

KEN GALT

Tribute to KEN GALT



It is our sad duty to inform you that Ken Galt passed away on May 1, 2022. He had been a member of the International Advisory Board (IAB) of the PPCHEM journal since the summer of 2020. Ken Galt was an outstanding scientist in the field of power plant chemistry, contributing a wealth of valuable research findings, notably studies on many topics.

Born and bred in Glasgow, Scotland, Ken received a BSc (Chemistry) from what is now the University of the West of Scotland, UK. He later received a BSc Honours (Water Utilisation) from Pretoria University, South Africa.

He first joined Eskom in 1978 to work as a chemist on the Koeberg Nuclear Power Plant project, where he spent 8 years, through construction, commissioning, and early operation. In mid-1986, he left Koeberg and Eskom and returned to the UK, where he worked for a time as a chemical technical sales representative for the treatment of small industrial boilers and air conditioning systems. At the end of 1987, Ken returned to South Africa to a senior chemist position in Eskom's Engineering Division at the Johannesburg Head Office.

He worked for a time on the proposed nuclear expansion program in South Africa (abandoned in 1991) and as a technical support chemist for Koeberg Nuclear Power Plant. Later, he provided increasing support for the existing fossil fleet, while still supporting Koeberg. During the 1990s he participated, as the chemistry expert, in four International Atomic Energy Agency Operational Safety Review Team Missions – at Cattenom and Bugey (France), Ascó (Spain), and Ignalina (Lithuania).

In 2004, he moved to the re-established Engineering Department to work on the fossil new-build program for two giant new coal-fired stations, of 6 units each, approximately 4 000 MW dry-cooled, working with engineers on design specifications for all chemically related aspects of the plant (water treatment, wastewater treatment, condensate polishing plants, bulk and semi-bulk chemical storage and dosing systems, steam and water sampling systems, and preparation of cycle chemistry specifications). He was involved in the commissioning of the two stations and in advising the chemical design engineers on upgrades and modifications to chemical plants at existing stations as well as possible future stations. He had over 42 years of power plant and industrial plant water chemistry experience.

Ken Galt retired from his position as a senior consultant engineering (power plant chemistry) within the Chemical Centre of Excellence of Eskom, South Africa, having reached the retirement age of 65 years in August 2020.

Ken was also very active outside his daily work at Eskom and so he contributed to guidelines of organizations such as VGB and IAPWS, among many others. Ken also supported PPCHEM in many ways and was frequently a worldwide acknowledged presenter and contributor to various conferences, where he always received, almost spontaneously, the attention of the entire auditorium.

He was also a member of the International Advisory Board of the PPCHEM Journal, supporting us with his broad expertise by reviewing various papers.

He was respected worldwide and will be sadly missed, not just for his knowledge and experience, but particularly as a very good friend and colleague to many of us around the globe. Ken was open to all and shared all his knowledge and experience with anyone in need or interested. In this way he enriched the lives of so many people, both younger and older, and supported many in their professional careers and success.

Tapio Werder, Editor in Chief, PPCHEM Journal

Michael Rziha, Member of the International Advisory Board, PPCHEM Journal