Steve Ferdon Receives
2017 CHTE Distinguished Service Award

The award, given by the Center for Heat Treating Excellence of WPI, recognizes members who have made outstanding contributions to the heat treating industry.

Worcester, Massachusetts – June 30, 2017 – Steve Ferdon, Director of Global Engineering Technology in the Fuel Systems Business Unit at Cummins, has been awarded the Distinguished Service Award from the Center for Heat Treating Excellence (CHTE) of Worcester Polytechnic Institute (WPI). The award is presented to an individual who, in the judgment of the CHTE Board, has made significant, commendable and long-standing contributions to the promotion of CHTE, as well as the industry. Ferdon has been a member of CHTE since 2010 and has served as Chair of the Board of Directors of CHTE since 2012. His leadership at CHTE has contributed to mentoring the next generation of engineers, formalizing industrial membership governance of the Board of Directors, and sharing technical knowledge of heat treating applications with members.

Ferdon received the award at a formal ceremony on June 14, 2017, during CHTE’s bi-annual meeting on the WPI campus. “I was surprised and humbled by the recognition from the CHTE membership,” he said. “Of all my annual, worldly travels, the trips I look forward to the most are the Spring and Fall Center for Heat Treat Excellence meetings at WPI. It is very energizing to collaborate (and commiserate!) with this unique group of talented, experienced and highly practical technical leaders.”

According to Richard Sisson, George F. Fuller Professor of Mechanical Engineering and technical director of CHTE, Ferdon has significantly impacted the advancement of CHTE. “From a technical standpoint, he brings a broad perspective to the industry. Cummins works with an extensive network of heat treat service providers from all over the world, applying just about every process one can think of for ferrous alloys, in just about every major furnace manufacturer's equipment. And Steve is able to share a great deal of what they’ve learned with our industrial members.”

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Sisson also noted that Ferdon has done a lot to bring the next generation of engineers to the meetings so they learn practical experience from industry leaders, and he has helped to strengthen the governance of the Board of Directors.

Ferdon has impressive credentials. He received the Outstanding Materials Science Engineer Award from Purdue School of Materials Engineering in 1998 and has six patents. He is a Licensed Professional Engineer, a member of the AISI Bar Steel Fatigue Property Consortium Steering Committee, on the Advisory Committee at Purdue School of Materials Engineering, and Chair of the Board of Directors of CHTE. His career at Cummins began in 1992 as a Technical Specialist in Materials Engineering.

Photo Caption:
Rick Sisson presented Steve Ferdon of Cummins (right), with CHTE’s Distinguished Service Award at its summer meeting.

About Center for Heat Treating Excellence
CHTE is an academic-industry partnership headquartered on the campus of Worcester Polytechnic Institute in Worcester, Mass. Built on the university’s strengths and focused on helping industry solve technical issues, the center provides a collaborative environment in which members, faculty, and students discuss challenges in the heat treating industry, specifically in the areas of thermal processing, induction tempering, gas quenching, alloy life extension and additive manufacturing.

About Worcester Polytechnic Institute
Founded in 1865 in Worcester, Mass., WPI is one of the nation's first engineering and technology universities. Its 14 academic departments offer more than 50 undergraduate and graduate degree programs in science, engineering, technology, business, the social sciences, and the humanities and arts, leading to bachelor’s, master’s and doctoral degrees. WPI's talented faculty work with students on interdisciplinary research that seeks solutions to important and socially relevant problems in fields as diverse as the life sciences and bioengineering, energy, information security, materials processing, and robotics. Students also have the opportunity to make a difference to communities and organizations around the world through the university's innovative Global Perspective Program. There are more than 30 WPI project centers throughout North America and Central America, Africa, Australia, Asia, and Europe.
For more information about WPI and ACRC visit.

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