Forty-Fifth Annual
Honor Awards Program

1993

United States Department of Commerce

Forty-Fifth Annual
Honor Awards Program

Department of Commerce Auditorium
Herbert C. Hoover Building
Fourteenth Street and Constitution Avenue, N.W.
October 27, 1993

Music
Quantico Marine Band

Introduction
Elizabeth W. Stroud
Director for Human Resources Management

Presentation of Colors
Joint Armed Forces Color Guard

National Anthem
Quantico Marine Band

Address
Honorable Ronald H. Brown, Secretary of Commerce

Announcement of Awards
Gloria Gutiérrez
Acting Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration

Presentation of Silver Medals
Secretary Brown assisted by Department Officials

Presentation of Gold Medals
Secretary Brown assisted by Department Officials

Presentation of the Secretary of Commerce
1993 Departmental Quality Achievement Plaque
Secretary Brown assisted by Department Officials

Closing Remarks
Gloria Gutiérrez
Acting Chief Financial Officer and
Assistant Secretary for Administration

Message From The Secretary

Since coming to the U.S. Department of Commerce, I have continued to be impressed by both the diversity of our mission and the quality of our employees. Today's Honor Awards Program is a celebration of both.

As we rapidly approach the twenty-first century, each of us must be prepared to meet the challenges that lie ahead. Global competition will challenge us to improve the quality of our work, to be more creative, and to increase our productivity. We in the Commerce Department will be faced with a unique opportunity to address some of the Nation's most difficult economic, technological, and trade problems. We must not sit idly by and let others take the lead. We must be prepared to meet that challenge and bring to bear our pool of talented men and women to do the job. I have the utmost confidence we will do so and America will be better off for our efforts.

We must seize the opportunity to dedicate ourselves to excellence in the workplace. Much like the early pioneers of the West, we will often find ourselves traveling in unfamiliar territory, where we will have to use our wits, creative energy and common sense to succeed. Today, we honor some of the men and women who have met those challenges head-on. Take a few moments and read some of the accomplishments in the program booklet—it singles out those who exemplify our commitment to excellence. You will be as impressed as I was with the diverse nature of what these men and women have accomplished. From the efforts of the National Weather Service during the Midwest flooding of 1993 to the development and application of methods aimed at understanding the role of DNA damage in the genesis of disease, the recipients have exhibited an enviable array of talent. Their extraordinary accomplishments, often in the face of daunting odds, is a testament to their dedication, innovation, and commitment.

While the recipients come from different cultures and backgrounds they have one thing in common—a dedication to excellence. Today, we recognize that excellence with the Gold or Silver Medal and can take pride in their accomplishments. Their work is an example for us all.

I am proud of all our employees, especially the medal recipients honored here today. I wish them continued success in the future.

Ronald H. Brown

GOLD MEDAL RECIPIENTS

This award, the highest honorary award given by the Department, is granted by the Secretary for rare and distinguished contributions of major significance to the Department, the Nation, or the world.

Susanne S. Lotarski
Director, Office of Eastern Europe, Russia and Independent States

International Trade Administration

Dr. Lotarski is recognized for leadership in developing Departmental and national initiatives to support democracy and free markets in Eastern Europe, Russia and the former Soviet Union. In winning recognition for a policy that puts expansion of trade and investment at the forefront of U.S. assistance efforts and launching innovative programs to remove obstacles to trade, assist business, and deliver management training, she has contributed to fulfilling the Department's mandate to lead in mobilizing the private sector in support of critical national goals. The initiatives also are resulting in a growing presence of American companies and a surge of U.S. exports and investment in the region.

Terry J. Sorgi
Senior Commercial Officer

International Trade Administration

Mr. Sorgi is recognized for his courageous work in protecting American lives and preventing commercial losses in Nigeria. He achieved essential Departmental program goals by alerting American businesses to the danger of widespread and growing commercial and financial fraud in Nigeria. He provided timely and accurate reports on trends in fraud operations, established procedures for certifying legitimate business offers, and disseminated his firsthand knowledge of the situation to overseas and domestic offices and provided insight to headquarters for formulation of policy to protect U.S. firms. Most importantly, Mr. Sorgi intervened to protect the lives and property of American business visitors who were subject to intimidation, threats, or danger of physical harm.

Daniel L. Albritton
Director, Aeronomy Laboratory

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Albritton is recognized for his landmark contributions to national and international negotiations resulting in the Montreal Protocol limiting stratospheric ozone depletion and to international scientific assessments on global warming. In particular, he has provided superior service to both NOAA and the Nation through his major contributions to international assessment reports that organize and evaluate current scientific understanding for presentation to policymakers worldwide. In addition to these critical written contributions, his remarkable personal skills and tireless efforts at presenting and discussing complex scientific findings with the highest standards of integrity and accuracy have become the bedrock upon which decision makers rely.

