



Saluting the spirit of a star!

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Success means having the courage, determination and the will to become the person you believe you were meant to be. B.R. Mehta, Senior Vice President, Reliance Industries Limited is a living example of this courage that has helped fulfill his vision and dream – a result of his passion, not position. A career in instrumentation was a dream Mehta weaved as a child. Today, having conquered the zeniths of this profession, it is only natural for the instrumentation community to recognize and honor Mehta, who has greatly inspired almost everyone connected to the profession with his deeds and the examples he has set forth.

In a space of eight days in April, Mehta received two tokens of appreciation. One from The Fieldbus Foundation India Committee (FFIC), on the April 16, 2010, at a function held at Royal Orchid Central Grazia, Vashi, Navi Mumbai in admiration of Mehta's milestone achievement of delivering the Key Note address at the FF General Assembly held in Houston Texas. Here, K. Nandkumar, Chairman & Managing Director Chemtrols Group of Industries felicitated Mehta, to a standing ovation. His second felicitation came at the Instrumentation Experts Club meeting on April 24, 2010 at Hotel Fortune Select Exotica, Navi Mumbai where Larsen & Toubro Limited's Executive Vice President (Electrical and Automation, J.P. Singh, felicitated Mehta for his "Outstanding leadership and contribution to the progress in Foundation Fieldbus technology implementation". On both occasions, his usual gracious self, Mehta, with much humility, accepted the honor bestowed upon him and went on to share his



Mr. J.P. Singh, Executive Vice President Electrical & Automation at Larsen & Toubro Limited felicitated Mr. B. R. Mehta, Senior Vice President, Reliance Industries Limited for outstanding Leadership & contribution to the progress in Foundation Fieldbus technology implementation at Instrumentation Experts Club meeting on 24th of April at Hotel Fortune Select Exotica in Navi Mumbai.



Felicitations given by Larsen & Toubro Limited at the IEC meet on 24th April 2010

professional experiences with the dignitaries present.

At the FFIC event, Thampy Matthews, Chairman FFIC & MD P+F, welcomed Mehta before the member companies acknowledged Mehta's contribution to the field of instrumentation and recounted the advantages of the FF technology implemented at the Reliance JERP refinery. Nandakumar also delivered the Key note address at this ceremony, laying much candid emphasis on the influences Mehta has, on the industry and his ability to lead with an example. In Nandakumar's words, the felicitation was a mark of respect to the man who had made "innumerable contributions to our industry – for the recognition, acceptance, and appreciation that he has helped the Indian Instrumentation & Automation Industry achieve, worldwide", in his career spanning over 38 years. In the most novel manner, Nandakumar attributed one quality for every alphabet of the word "Felicitate"

to Mehta's present day success. So, as F stood for Focused; E for Enterprising; L for Learner; I for Intelligent; C for Commitment; I for Inspirational; T for Tough; A for being an Achiever; T for Thinker; and E for Empowering, Nandakumar went on to laud Mehta for adhering to values that ultimately resulted in success.

Having read about Mehta's penchant for instrumentation since class eight, Nandakumar said, "When children at his age are just about figuring out what they would like to become, he had it all chalked out. He wanted to become an Instrumentation Engineer and worked towards it with a single-minded "focus". Going on, this virtue has been evident in every project that he has undertaken and seen through to their successful completion." The Chemtrols director showered praises on Mehta's enterprising nature – his dexterity at everything from concept to commissioning of many successful projects in the field of control systems and instrumentation at Patalganga, Hazira Phase 1, Hazira Phase 2, TFIL and the much renowned making of the



Mr. Nandakumar & Mr. Thampy Mathew Felicitating, Mr. B R Mehta at Foundation Field Bus meeting on 16th April 2010

