

# Douglas Wahren

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## 2017 PIIHF Research and Development Nomination

After almost three decades of teaching and researching in paper physics at the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point, I have concluded that there are two great research scientists in this field, Dr. Alfred Nissan and Dr. Douglas Wahren. At this time, neither been inducted into the Paper Industry International Hall of Fame. Hence, I am honored to be able to summarize Dr. Wahren's PIIHF nomination for 2017.

His seminal work on three-dimensional fiber networks has led to the development of modern hydraulic paper machine head boxes. However, from a more fundamental aspect, his research has led to a greater understanding of sheet formation through his publication "A comprehensive method for the description of mass distribution in sheets and flocculation and turbulence in suspensions." His theories are revolutionary since they refocus the concept of formation from "fiber dispersion" to "floc dispersion" and have been the basis for many subsequent wet-end innovations. Dr. Wahren's research has led to other notable achievements in the areas of high-consistency formation and impulse drying.

Dr. Wahren holds seventeen patents, and has published three books and at least fourteen papers. In recognition of his significant achievements the following awards and achievements have been bestowed on Douglas:

- 1973 Honorary title of professor at Stockholm's Royal Institute of Technology.
- 1981 TAPPI Fellow.
- 1987 Swedish Royal Academy of Engineering Science Award.
- 1988 TAPPI and Board Mfg. Div. Award and Harris O. Ware Prize.
- 1990 TAPPI Research & development Research Div. Award and William H. Aiken Prize.
- 1998 TAPPI Gunderson Nicholson Gold Medal.

In addition, the following recommendation has been made by Dr. Doug Dugal who worked with Dr. Wahren at IPC for ten years: "Douglas Wahren is a very strong candidate and I hope he will receive your favorable consideration".

*Gerry Ring*