



The International Fertiliser Society

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PRESS RELEASE

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2015 FRANCIS NEW MEDAL AWARDED TO DR. AMIT ROY

IFDC President and CEO to Deliver Francis New Memorial Lecture

The Council of the International Fertiliser Society (IFS) is pleased to announce the award of the 2015 Francis New Memorial Medal to Dr. Amit Roy, president and CEO of the International Fertilizer Development Center (IFDC). The Medal acknowledges outstanding contributions to the fertiliser community in topics ranging from production and distribution to fertiliser use and the environment. The IFS Council will grant Roy the Medal in recognition of his commitment to world food security and the global fertiliser industry.

Roy will deliver the Francis New Memorial Lecture during the IFS Technical Conference on 23 June in London. His topic is 'Global Fertiliser Industry: Transitioning from Volume to Value.' Roy will review the history of the manufactured fertiliser industry, highlighting its achievements and present-day limitations.

"Fertilisers are key to feeding an expanding global population projected to reach more than 9.5 billion by 2050," said Roy. "However, given land, water and environmental constraints, we must innovate beyond traditional NPK products."

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Roy's address will encourage the industry to invest in the development of a new generation of fertilisers.

Roy has been president and CEO of IFDC since 1992. Under his leadership, IFDC programs helped create sustainable agricultural productivity in nearly 100 nations. Roy was instrumental in organizing the landmark 2006 Africa Fertilizer Summit in Abuja, Nigeria. To facilitate the development of next-generation fertilisers, Roy established the Virtual Fertilizer Research Center. He holds a doctorate and master's degree in chemical engineering from Georgia Institute of Technology and a bachelor of technology degree in chemical engineering from the Indian Institute of Technology in Kharagpur.

Further details from:

Mr. Steve Hallam, Secretary to the International Fertiliser Society (secretary@fertiliser-society.org)

Editors' Note: The Francis New Medal

George Francis New, OBE, PhD, BSc was appointed General Manager and Secretary of the UK Fertiliser Manufacturers' Association shortly after the end of World War II. In 1952 he became Secretary of the International Superphosphate Manufacturers Association (ISMA), which developed into the International Fertilizer Industry Association (IFA).

The Fertiliser Society, which had its origin with the Fertiliser Manufacturers' Association, was set up in 1947 to provide a forum for discussion of the technical, economic and agronomic aspects of fertiliser production. Dr. Francis New became the first Secretary of The Fertiliser Society.

Francis New was awarded the Order of the British Empire (OBE) in 1956 for his services to industry. He died shortly after in October 1957. In the same year, the then Council of The Fertiliser Society resolved to perpetuate his memory and commemorate his outstanding services both to the fertiliser industry at that time and to the Society itself, by establishing a Francis New Memorial Lecture. It was resolved that the lecture should be given by a prominent figure in the industry and that the chosen lecturer should be presented with an appropriate medal.

The first Francis New Lecture was given in 1959, and the event has been held at two-yearly intervals ever since, the Medallists being selected by the Council of the International Fertiliser Society.

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The International Fertiliser Society was founded in 1947 and now has Members in over 50 countries worldwide. Membership is individual and is open to all. The Society has regularly held open Meetings, and the presentations are published as individual Proceedings of the Society. These now total over 770, and all are still available from the Society's website: <http://www.fertiliser-society.org>.

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