Russell B. Chadwick
Supervisory Electronics Engineer

Margot H. Ackley
Mathematician

David Edward Small
Physical Scientist

Donald W. Beran
Meteorologist

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Messrs. Chadwick, Small, Beran, and Ms. Ackley are recognized for their outstanding contributions to the design, implementation and operation of the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's Wind Profiler Demonstration Network. Their early realization of this advanced technology, combined with unswerving dedication of their technical and management skills, were the driving forces which made this program one of NOAA's most successful and highly significant technology transfer efforts. Their accomplishment will significantly enhance the quality of our Nation's weather services and atmospheric research.

Nancy Foster
Deputy Assistant Administrator

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Foster is recognized for her leadership over the past six years as the Director of the National Marine Fisheries Service's (NMFS) Office of Protected Resources. Her work has contributed significantly toward NOAA's mission and enhanced its scientific credibility. Her foresight has led to improved programs for the recovery of endangered marine mammals, sea turtles and fish. She developed a program to better prepare for marine mammal stranding events and to determine the effects of human activities on the health of marine mammals and their environment. At her direction, the NMFS Habitat Program has been strengthened and revitalized by the creation of the NOAA Restoration Center, the NOAA Chesapeake Bay Office and the NMFS Office of Habitat Protection.

Arnold Gruber
Program Manager, Operational Measurements Element for Climate and Global Change

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Gruber is recognized for his pioneering work in the development of a satellite data product that has led to improved understanding and experimental prediction of global climatic fluctuations. He converted observations by NOAA's environmental satellites into an index of the Earth's outgoing longwave radiation. This index is now used by scientists around the world to monitor the El Nino/Southern Oscillation (ENSO) phenomenon, a natural climate fluctuation originating in the southern Pacific Ocean region and occurring roughly every two to seven years. An ability to predict these events would have profound national and international economic benefits because of their dramatic effects on global weather patterns.

Yoshio Kurihara
Meteorologist

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Kurihara is recognized for his research over the past 20 years which has provided remarkable insights into the dynamics of tropical storms. He and his group have made numerous world-leading contributions to hurricane modeling, such as the development of a unique triply-nested moveable grid that literally follows a traveling storm. Most recently, Dr. Kurihara has attacked the problem of forecasting hurricanes, using imperfect initial weather data. He developed a revolutionary new method for "starting up" hurricane forecast models that has improved the forecasts of hurricane track and intensity. This method was used last year to produce sharply improved forecasts in hurricanes Andrew and Iniki.

Alexander E. MacDonald
Director, Forecast Systems Laboratory

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. MacDonald is recognized for developing programs to improve the Nation's weather services through technology transfer to the operational community. His leadership and management improved short-range operational weather services through the development, testing, and transfer of scientific and technological advances to the operational weather services. This was accomplished first through the Program for Regional Observing and Forecasting Services and later through his organization of a new Forecast Systems Laboratory within NOAA's Environmental Research Laboratories.

National Meteorological Center Operations Division and Development Division

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The Operations and Development Divisions of the National Meteorological Center (NMC) are recognized for the excellent performance of the NMC models and the interpretation and improvements of the models by the NMC forecasters during the March 1993 Blizzard. The forecast of this storm was the defining moment and culmination of a forecast approach developed at the NMC during the past 40 years. The approach is to combine ever improving numerical forecast models with human interpretation and refinement to produce the best possible weather forecasts. Without a doubt, the accurate forecast and advanced warnings made possible by this approach prevented many deaths and injuries along the path of this tremendous storm.

NWS Forecast Office, Honolulu, Hawaii

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The employees of the National Weather Service Forecast Office, Honolulu, are recognized for extraordinary service in providing extremely accurate and timely Hurricane Advisories and Bulletins for the Hawaiian Islands during Hurricane Iniki, September 7-12, 1992. Hurricane Iniki was accurately predicted to strike the island of Kauai 19 hours ahead of time, a remarkable accomplishment, as Iniki had changed directions 12 hours earlier. The WSO Lihue staff are recognized for exceptional operation of the WSO Lihue during extremely adverse weather conditions and for extraordinary support to the Kauai Emergency Operations Center during a period of total communications failure at the height of the storm.

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Steve C. Stringfellow
Director of Health Services, NOAA Pacific Fleet

George A. Ringstad
General Engineer

Timothy C. Trembley
Small Boat Engineer

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Lieutenant Commander Stringfellow, Mr. Ringstad, and Lieutenant (jg) Trembley are recognized for their unusual competence in an emergency in which a diver, trapped under a vessel, was in danger of losing his arm and possibly his life. The diver's arm became wedged in a hull opening while he was performing contract work. He remained trapped for hours while efforts continued unsuccessfully to free his arm which rapidly swelled and was in danger of permanent injury. Dr. Stringfellow's innovative actions in treating the arm while the diver was trapped directly contributed to the victim's eventual recovery of almost full use of the arm. Mr. Ringstad's and Lt. (jg) Trembley's contributions in this life-saving situation were invaluable in that they were persistent in their efforts to convince the rescue team to deploy the water pressure technique which proved to be the successful solution, equalizing the pressure and freeing the arm.

