

Masoud Farzaneh Honored by ADRIQ and NSERC

In Montreal on September 23, during their "Let's celebrate partnerships" evening attended by leaders from industry and academia, the Quebec Association for Industrial Research (ADRIQ) and the Natural Sciences and Engineering Council of Canada (NSERC) jointly awarded an excellence prize to Professor Masoud Farzaneh, University of Quebec in Chicoutimi (UQAC), in recognition of his remarkable and fruitful partnership with Hydro-Québec.

The partnership between Prof. Farzaneh and Hydro-Québec began more than 25 years ago and steadily gained in importance with the award of several major NSERC-sponsored R&D projects and with the creation in 1997 of the CIGELE Industrial Chair on atmospheric icing of power network equipment. The excellent performance of CIGELE led to its renewal over three successive five-year-period mandates, up to September 2012, and following the severe ice storm in 1998, Hydro-Québec contributed significantly to the establishment of the Icing Research Pavilion, at UQAC, in 2000.

This is not the first time that the CIGELE/Hydro-Québec partnership has been honored. In 2005, Prof. Farzaneh and Hydro-Québec were awarded the NSERC Léo-Derykx prize for their long-term collaboration leading to the creation of the most important laboratory worldwide dedicated to icing research.

Contributions from Hydro-Québec and other industrial partners have enabled Prof. Farzaneh and CIGELE to develop numerous innovations and technological advances in the field of icing research, to train more than 200 highly qualified personnel, and to write several major scientific publications, in the process making UQAC the world leader in this research area. Besides Hydro-Québec, other industrial partners currently involved with CIGELE are Hydro One, Cable Alcan, Rio Tinto Alcan, K-Line Insulators, Tyco Electronics, Dual-ADE, Électricité de France and Réseaux de transport d'énergie (France).

Prof. Farzaneh stressed the importance of industrial partnerships as a way of ensuring the growth of university research, and congratulated his research team and collaborators on their work, which has generated significant benefits for their clients.

Following the prize announcement, the UQAC Rector, Mr. Michel Belley, acknowledged that the quality of the work accomplished under the leadership of Prof. Farzaneh has made UQAC the hub in his research field.

For further information on CIGELE, see www.cigele.ca.

This report is based on the UQAC press release (in French).



From the left, J.-L. Legault, president of ADRIQ; Professor Farzaneh; and M. Bourdages, head of electrical equipment, IREQ/Hydro-Québec.