

Remembering Bengt Blendulf

A message from Laurence Claus, director of training at the Industrial Fasteners Institute:

“We were saddened to just learn that Bengt Blendulf passed away on April 22, 2020. Bengt was a fastener industry icon and an individual that you remembered even if you only met him once. Bengt began his lifelong career in the fastener industry in 1966 when he joined the Swedish fastener manufacturer, Bulten. He moved to the United States in 1974 to start a subsidiary for them. In 1988 Bengt spent eight years on the faculty of Clemson University’s College of Engineering and Science. Following his time with Clemson, Bengt founded EduPro US Inc., where he served as President and Principal Lecturer until he retired in 2018.

“Bengt left an indelible mark on our industry during his fifty-year career. In addition to the accomplishments noted above, Bengt was one of the founding members of the Bolting Technology Council (an independent organization of engineers dedicated to the art and science of threaded fasteners, which later became ASTM subcommittee F16.96) and would serve as its Chairman from 1996 to 2006. For his lifelong commitment to bettering fastener standardization, in 1996 he was awarded ASTM’s Fred F. Weingruber award. In 2013 he was the recipient of IFI’s prestigious Soaring Eagle Award for his significant technical contributions to the industry.

“Bengt authored over 100 journal articles and several books including, *“Joint Technology for Threaded Fasteners”*, *“Mechanical Fastening and Joining”* and contributing to *“Handbook of Bolts and Bolted Joints”*. IFI continues to distribute his publications to this day and will continue to do so in his memory, and to honor his lifelong commitment to educating our industry.

“Bengt will be remembered for his passion for teaching and educating those coming up in the industry. He was well known for his engaging classes which, although packed with technical information, took a practical approach to the bolted joint. Joe Greenslade would once say of Bengt, ‘From the first time we met it was obvious to me that he was one of the brilliant minds in the field of fastener technology. Bengt is one of those rare individuals who can explain technically complicated subjects in terms that can be comprehended by his audience regardless of their educational background.’

“Bengt will long be remembered for his wit, knowledge, and passion for this industry. He truly was one of a handful of fastener specialists that will leave a long and enduring legacy on the industry.”