

1996 Engineer of Distinction



Donald H. White

B.S. Mechanical Engineering, TPI, 1958
M.S. Engineering Mechanics, University of South Florida, 1966

General Manager
Power Generation Service Division
Power Generation Business Unit
Westinghouse Electric Corporation
Orlando, Florida

Citation

Donald H. White was born in Knoxville, Tennessee, but lived throughout the Tennessee Valley during his father's 40 years of service with the Tennessee Valley Authority. After graduating from Gallatin High School in 1954, he attended Tennessee Polytechnic Institute where he earned a Bachelor of Science degree in Mechanical Engineering in 1958. Mr. White did graduate studies in the fields of heat transfer and solid mechanics at Marquette University and the University of Alabama in Huntsville, prior to receiving a Master's Degree in Engineering Mechanics from the University of South Florida.

Mr. White's working career began in 1958 with Combustion Engineering Inc., in Chattanooga, Tennessee, where he worked in the Applied Mechanics Section performing thermal and structural analysis of nuclear pressure vessel components. In 1963, he went to work for Thiokol Chemical Corporation in Huntsville, Alabama, where he was involved in the design and analysis of solid propellant rocket motors.

In November 1969, Mr. White began his employment with Westinghouse Electric Corporation at the company's steam generator manufacturing plant in Tampa, Florida. Here he held various positions in the design, analysis, and manufacture of nuclear steam generators. In 1976, he was relocated to Pittsburgh, Pennsylvania, and later promoted to Engineering Manager, Nuclear Energy Systems Steam Generator Technology Division.

In the years that followed, Mr. White held various management positions of increasing responsibility. He was Manager, Nuclear Instrumentation Technology and Training Center, responsible for all plant computer systems, instrumentation and control systems, design of control room simulators, and control room operator training. Later he was appointed Manager, Nuclear Projects Management and Marketing Operations, before being relocated to Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, and assigned as Manager of Combustion Turbine Operations.

In 1985, Mr. White was promoted to General Manager of the Power Generation Service Division in Orlando, Florida, responsible for field service and repair of combustion turbines, steam turbines, and electric generators worldwide. Following this assignment he took over the engineering responsibility for Power Generation as General Manager, Technology Division, and later held the marketing responsibility as General Manager, Commercial Operations Division.

Today, Mr. White is General Manager of Westinghouse's Power Generation Business Unit's Manufacturing Divisions. In this position, he is responsible for five major plant facilities manufacturing combustion turbines, steam turbines, and electric generators for customers worldwide.

Don White is a member of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers, and is Past Chairman of the Pressure Vessels and Piping Division's Design and Analysis Committee. He was Associate Editor of the 1982 Pressure Vessels and Piping Journal—"A Decade of Progress." He is author of several technical papers and publications. He serves on the TTU College of Engineering Board of Engineering Advisors.

Throughout his career, Don has maintained a heavy involvement with his family, church, and community. He is an active member of the Episcopal Church where he serves on various committees, and is Past Senior Warden on the Vestry. In 1974, he was recognized by the Town & Country Jaycees in Tampa, Florida, as Christian Man of the Year. He likes sports and is an avid golfer.

He and his wife, Beverly, have two daughters, Dona White Giffen and Dana White.



Donald White receives his award from Dean George Swisher