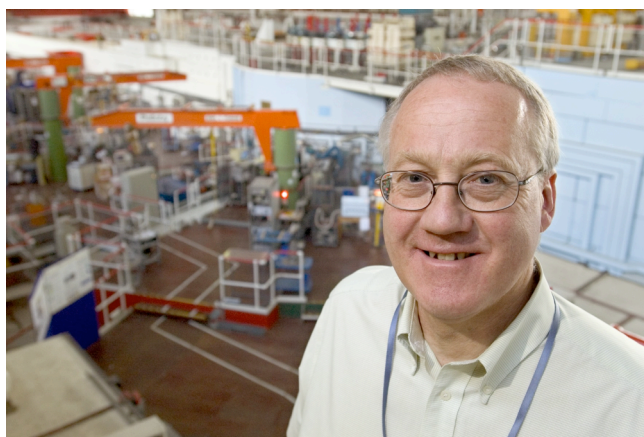




PRESS RELEASE (May 7, 2007)

**2007 Walter Hälg Prize
of the
European Neutron Scattering Association (ENSA)**



Jeffrey Penfold

Every two years the European Neutron Scattering Association, ENSA, awards the prestigious Walter Hälg Prize to European scientists for an outstanding programme of research in neutron scattering with a long term impact on scientific and/or technical neutron scattering applications. The Prize of 10'000 Swiss Francs is donated by Professor Walter Hälg, the founder of neutron scattering science in Switzerland. In 2007 the Hälg Prize is to be presented at a special session of the International Conference on Neutron Scattering, to be held in Lund, Sweden, between June 25 and 29.

The nominations received for the 2007 Hälg Prize were examined by an international selection committee consisting of authorities representing the major scientific disciplines, both within and beyond the field of neutron scattering. The selection committee is delighted to announce that the 2007 Hälg Prize will be awarded to

**Professor Jeffrey Penfold
(Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, Didcot, UK)**

in recognition of his ground breaking work on neutron reflection which he developed as an invaluable tool in colloid and interface science. His work has involved both instrument and technique development as well as a large volume of highly cited original research. In particular, he has played a pioneering role in the development of neutron reflection and has exploited this technique, combined with small-angle neutron scattering in order to provide a complete picture, for studies of surface chemistry, which led to the Hayter-Penfold theory to describe the scattering from colloidal dispersions. The quantitative aspects of this theory were ahead of their time and have led to a greatly deepened understanding of the interactions giving rise to colloidal properties. His more recent work with R.K. Thomas, Oxford, has extended all of this to the interactions between biological molecules as well as between biological molecules and surfactants, again revealing unexpected phenomena of both fundamental and practical interest. All these developments have stimulated a huge non-neutron community, notably industrial companies, to start taking a strong interest in the potential of neutron scattering experiments.

Jeffrey Penfold studied at Brunel University, UK, where he obtained the degree of Bachelor in Technology in 1971 and the Ph.D. degree in 1981 with a thesis entitled "New applications of neutron scattering to problems in surface chemistry". In 1971 he was appointed Scientific Officer in the Neutron Beam Research Unit at the Rutherford Laboratory. From 1977 to 1979 he was seconded to the Institut Laue-Langevin, Grenoble. From 1980 to 2003 he was Group Leader for Large Scale Structures at ISIS, Rutherford Appleton Laboratory, and since 1981 Group Leader for non-crystalline diffraction at the same institute. Since 2001 he is engaged as Project Scientist for the target station 2 at ISIS. In 2000 he was appointed Visiting Professor at University of Bristol, UK, and since 2002 he has been Visiting Professor in Physical and Theoretical Chemistry at Oxford University, UK.