

Prem P. Mohla

Prem obtained his metallurgical engineering degree from The Indian Institute of Technology, Bombay which is one of the most prestigious institutions in India. Prem won the coveted Burmah Shell Scholarship in 1964 to study abroad for higher education. He joined the University of Sheffield, UK to conduct research in ferrous metallurgy where a PhD was awarded to him.

Upon returning to India he joined the well known industrial group Tata in their Telco division at Jamshedpur. This division today is known as Tata Motors which owns Jaguar, Land Rover, Nano and other car brands. Prem's responsibility included conversion of automotive malleable iron castings to ductile iron for the Mercedes Benz trucks.

Prem emigrated to the USA in early 1973 and joined Ford Motor Company in their foundry division at Dearborn, Michigan. He worked under Dr. Bob Warrick and George Booth and made several improvements to the ductile iron practices used at Ford foundries. He introduced the Inmold/Flotret processes at most of their plants to reduce treatment costs and improve machinability. He left to join Dr. Warrick and Harvey Henderson at Lynchburg Foundry which later became part of Intermet Corporation. Prem's responsibilities included conversion to tundish treatment, improvements in inoculation techniques, automatic pouring of ductile iron and use of ceramic filters to reduce slag defects. He frequently traveled to all Intermet plants including those in Germany, Sweden and Korea.

He joined Globe Metallurgical Company to head their technical sales support group in Cleveland. He helped develop and market the new thin cast method for MgFeSi ferroalloy production which has made a very significant improvement to the overall cost and quality of ductile iron casting production in the industry. His group, GlobeTech marketed the Novacast software including ATAS in the US. After 14 years at Globe, Prem joined Hickman, Williams & Company in May 2003 in the technical sales group to support medium to small foundries in becoming more efficient in their ductile iron technology. Prem retired from Hickman, Williams & Company in December 2011.

Throughout his 45 years in the industry he promoted ductile iron through research, process improvement, ferroalloy development and foundry education with the goal to make foundries become more efficient. He has been a member of the DIS, AFS and the Institute of Indian Foundrymen.

He served on the Board of Directors at the Foundry Education Foundation from 1995 to 2001, the DIS Board of Directors from 1994 to 1997, DIS Research Committee and AFS Committees. He helped the DIS in his retirement to organize the Lyle Jenkins library. In June 2012 Prem was awarded the DIS Lifetime Achievement Award. He has given numerous technical talks at both the DIS and AFS, written many technical papers and owns 7 patents.