, most notably, in the development of Canadian flame resistant fabrics and apparel.

Erhardt began his textile career in 1970, working after school and weekends at Harding carpets. He graduated from Mohawk College, Hamilton in 1977 with a diploma in textile engineering and from North Carolina State University with a B.Sc. in textile engineering and management. Although offered a scholarship to continue with graduate work at NCSU, Erhardt opted to return to Canada.

Following various positions with Harding Carpets and Burlington Carpets, in 1980, Erhardt joined the technical service group of DuPont, Kingston, where he helped develop heat setting processes that led to the establishment of nylon BCF yarn as the dominant carpet material.

In 1986 Erhardt moved to a sales and marketing role in Toronto, developing markets for DuPont products in the contract home furnishings industry and then in 1990, he joined the Advanced Fibre Systems business, selling Nomex® and Kevlar® for protective apparel applications.

Erhardt is understandably proud of his contribution to the growth of a Canadian protective apparel industry. Canada is now a net exporter of flame resistant fabrics and clothing and makes some of the most advanced fabrics in the world.

Apparel using these fabrics is being worn by the Canadian Armed Forces and Erhardt is currently working with Canadian industry partners to develop camouflage disruptive patterned versions of these fabrics that meet Canadian military requirements.

A little more than a year ago, Erhardt became the business leader of the newly formed business, DuPont Personal Protection, that combines a number of protective apparel businesses within DuPont.

Erhardt is a long time member of the ITS. He has served as President and for many years, as a member of the Board of Directors. In recognition of his major contribution to the development of Canadian flame resistant fabrics and the protective apparel industry in Canada, the Institute of Textile Science presents him today with its Fellowship.

the 21st day of April, 2005