

Topic

Dr. Masao Horiba received the “PITTCON Heritage Award” and has been accepted into the “Hall of Fame”



The Award Ceremony of “PITTCON Heritage Award” at PITTCON 2006 (Photo by John Staley)

Chemical Heritage Foundation

The Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) serves the community of the chemical and molecular sciences, and the wider public, by treasuring the past, educating the present, and inspiring the future. CHF maintains a world-class collection of materials that document the history and heritage of the chemical and molecular sciences, technologies, and industries; encourages research in CHF collections; and carries out a program of outreach and interpretation in order to advance an understanding of the role of the chemical and molecular sciences, technologies, and industries in shaping society.

In 1982 the Center for the History of Chemistry (CHOC) was launched as a pilot project of the University of Pennsylvania and the American Chemical Society (ACS) in response to the thought that scientists and business people required to establish a center to collect achievements of the chemical and molecular sciences and industries and from here, introduce them to the world. In 1984 the American Institute of Chemical Engineers (AIChE) became the third sponsor.

In 1987 the Center was incorporated as a not-for-profit organization, now named the National Foundation for the History of Chemistry, by joint action of the ACS and AIChE. The Foundation rented space in a new building at the University of Pennsylvania and restructured its activities into those of the

Beckman Center for the History of Chemistry (established in 1987) and the Othmer Library of Chemical History (established in 1988).

In 1992 the Chemical Heritage Foundation (CHF) assumed its present name to better reflect the interdisciplinary nature of the sciences and industries it serves and the widening public scope of its activities. In 1995 CHF purchased its permanent home, the First National Bank building at the Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia, and moved into its new location a year later. Now there are conference rooms, a fully air-conditioned room that helps to preserve the 500-year heritage, a reading room and an exhibition gallery in a 9000 m² facility, where they portray the past, present and future messages of "Chemical and molecular sciences" to the visitors.

Today CHF enjoys the endorsement and support of more than 30 affiliated organizations such as ACS, AIChE, American Chemistry Council, American Society for Mass Spectrometry and Applied Spectroscopy.

CHF's major activities are as follows.

- Management of Othmer Library
- Management of Beckman Center
- Publication of "Chemical Heritage"
- Publication of Books
- Production and preservation of Oral History
- Presentation of Heritage Award (at PITTCON and other exhibitions)

<Quoted from <http://www.chemheritage.org/about/aout.html>>

Masao Horiba Oral History

Oral history production of Masao Horiba was offered from CHF during PITTCON 2003 at Orlando, Florida, United States. This was the first contact with Masao Horiba and CHF. "One of the CHF activities is to produce oral histories of people who contribute to the chemical and molecular sciences. "We would like to collect information from overseas as well in the future". One of these people is Dr. Masao Horiba, known as a founder of the Japanese pH meter manufacturer (Figure 1). "The father of the pH meter, Dr. Beckman and Dr. Masao Horiba show a striking resemblance and we would very much like to produce and record his oral history," CHF explained. After the exhibition, 'Masao Horiba Oral History' started as a project based on the approval by president Atsushi Horiba and chairman Masao Horiba (at the time).

The Oral History Program at the Chemical Heritage Foundation aims to create a collection of comprehensive, professionally edited interviews with leading figures in the chemical and molecular sciences to provide autobiographical accounts. Oral histories often treat broad topics in an individual's Family-life background, childhood, education, factors influencing career decisions, and the work history itself-or they may focus on a few key episodes in the individual's career. It needed time to arrange between CHF and HORIBA, but the interview was conducted over two days to produce the oral history by CHF's historian Mr. David Brock coming to Japan in the Fall of 2004.

The interview was conducted in the morning on November 19th and 20th through two interpreters, beginning by discussing Masao Horiba's family. Mr. David Brock from CHF asked questions and an interpreter translated to Japanese: Masao Horiba then answered, and the other interpreter translated to English. The interview was conducted in this way and all was recorded. There are six major items in the interview contents as follows. They include



Figure 1 The pH Meter and Masao Horiba

Topic

Dr. Masao Horiba received the “PITTCON Heritage Award” and has been accepted into the “Hall of Fame”

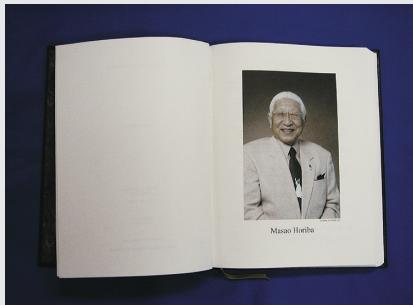


Figure 2 Masao Horiba Oral History

Masao Horiba's life philosophy and are highly substantial. “This is my first time to talk about so much at a time,” Masao Horiba remarked.