Usha S. Varanasi

Director, Environmental Conservation Division

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Varanasi is recognized for her leadership and scientific contributions in the fields of marine pollution and habitat conservation. Her pioneering research into the fate and effects of petroleum hydrocarbons on marine fauna forms the foundation on which much of the current state-of-the-art is based. Numerous advances have been made in chemical and biological methodology which are faster, more sensitive and less expensive than had previously been available, due to the work done by Dr. Varanasi. Her unique insight has been a determining factor in numerous fishery and habitat management decisions recently faced by NOAA.

The National Weather Service

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The National Weather Service is recognized for extraordinary service to the Nation during the Midwest flooding of 1993. For over two months the National Weather Service operated on an unceasing, agency-wide alert, providing rainfall and river forecasts to guide Federal, state, and local emergency response. The operation was unprecedented with respect to the high national stakes, the nature of the rains and the flooding, the complex coordination required with other responsible parties, the sustained stress, personal hardship and risk faced by National Weather Service employees. The National Weather Service has earned the highest praise and thanks for its role in saving lives, reducing property damage and economic loss, and minimizing human suffering.

Barbara S. Fredericks
Assistant General Counsel for Administration

Office of the General Counsel

Ms. Fredericks is recognized for her exceptional leadership and management ability in instituting a comprehensive Department-wide ethics program. As a result of her efforts there has been a dramatic improvement in both productivity and program effectiveness. The Department's ethics program reflects the necessary high standards of ethical conduct and fulfills the numerous requirements prescribed by ethics regulations. It also protects the ability of high-level officials in the Department to participate in the broadest possible manner in carrying out Departmental programs.

Michael A. Levitt
Assistant General Counsel for Legislation and Regulation

Office of the General Counsel

Mr. Levitt is recognized for his leadership and management as the Acting Assistant Secretary for Legislative and Intergovernmental Affairs, while still maintaining the highest quality of work product in his position with the Office of the General Counsel. Mr. Levitt was required to "re-establish" this major organizational unit. Working with limited resources, Mr. Levitt was still able to create and lead a highly effective operation, which maintained excellent Hill relations for the Department. Mr. Levitt ably advanced the Department's legislative agenda, and was particularly effective in promoting Secretary Brown's technology initiatives.

J. Russell Goudeau
Director, International Liaison Staff

Patent and Trademark Office

Mr. Goudeau is recognized for having undertaken, on a purely voluntary basis, the design, development and implementation of a personal computer-based foreign patent processing system. This effort was completed, in substantial part, on his own time and without relief from his regular duties. The system, which is used to process about one million foreign patent documents annually, is regarded by its users as markedly superior to that previously provided by a contractor. Through his efforts in building this system, Mr. Goudeau has saved the Patent and Trademark Office approximately one million dollars.

Robert E. Drullinger
Leader, Atomic Beam Standards Group

David J. Glaze
Physicist

John P. Lowe
Electronics Engineer

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Drullinger and Messrs. Glaze and Lowe are cited for innovation and technical accomplishment in the design, fabrication, and testing of the most accurate atomic clock in the world. This standard for measuring time represents an advancement over the previous NIST standard. The standard uses new principles of laser pumping to control and detect the states of atoms. The performance of this clock provides a reference that is both accurate and stable enough to support rapidly advancing technology in telecommunications, navigation, and electrical power distribution. It also assures the U.S. a major role in determining the accuracy of Coordinated Universal Time, the world's time system coordinated by the International Bureau of Weights and Measures in Paris.

High-Temperature Superconducting Electronics Team

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

The NIST unit is cited for providing the U.S. with world leadership in the field of superconducting electronics by setting three records. They are: 1) the first multilayer fabrication technology to demonstrate a production-compatible method for practical integrated circuits incorporating high-temperature superconducting devices and interconnections; 2) the highest frequency response (eight trillion Hertz) in a lithographed Josephson junction, showing the speed potential for a reproducible element of an integrated circuit; and 3) the highest switching voltage of any microfabricated Josephson junction, showing that the fabrication process is robust with achievable allowances for manufacturing variation. U.S. manufacturers are already incorporating results from the NIST technology.

William D. Phillips

Leader, Laser Cooling and Trapping Group

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Phillips is recognized for a series of highly original discoveries, through which he has achieved laser cooling of neutral atoms to ultracold temperatures in the microkelvin range and their effective trapping. He invented the cooling techniques for slowing and stopping neutral atoms and was the first to trap neutral atoms by a magnetic field. He also achieved the lowest kinetic temperatures ever recorded—much lower than the theoretically predicted limit—and did the first studies of an ultraprecise atomic fountain clock—potentially the ultimate time and frequency standard. Dr. Phillips has provided outstanding technical leadership to his group and effectively communicated his results in more than 100 widely cited publications and in numerous invited talks.

SILVER MEDAL RECIPIENTS

This award, the second highest honorary award given by the Department, is granted by the Secretary for meritorious contributions of unusual value to the Department or the Nation.

