to DR. TAPIO LEHTONEN

for his over 20 years of services to the printing industry as a researcher, teacher, section leader and deputy director of the Graphic Arts Laboratory at the Technical Research Center of Finland; for his many developments and inventions in printing processes, instrumentation and automation; and for the 14 papers he has presented at TAGA conferences since 1979, TAGA honors Dr. Tapio Lehtonen.



DR. TAPIO LEHTONEN, prolific researcher, author, and inventor, graduated from Helsinki University of Technology in 1968 and received the degree of Doctor of Technology from the same university in 1978. For several years after his first degree, he worked as a researcher and teacher at the university. In 1974, he accepted a position at the Graphic Arts Laboratory of the Technical Research Center of Finland (VTT) where he is currently a section leader in printing process technology and serves as deputy director of the laboratory.

Lehtonen's thesis for his Doctor's degree was on the possibility of automating the ink function of the offset printing process. He is a technical specialist on controls, instrumentation, and automation of printing and post press processes. The section he supervises is one of the most productive graphic arts research and development groups in the world. In the 1980's, he and his group published a phenomenal number of articles and publications and made over 14 presentations at all the technical conferences of TAGA. Some of the accomplishments recorded in these papers publications and patents are: three different prototypes of closed-loop control systems for inking on an offset press; two intelligent plate scanners for presetting systems; eight generations of on-press densitometers; a new method for on-line color register measurement using a CCD sensor, and two generations of computerized printing simulators.

In addition to these accomplishments he finds time to indulge in his hobbies of tennis, volleyball, downhill skiing, jogging, and first clarinetist in the Espoo Brass Band with 42 amateur musicians playing wind instruments.