1. Family History and Early Life Experiences
2. Kyoto Imperial University and World War II
3. Horiba Radio Laboratory
4. HORIBA, Ltd.: the Company
5. HORIBA, Ltd.: the Corporate Philosophy
6. Conclusion: Current interests

The interview was audio-typed to both English and Japanese languages and edited by CHF: HORIBA then checked the manuscript and provided photos to CHF. Finally the 148 page-“Masao Horiba Oral History” was completed in March, 2006 (Figure 2).

This oral history interview has been disclosed to public through CHF in the following ways.

1. A Deposit at Othmer Library of Chemical History
2. A post of the summary on the Website (<http://www.chemheritage.org/exhibits/ex-nav2.html>)
3. Publish in “Chemical Heritage” (30,000 published)
4. To preserve the interview original tape, the master copy of final transcript, related documents are at CHF's library for viewing. (According to the website, as of March 2006, 254 oral histories have been edited including one for Dr. Beckman and one for another Japanese, Mr. Koji Nakanishi of Columbia University.)

2006 PITTCON Heritage Award and Hall of Fame

“PITTCON Heritage Award” is presented to an individual who is credited by PITTCON and CHF for increasing the importance of the role of analytical chemistry in world economics, such as important achievements as a business person and establishment of analytical technology, which is both innovative and influential. Reasons for presenting the award to Masao Horiba were; “He has always been innovative with his firm will and a passion as an entrepreneur. He has founded the global business of measurement instruments with the products encouraging global scale study and performance and in addition, he has taken a significant role in the venture capital development and management philosophy.”

The award was presented at PITTCON 2006^{*1} (Figure 3), on the first day, March 12th at 16:30 (local time) in Orlando city (Florida state), United States. PITTCON is the largest exhibition of this type in the physical and chemical analysis field and HORIBA group has been participating here for over 30 years.

^{*1}: An exhibition or international conference annually held by the Pittsburgh Conference on Analytical Chemistry and Applied Spectroscopy.

After the speech by President Kevin McKaveney from PITTCON, President Arnold Thackray from CHF paid a compliment: “Humankind has been continuing its tireless efforts for Quality of Life, starting from Galileo Galilei 500 years ago up to modern scientists. Dr. Horiba is in the chain of innovation and he is a qualified person to be honored for his achievements through the



Figure 3 HORIBA Booth at PITTCON 2006

PITTCON Hall of Fame.” Then a memorial plaque was presented to Masao Horiba from both presidents (Figure 4).

Masao Horiba explained that he had established the laboratory after Japan's wartime defeat, then after many twists and turns, developed the nation's first glass electrode pH meter and started his business of measurement instrument production. He then expressed his gratitude, saying “By coincidence, I established ‘Masao Horiba Awards’ two years ago to promote on, encourage, and support the researchers in the measurement field because they were low in morale. Even now, measurement is absolutely necessary for advancement of science. To bring about a greater effect intended by this PITTCON Heritage Award and Hall of Fame, I will further continue the ‘Masao Horiba Awards (Figure 5).’

In addition to receiving the award, he was qualified as 27th member of the Hall of Fame (Figure 6) which will celebrate the contribution to the development of this field for many years to come. All of the members inducted into this PITTCON Hall of Fame are the managers who created the best and the world's leading products in analytical industry such as Arnold Beckman, founder of Beckman Coulter, Inc, synonymous with the pioneering times of the early pH meter, David Packard and William Hewlett, founders of Hewlett-Packard Co., and Charles Elmer and Richard S. Perkin, founders of Perkin-Elmer, Inc.

(Written by Yuichi Muroga, Cooperate Officer from International Division)

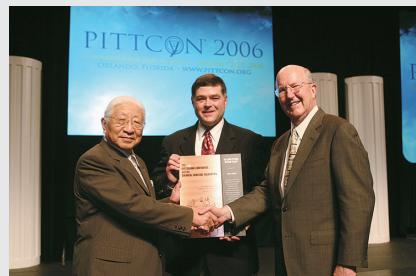


Figure 4 Masao Horiba receiving PITTCON Heritage Award (Center: President Kevin McKaveney Right: President Arnold Thackray (Photo by John Staley))



Figure 5 Masao Horiba Expressing His Gratitude (Photo by John Staley)

Robert W. Allington
Walter S. Baird
John Townsend Baker
Arnold O. Beckman
C. Eugen Bennett
Henry “Howard” Cary
Wallace Coulter
Keene P. Dimick
Charles Elmer
Robert E. Finnigan
Chester G. Fisher
Kathryn “Kitty” Hach-Darrow
Maurice Hasler
William Hewlett
Masao Horiba
J. O. Jarrell
Aaron Martin
Frank Martinez, Jr.
Erhard Mettler
David Nelson
David Packard
Richard S. Perkin
Arthur H. Thomas
Russell Varian
Sigurd Varian
James L. Waters
Paul A. Wilks

Figure 6 People welcomed into the PITTCON Hall of Fame (from <http://www.chemheritage.org/exhibits/PITTCON/index.html>)