Stephen C. Browning
Director, Office of Management and Organization

Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration

Mr. Browning is recognized for his support of the goals of the Department and for extraordinary accomplishments in the field of management. He was a major contributor to the Commerce Performance Review program in support of the President's National Performance Review to "reinvent" government. He has been instrumental in quality management programs in the Department, and completed a Congressionally mandated study of the Department's role in the travel and tourism industry.

Harold J. Reese
Personnel Officer

Chief Financial Officer and Assistant Secretary for Administration

Mr. Reese is recognized for making a difference in a variety of challenging assignments at the Department. While at NIST he took on two major initiatives of significance to the Department as a whole—the first migration of a Commerce Bureau to the USDA Personnel/Payroll System and the legislated NIST Personnel Demonstration Program. While with the Office of the Secretary he has excelled in his support to the new Administration during the Presidential transition of 1993.

Daniel C. Hurley, Jr.
Director, Office of Foreign Availability

Bureau of Export Administration

Mr. Hurley is recognized for his leadership role in the development of the Russian Defense Business Directory. Mr. Hurley played the key role in the Department in developing a wealth of data and analysis for inclusion in the Directory. This included building an effective working relationship with other agencies that led to extensive inputs from a number of U.S. Government sources, and in obtaining the active cooperation of the Russian Government for this project.

William Robert Bell
Mathematical Statistician

Bureau of the Census
Economics and Statistics Administration

Dr. Bell is honored for developing new statistical methods for analyzing seasonal patterns in monthly economic survey data and for his contributions to the software implementation of these methods. This work has increased the scope and reliability of the Census Bureau's adjustments to survey data with seasonal patterns.

Valerie J. Gregg
Survey Statistician

Bureau of the Census
Economics and Statistics Administration

Ms. Gregg is recognized for managing the defense strategy and related operations for nineteen lawsuits brought against the Census Bureau and the Department as a result of the 1990 Decennial Census. The cases related to the issues of adjusting Census counts for undercounts and overcounts, the congressional apportionment formula, and census residence rules. She coordinated all litigation processes with the Bureau's statistical community and attorneys representing the Bureau and the Department.

Robert H. McGuckin
Chief, Center for Economic Studies

Bureau of the Census
Economics and Statistics Administration

Mr. McGuckin is recognized for his leadership of the Center for Economic Studies and the advancement of the use of the Census Bureau's economic data in substantive research into current economic issues. He is responsible for the establishment of a facility and environment that fosters vital research and utilizes the information the Census Bureau collects. His commitment to program excellence has substantially advanced the effectiveness of the Census Bureau's economic statistical programs.

Leonard J. Norry
Assistant Division Chief, Housing and Household Economics Statistics Division

Bureau of the Census
Economics and Statistics Administration

Mr. Norry is recognized for more than three decades of excellence in furthering the goals of the Department in the areas of collection and publication of housing statistics, innovation in managerial techniques and application of technology to survey problems, development of human resources, and dedication to customer service. He has made major contributions to fostering the Department's goals of providing timely and comprehensive statistics.

Billy E. Stark
Assistant Division Chief for Tabulation and Publication Systems

Bureau of the Census
Economics and Statistics Administration

Mr. Stark is honored for his contributions to meeting Census Bureau goals by successfully developing and implementing the systems for the 1990 Census Tabulation and Publication Program. His excellent managerial and technical skills in directing the development and implementation of the tabulation and publication systems and in motivating staff working on the program resulted in the timely release of data products.

Damjan Bencic
Commercial Specialist

International Trade Administration

Mr. Bencic is recognized for commitment and dedication to the Department and to U.S.-Croatian relations during a time of considerable danger and uncertainty in Croatia. Under adverse conditions, he achieved an extraordinary level of productivity in promoting U.S. trade in Croatia and Slovenia. As the only Department employee in the region, Mr. Bencic single handedly maintained a strong presence for the Department in this vital and politically sensitive overseas market.

George F. Ruffner
Senior Commercial Officer

International Trade Administration

Mr. Ruffner is recognized for his contribution to promoting U.S. economic and commercial interests in Singapore, through innovative and cost-saving measures that introduced a record number of new-to-market and new-to-export U.S. firms to Singapore and the rapidly growing Southeast Asian region. His efforts contributed directly to a rise in U.S. exports to Singapore and the region, and have served as a model for other U.S. Embassy Officers in Asia.

Guillermo Thais
Commercial Specialist

Flora Muroi
Commercial Assistant

International Trade Administration

Mr. Thais and Mrs. Muroi are recognized for dedication and accomplishment in the performance of official duties. Through their dedication and efforts, they have contributed significantly to the Department's program goals and the promotion of U.S. business interests in Peru. Their accomplishments are all the more significant given the absence of direct American supervision and the dangers and pressures of working at a critical threat post.

