



Dr. Karl M. Prewo



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W I N N E R

MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE

IN COMPOSITE MATERIALS

Dr. Karl M. Prewo, Manager of Materials Sciences at United Technologies Research Center, is being honored for his contributions to the research and development of advanced metal- and ceramic-matrix composites. He completed his undergraduate studies with a B.S. degree in metallurgical engineering from the Polytechnic Institute of Brooklyn and directly thereafter attended Columbia University, from which he graduated in 1969 with a Doctor of Engineering Science in Metallurgy. At that time, he joined a team of researchers at United Aircraft Corporation (now United Technologies) that developed the

first flight-worthy metal-matrix composite fan blades. In 1974, his interest in extending the range of composites technology to higher temperatures led to the establishment of what is now a wide-ranging program in fiber-reinforced glass and glass/ceramic-matrix composites at United Technologies Research Center. For this he received the 1986 George Mead Medal of Achievement, United Technologies Corporations' highest award for engineering excellence. Accomplishments of this continuing program include the development of applications for both gas turbine engines and space satellites. In addition, this activity has significantly elevated the worldwide technical communities' interest in the potential of fiber-reinforced ceramic composites to combine toughness and environmental stability on a level not previously achievable. Since 1982, Dr. Prewo has lectured at universities both in the United States and abroad in courses on metal- and ceramic-matrix composites. He is the author of numerous technical papers and chapters in texts and holds over twenty-five patents in composite materials technology.