B.R. Mehta is the Senior Vice President, Reliance Industries Ltd., Mumbai. With over 38 years of experience in refinery and petrochemicals industry, Mehta has worked in engineering and projects in the field of Control Systems and Instrumentation for Patalganga, Hazira and Jamnagar Refinery and Petrochemicals complex during his dedication of 25+ years to the Reliance group. Before becoming a part of Reliance, Mehta worked for Agro chemical and Food Co., Kenya, as the Chief Instrumentation Engineer and at Indian Petrochemicals Ltd., Vadodara for 11 years as an instrument engineer. At Reliance, he presently heads the Design and Engineering Department in the field of Control Systems and Instrumentation. During this period he has also worked with several overseas licensors like U.O.P, Foster wheeler, ICI, Union Carbide, Du Pont, Stork and Stone & Webster. Mehta has also dealt with detailed engineering contractors like Bechtel, John brown, Lummus, Jacobs H & G, Lucky engineering, Chemtex, Worley, Aker Kvaerner and others. He has tried his hand at basic and detailed engineering, procurement, inspection, expediting, construction, testing, pre-commissioning and commissioning of various petrochemicals, chemicals, co-generation power and refinery projects from Concept to Commissioning. He is the nominated as Chairman of end use council of Fieldbus Foundation in India and also a member of the End User Advisory Council (EUAC), worldwide. Mehta is the Chairman of Instrumentation Experts Club, Mumbai, since its inception. He is the elected Chairperson for India Customer Advisory Council of Honeywell Automation India Limited. Mehta has performed a key role on the Board of Governors for the Automation exhibitions for the years 2002, 2004, 2006 and 2008 and is a unanimously nominated Chairman of Board of Governors for Automation 2010.



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Memento presented by Fieldbus Foundation at General Assembly in Houston, USA in Appreciation & recognition for support of the Fieldbus Foundation at User Conference on 24th of March 2010

Jamnagar Refinery. Speaking about being a learner, Nandakumar said, “Mehta embodies the essence of constantly learning, evolving and growing. He not only foresees, but also understands the technology of tomorrow and ensures that not only he, but also his team and his projects are at all times ready to seamlessly integrate into tomorrow's technology.” Calling Mehta a brilliant engineer and an exceptionally intelligent entrepreneur, Nandakumar quoted Mehta's from one of his interviews. Mehta had said, “Success comes to companies that understand how to combine and coordinate new technology, new thinking, and the deployment of



Felicitiation given by FFIC on 16th April

effective solutions for customers. Focus has to be on constant innovations and prioritizations.” Nandakumar's observation of Mehta's commitment to his work is impressive. He says, “There is no scope for error, there is no downtime, there are no holidays. I know from personal experience, he (Mehta) is on the job 24 by 7. There is nothing that misses this man's eye. The job must be done well and on time. There are no compromises.” Describing Mehta as being an achiever, Nandakumar calls him “one tough cookie to crack”. Nandakumar, while speaking of Mehta's traits as a thinker said, “I believe that winners abound. Achievers are but a few. You can win a race using a short cut but only the one who goes through the entire learning process actually achieves. Mehta lives by the words of wisdom given by none other than the founder of the Reliance Empire - Mr. Dhirubhai Ambani. “Pursue your goals, even in the face of difficulties. Convert difficulties into opportunities. Keep your morale high, in spite of setbacks. At the end you are bound to succeed.” These are the qualities that differentiate a winner from an achiever.” He also added that Mehta's futuristic vision has always helped him influence and inspire many a men. “The state of the art refinery at Jamnagar is a prime example of the latest Automation and Control Technologies and Mehta's engineering excellence and technological foresight,” said Nandakumar.

Nandakumar, speaking of Mehta's generosity at imparting his knowledge to others, said, “He always ensures empowerment to all who work with him.” To Nandakumar, it is commendable that despite being busy, Mehta has never turned down an opportunity to participate, nurture, and guide institutions like the Fieldbus Foundation India End User Council, of which he is the Chairman and also a member of the Foundation's End User Advisory Council – World Wide, among other platforms. Nandakumar said, “I'm



sure each of us has had an opportunity to see his ever smiling, energetic self at several such industrial and council meets.” At this function, Nandakumar did not miss a chance to credit much of Mehta's success to his wife, Dina, saying, “(Her) effervescence adds as much, to any gathering, as much as Mehta's bonhomie. It will only be right to say that she plays a crucial part in the success of this very successful man.” Mehta most kindly accepted the honor and shared with the audience a presentation and the experience of addressing the team of technocrats of the Fieldbus Foundation General Assembly.

Mehta has always firmly believed in the potential of the Indian industry – a faith that has helped him influence thoughts and designs of many technologies. In his exclusive interview with Industrial Automation in October 2009, Mehta had clearly pointed out how the Indian economy was progressing towards a knowledge-based economy. Mehta had said, “With the developments in IT, open networks, Internet and so on, automation systems (in India) will have a high level of interface with IT systems for global competitiveness, supply-chain management, producer-consumer interface, quality, and market demands.”

With his goals and ambitions clearly defined, accomplishments and milestones are clearly a reward Mehta's hard-work is bringing along. And, there is no doubt that the taste of every hear-earned fruit is sweeter than honey.