James C. Dixon
Chief, Atlantic Operations Section

Stephen A. DeKrone
Electronics Technician

Richard D. James
Engineering Technician

Bradford S. Wynn
Supervisory Engineering Technician

Richard F. Edwing
Civil Engineer

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

This NOS team installed a Global Sea Level monitoring station in the extremely harsh Antarctic environment. A total of 36 dives were necessary to complete the project. Up to this point, analysis of sea level change had been hampered by a lack of data from the Southern Hemisphere. The team's relationship with their Argentine partners was crucial to the success of the project. This mission demonstrates NOAA's dedication to international cooperation in the solving of environmental problems.

Keith W. Dixon
Meteorologist

Ronald C. Pacanowski
Oceanographer

Anthony J. Rosati
Mathematician

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Messrs. Dixon, Pacanowski, and Rosati are recognized for their efforts in transforming the Geophysical Fluid Dynamics Laboratory (GFDL) ocean model into one of the foremost research tools widely available to the international oceanographic community, their service to users, and their continuing efforts to maintain and upgrade this system. The product of their efforts, the GFDL Modular Ocean Model, has allowed scientists worldwide to benefit directly from GFDL's experience in ocean modeling.

Ground Systems Division

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The NESDIS Ground Systems Division staff are cited for significant contributions to the continuation of environmental satellite coverage for the U.S. through their near-simultaneous implementation of major new ground systems for three different satellite programs. Their efforts have resulted in new data acquisition and control systems for both the polar and Meteosat satellite being placed in operation and the readiness of a third system to support the GOES I launch.

Lloyd C. Huff
Supervisory Research Physical Scientist

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Huff is honored for conceiving the development of a High Speed, High Resolution Side Scan Sonar which radically advances the state-of-the-art in underwater surveying. He achieved this remarkable accomplishment working under the auspices of the Department's Small Business Innovation Research Program. Through his efforts, the sonar system was successfully developed for National Ocean Service operations and contributed to the competitive standing of an important U.S. technology company.

Lawrence J. Krudwig
Meteorologist

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Mr. Krudwig is recognized for his contributions in improving the quality and communication of the National Weather Service's life-threatening weather information. Mr. Krudwig pioneered the NWS standard Universal Generic Code, and the Weather Radio Specific Area Message Encoder that will be the agency standard in the upgraded nationwide Emergency Broadcast System. The significance of his contributions will continue to be found in the provision of safety to our most precious resource, human life.

Sydney Levitus
Chief, Product Development Branch

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Mr. Levitus is recognized for his critical leadership role in the international effort to collect and analyze the historic oceanographic data record. An understanding of global climate change requires analysis of past measurements to enable observed future climate change to be understood as natural or anthropogenic. He is personally responsible for obtaining previously unavailable data from domestic and foreign sources, tripling the amount of data accessible to global change researchers.

Thomas R. Loughlin
Supervisory Wildlife Biologist
Research

Richard L. Merrick
Zoologist

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Messrs. Loughlin and Merrick have carried out a highly successful scientific program on Steller sea lions over the past decade while fully involving state, Federal, academic, environmental and industry groups, in spite of potentially significant conflicts over use rights to commercial fisheries and native subsistence. Their efforts resulted in essentially unanimous agreement on Endangered Species Act protection and implementation of the Steller Sea Lion Recovery Plan.

Donna Marie Marino
Chief, Consolidation Project Branch

Paul P. Pegnato
Senior Engineer

Adrienne A. Davis
Management Analyst

Darrell G. Mottley
Engineer

Charlotte B. Logan
Secretary

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Mmes. Marino, Davis, and Logan; LCDR Pegnato, and Mr. Mottley are recognized for the successful consolidation of NOAA at its new Silver Spring, Maryland campus. The campus houses over a million square feet of modern high technology workspace. Completion of the project allowed NOAA employees to relocate to a significantly improved and upgraded office environment during a period of extraordinary fiscal constraint.

Wolfgang Paul Menzel
Physical Scientist

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Menzel is recognized for significant scientific achievement in developing and implementing the means for the United States to produce wind measurements from Europe's Meteosat satellite. In collaboration with scientists from Europe, he improved the methods of deriving operational measurements of winds from the motions of clouds in successive Meteosat images. Thus, the U.S. honored a commitment to Europe to provide these satellite wind measurements in exchange for the loan of the Meteosat.

NMFS Driftnet Research Program

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The team is recognized for having initiated and carried out complex international scientific actions to discover the impacts of large-scale driftnet fishing on over 100 marine species of interest to the United States. Through unprecedented teamwork and dedication to agency goals, this group contributed to permanent advances in marine resource research, conservation, and management practice worldwide.

NWS Systems Operations Center

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The NWS Systems Operations Center is recognized for the upgrade and relocation of the National Weather Service Telecommunication Gateway (NWSTG), which was completed successfully in the summer of 1992. This was a vital step in the broader plan for modernization of the National Weather Service. This complex project involved extraordinary and innovative efforts over 3 years resulting in more reliable and efficient service.

David F. Parrish
John C. Derber
Meteorologists

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Drs. Parrish and Derber are recognized for their development of a revolutionary new method to perform atmospheric data assimilation. This method, known as Spectral Statistical Interpolation (SSI), is the first operational data assimilation based on the variational approach. The SSI has contributed to highly skillful forecast guidance of the global model in the cases of Hurricane Andrew, the Blizzard of 1993, and many other major weather systems.

