

Association of Professional Engineers and Geoscientists
of the
Province of Manitoba

Leadership Award

presented to

MARK WEST

for the

INVENTION OF FABRIC-FORMED CONCRETE

and the

**ESTABLISHMENT OF THE CENTRE OF
ARCHITECTURAL STRUCTURES AND TECHNOLOGY**

Professor Mark West is a faculty member in the University of Manitoba, Department of Architecture. He is the founding director of the University of Manitoba's Centre for Architectural Structures and Technology (C.A.S.T.), which is a design research facility that is unique to North America. The facility is dedicated to the generation and testing of innovative ideas and solutions for design and construction technologies. Professor West provided the leadership, energy, and vision required to bring together a diverse group of stakeholders, ranging from academics to local construction companies, to achieve a remarkable feat: the construction of a new 5,600 sq. ft. research and teaching facility at the University of Manitoba. Funding for this facility was secured from the Canada Foundation for Innovation, the Province of Manitoba, and many industrial sponsors.

Professor West is the inventor of fabric-formed concrete for above-ground applications. He was awarded a U.S. Patent (5390 464) for his work in the field of tension membrane formwork. His groundbreaking work in this field has been internationally recognized by architectural journalists and by numerous invitations to present his work to construction industry associations and faculties of architecture in North America and Europe. His work has been awarded a Progressive Architecture/AIA/ACSA Architectural Research Award in the area of materials and building technology.

For nearly 20 years, Professor West has been teaching architecture students a method of working that combines the putatively separate disciplines of structural engineering, architectural design, and building technology. As both teacher and researcher he has dedicated himself to breaking down the barriers that often exist between these professional cultures. This unique integration of structural intelligence, a builder's sensibility, and architectural artistry will find a home in C.A.S.T. Its mission is to bring a new beauty and efficiency to concrete construction and reinforced concrete structures, and to foster a new kind of education for architects and engineers alike.

The Association of Professional Engineers & Geoscientists of Manitoba hereby recognizes the contribution of Professor Mark West in the leadership role he exemplified in pioneering the fabric-forming of concrete and establishing the Centre for Architectural Structures and Technology.

March 7, 2000