



**Dr. C. T. Sun**



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W I N N E R

## MEDAL OF EXCELLENCE

**IN COMPOSITE MATERIALS**

**Dr. C. T. Sun**, Neil A. Armstrong Distinguished Professor of Aeronautics and Astronautics at Purdue University, is the 1997 recipient of the Medal of Excellence in Composite Materials.

Dr. Sun received his undergraduate education at National Taiwan University. He joined the faculty at Purdue in 1968 after earning his M.S. and Ph.D. degrees from Northwestern University.

An internationally recognized leader in composites research, Sun has made significant contributions to the field in a number of areas during the past 30 years. In particular, his work in impact and failure of composite materials and structures has set the pace of research in this area.

Dr. Sun pioneered the modeling of dynamic penetration of composite laminates under the sponsorship of the U.S. Army. He recently led a team selected to conduct an Army-sponsored five-year MURI (Multi-disciplinary University Research Initiative) focusing on lightweight damage-tolerant armor materials and structures; new layered/gradient ceramic and composite materials will be developed and tested for armor applications under this program.

In addition to his work in composites, Prof. Sun has published extensively in the areas of fracture mechanics and smart materials and structures. His journal publications and conference papers total more than 350. Sun is currently on the editorial boards of the Journal of Composite Materials, Composites Science and Technology, the International Journal of Damage Mechanics, and Mechanics of Composite Materials and Structures.

He is a Fellow of the American Society of Mechanical Engineers (ASME), the American Institute of Aeronautics & Astronautics (AIAA), and the American Society for Composites (ASC). Dr. Sun is the recipient of the ASC's 1995 Distinguished Research Award and AIAA's 1997 Structural Dynamics and Materials award. Not only does Dr. Sun have an outstanding record of his own achievements, but he has contributed to the dissemination of knowledge in the field through 80-plus graduate students who he has supervised during his career, including 14 who are teaching at universities in the United State and abroad.