Carven A. Scott
Computer Systems Manager

David M. Henry
Kraig B. Gilkey
Carl F. Dierking
Paul E. Shannon
Lead Forecasters

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Messrs. Scott, Henry, Gilkey, Dierking and Shannon are recognized for designing a state-of-the-art computer network to process, integrate, and distribute meteorological data sets from both new and conventional technologies. Even though system design, development, and implementation are not part of their normal responsibilities or their professional training, each forecaster had the initiative to develop the required skills for the project.

David B. Zilkoski
Project Manager, NAVD 88

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Mr. Zilkoski is recognized for his leadership as Project Manager of the North American Vertical Datum project and associated technology transfer efforts. He played a key role in completing all technical aspects of the project and established partnerships with other Federal, state, and local agencies, enabling the Department to develop advanced surveying techniques in spite of a decreasing budget.

Kenneth C. Allen
Acting Deputy Director

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Mr. Allen is recognized for his outstanding technical leadership and contributions to the advancement of radio system measurement technology under cooperative research and development agreements with U.S. industry. These activities directly promote technology innovation on behalf of the Nation—thus enhancing U.S. competitiveness in domestic and international telecommunications markets.

William O. Cooperman
Communications Management Specialist

Raymond D. Jennings
Senior Electronic Engineer

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Messrs. Cooperman and Jennings are recognized for promoting U.S. interests in the Pacific basin through the innovative adaptation of a surplus National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration weather satellite. The adaptation created a communications system that provides efficient, low cost assistance in self-development, educational, medical and emergency services to seventeen small, isolated Pacific island nations.

Mindel De La Torre
Attorney-Advisor

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Ms. De La Torre is recognized for contributions to the U.S. Government as a Senior Attorney and Acting Chief of Staff in NTIA. In particular, she played a substantial role in facilitating the transition to new leadership at NTIA and in assisting the Administration's development of positions on complex and sensitive legislative proposals regarding infrastructure and spectrum auctions.

Robert O. DeBolt
Electronics Engineer

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Mr. DeBolt is recognized for his exceptional leadership and technical contributions to key U.S. technology transfer efforts through an on-line computer-based telecommunications service called the Telecommunications Analysis Services program. This activity directly supports critical national needs by providing U.S. industry, Government, and academia with rapid, cost-effective, and easy access to major technical results of applied research and engineering undertaken at the Institute for Telecommunications Services.

Val J. Pietrasiewicz
Electronics Engineer

National Telecommunications and Information Administration

Mr. Pietrasiewicz is recognized for his leadership and contributions to the technical testing of the U.S. Army Reserve Component Automation System (RCAS) and the development of a comprehensive long-range strategic telecommunications plan for the U.S. Forest Service. These contributions directly support national needs for increasing U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard readiness and provide standards for telecommunications architecture development and implementation.

Stanley H. Livingstone
Supervisory Contract Specialist

Patent and Trademark Office

Mr. Livingstone is recognized for his exceptional contributions in providing procurement services to the Patent and Trademark Office. As a result of his leadership, there has been dramatic improvements in the quality of procurement processing and the resultant quality of supplier services and products. Major programs have benefited from his initiative and focus on quality.

Kay H. Melvin
Supervisory Librarian

Michael D. Moore
Supervisory Technical Information Specialist

Patent and Trademark Office

Mrs. Melvin and Mr. Moore are recognized for their leadership in the development of a system of services which promote efficient, high-quality examination and processing of patent applications in the area of biotechnology. Their contributions are of exceptional value in support of the patent examination and information dissemination missions of the Patent and Trademark Office in regard to this crucial field of technology.

Richard H. Rouck
Director, Office of Patent Programs Control

Patent and Trademark Office

Mr. Rouck is recognized for the creation of OPBUDGET, an extremely valuable budget formulation and control system, which was developed entirely on his own initiative and largely on his own time providing the Assistant Commissioner for Patents an orderly, accurate and timely way of maintaining office staffing and budget plans. This system provides substantial improvements in program effectiveness and the quality of services.

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William L. Sikes
Supervisory Patent Examiner

Patent and Trademark Office

Mr. Sikes is recognized for the development of computer software, the Supervisory Patent Examiner Management Program (SPE MNGR), which has simplified and automated routine management functions. SPE MNGR has become a highly useful tool for providing Supervisory Patent Examiners with accurate and timely data on which to base their decisions. Its use throughout the examining corps has enhanced the overall operations of the Patent and Trademark Office.

Alfred S. Carasso
Mathematician

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Carasso is cited for his innovative research and development of a new method for restoring blurred images. Such images arise in quite diverse contexts, including X-rays, magnetic resonance imaging, imaging through the atmosphere, undersea imaging, and a wide variety of electro-optical devices. His work will lead to better images at lower cost and, for medical images, lower dosage to the patient.

Sam R. Coriell
Research Chemist

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Coriell is cited for scientific breakthroughs crucial to alloy solidification and materials processing by determining conditions under which stable solidification conditions can be obtained. Solidification of defect-free semiconductors, essential for high performance electronic systems, can be achieved only under these stable conditions. For metal alloys, his work led to the identification of key parameters that control production of fine-scale alloy microstructures during solidification.

M. Miral Dizdaroglu
Research Chemist

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Dizdaroglu is cited for his contributions to the development and application of methods aimed at understanding the role of deoxyribonucleic acid (DNA) damage in the genesis of disease. He has developed gas chromatography-mass spectrometry techniques for separating and identifying chemical species resulting from radiation and/or free radical attack on DNA that can lead to life-threatening diseases. He was the first to show the molecular damage caused to all four bases comprising human DNA.

W. Tyler Estler
Supervisory Physicist

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Estler is recognized for advancing the state-of-the-art of angle measurement, providing NIST with the highest accuracy capability in the world. He is also cited for assessing the accuracy of measuring machines and machine tools, including that developed by NASA to solve the inspection problem of the O-rings that failed in the Challenger disaster; and that developed by DoE for fabrication of large optics for space-based strategic and scientific systems.

Christopher M. Fortunko
Supervisory Materials Research Engineer

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Fortunko is cited for his innovative scientific contributions and leadership in developing measurement techniques to characterize the quality of complex materials such as composites, thin films and superconductors. His research has led to the development of two new instruments: 1) a high-resolution ultrasonic measurement system for evaluating the quality of advanced composite materials, and 2) a gas-coupled scanning acoustic microscope for the inspection of electronic packaging.

David B. Francis
Associate Director for Customer Services

National Technical Information Service
Technology Administration

Mr. Francis played a key role in the major reorganization of the NTIS and assumed responsibility for two-thirds of the organization's resources. He designed and implemented a state-of-the-art image-based records system which improved customer service and reduced employee stress. His contributions placed NTIS in a position to grow and expand and has resulted in dramatic improvement to productivity, program effectiveness and the quality of services to customers and clients throughout the world.

Joyce S. Hasty
Executive Officer

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Mrs. Hasty is honored for her administrative management of the Physics Laboratory and for consistent excellence in performance. As Executive Officer, she managed flawless transitions in two reorganizations involving three major operating units in Boulder and Gaithersburg. Having established meaningful quality objectives for her office, she motivated her staff to become a productive, service-oriented team with a keen sense of mission and an outstanding record of customer satisfaction.

Allen R. Hefner
Electronics Engineer

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Hefner is cited for developing, to meet industry circuit design needs, the first model of the electrothermal performance of a power semiconductor device. His physics-based model applies to devices used to control the flow of electric power, principally to motors, which consume 60% of U.S. electricity. Dr. Hefner worked with industry to use his model in commercial simulation software, as a design tool for energy-efficient products such as electric vehicles, machine tools, and appliances.

Merrill M. Hessel
Manager for Industrial Relations

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Hessel is recognized for designing and implementing the National Initiative for Product Data Exchange, a program aimed at assuring coordination among the 300 or more technical efforts in product data exchange, a key to successful advanced manufacturing. In setting up this industry-led, government-supported program, he broke new ground in organizing government/industry partnerships, by attracting resources from the private sector to carry out a successful program of national importance.

Robert A. Kamper
Director, Boulder Laboratories

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Kamper is honored for exceptional service at the Boulder Laboratories. Recognizing the need for developing rapport with the City of Boulder, he used his position to instill in the Boulder community an understanding of NIST's mission and the need for development of the Boulder site. His leadership and negotiations have established a productive relationship with the City Council expediting successful construction of the new NOAA building and the planned NIST Advanced Technology Laboratory.

Charles F. Majkrzak
Physicist

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Majkrzak is cited for achieving a major breakthrough in new supermirror coatings for transport and tailoring of neutron beams for research on new materials. This advance will increase U.S. capabilities for neutron research affecting modern chemical processing, device technology, environmental remediation and biotechnology. Through the efforts of Dr. Majkrzak and his industrial collaborators, U.S. manufacturers are now internationally competitive in development of neutron optical devices.

Sandra M. Rigby
Customer Services Officer

National Technical Information Service
Technology Administration

Ms. Rigby is cited for leadership in which her efforts have directly contributed to the turn-around in NTIS' business situation. Improvements to communications and customer access to NTIS products and services are largely responsible for increases in sales and revenue. The professional atmosphere created by Ms. Rigby has enabled NTIS to attract high quality employees which further contributes to the successful growth at NTIS.

Frances F. Roberts
Acquisitions Specialist

National Technical Information Service
Technology Administration

Ms. Roberts is cited for improving the effectiveness of NTIS services to industry and to Federal agencies and for managing a program to meet the needs of EPA's Superfund Program. She is also cited for ensuring that requests for Superfund publications are filled rapidly and economically and for saving resources for the program. Ms. Roberts increased the sale of NTIS products and acquired additional funding to assist NTIS in achieving its self-supporting mandate.

Joseph A. Stroscio
Physicist

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Stroscio is recognized for his pioneering work on the physical and electronic structure of sub-monolayer coverages of alkali atoms on semiconductor surfaces. He fabricated and analyzed single-atom-wide "atomic wires" and developed techniques to cause movement of the wires using a tunneling probe. He demonstrated the onset of metallicity in one-, two- and three-dimensional alkali microstructures. A seminal paper highlighting his work on atom manipulation was published in Science magazine.

Stephen F. Weber
Economist

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Weber is cited for software products that have made complex economic decision tools accessible to managers. His AutoMan software supports the evaluation of non-quantifiable data, thereby overcoming a major obstacle to justifying new manufacturing technologies . His AutoBid software, used throughout the U.S., helps fleet managers select the best vehicle. His hospital software helps designers make cost-effective choices for fire protection and energy conservation in hospitals.

The Secretary of Commerce Annual Quality Award recognizes Department of Commerce organizations that, through their initiative and creativity, have made significant and dramatic improvements in Commerce's operations. They have striven to maintain and improve the quality of their products and services to the American people. Nominations that do not win the Award, but that have achieved outstanding, long-term results in a given examination category, are eligible for recognition with a special Departmental Quality Achievement Plaque.

This Award has been designed to parallel the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award in its focus on quality and its evaluation criteria. The seven examination categories used in evaluating nominations are: leadership, information and analysis, strategic quality planning, human resource development and management, management of process quality, quality and operational results and customer focus and satisfaction.

Secretary of Commerce
1993 Departmental Quality Achievement Plaque
in the "Human Resource Development and Management" Category

Satellite Services Division
National Environmental Satellite, Data, and Information Service
National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

The Satellite Services Division (SSD) continues to excel and progress on their quality journey, and is recognized for outstanding results in the Human Resource Development and Management category.

The SSD is a well-managed organization with a highly motivated workforce. Management supports and encourages employee involvement, contribution and teamwork at all levels of the organization. Employees at SSD are very enthusiastic about quality management. Process Action Teams (PATs) are engaged in a daily dialogue with their customers focusing on issues such as customer satisfaction and delivery of services to ensure continuous improvement. Throughout the organization, quality improvements by individuals and teams are routinely recognized at Town Meetings, impromptu or formal staff meetings, and "all hands" meetings.

The Division, guided by the vision and leadership of the Satellite Services Division management, has made significant changes in its management philosophy and its organizational culture. The Employees "team spirit" and high morale provide a real focus on quality through customer satisfaction. Without the hard work and dedication of their employees, SSD would not have come this far on their quality journey.

EXTERNAL AWARD RECIPIENTS

Interagency Committee on Information Resources Management Award for Management/Administrative Excellence

Kamie Roberts
Computer Scientist

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Mrs. Roberts played an essential role in the participation of various Federal agencies with industry in celebrating the national deployment of a standard multi-vendor Integrated Services Digital Network (ISDN). She was recognized for outstanding technical contributions as the project leader for the NIST participation in the national event known as the Transcontinental ISDN Project (TRIP '92).

National Property Management Association Federal Property Manager of the Year Award

Friedrich G. Rehrl
Property Administrator

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Mr. Rehrl was recognized for his many contributions to the implementation of the Department of Commerce Personal Property System in NOAA, particularly in the area of property reconciliation. His accomplishments include the development of a local area network based property reconciliation system.

Executive Excellence Award for Executive Achievement

William W. Fox, Jr.
Director, Office of Protected Resources

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration

Dr. Fox was recognized for outstanding contributions to the conservation and management of the Nation's living marine resources as Assistant Administrator for Fisheries from 1990-1993. His vision and direction resulted in the first significant reversals of overfishing, restoration of coastal fisheries habitat, and programs to restore marine mammals and other protected species stocks.

Distinction in Financial Management Improvements– Credit/Debt Management Award

Walter J. McLellan
Senior Attorney

Office of the General Counsel

Mr. McLellan was recognized for establishing an important precedent for Federal lending agencies and saving the Government $3,000,000 in the case of Premier National Bank v. Mosbacher. As lead trial counsel, and then on appeal to the Fifth Circuit, Mr. McLellan successfully argued that the lender's breach of a material provision of a Federal loan guaranty agreement released the Government from its guaranty without the need to demonstrate any damages.

Harry Diamond Memorial Award

Robert A. Kamper
Chief, Electromagnetic Technology Division

National Institute of Standards and Technology
Technology Administration

Dr. Kamper was recognized for pioneering application of superconducting quantum-mechanical principles to radio frequency and microwave measurements. He foresaw the coming metrology needs of lightwave communications and, in response, formed a NIST team to establish a set of some 20 measurement methods now in place to determine properties of optical fibers.

Many thanks to those individuals who contributed so much to the success of today's program

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Office of Administrative Operations
Office of Federal Property Programs
Office of Security


DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
UNITED STATES OF AMERICA