



**2007 NPRA Q&A and Technology Forum
October 9-12, 2007
Austin, TX**

NPRA Presents the 2007 Peter G. Andrews Lifetime Service Award at the Q&A and Technology Forum

AUSTIN – NPRA, the National Petrochemical & Refiners Association, today presented the 2007 Peter G. Andrews Lifetime Service Award to Dr. J. Pat Kennedy of OSIsoft, Charles LeRoy of Valero Energy, and Christina McDowell of Tesoro, as part of NPRA’s 60th Annual Q&A and Technology Forum in Austin, Texas.

The Peter G. Andrews Lifetime Service Award honors the contributions made by members to the value and vitality of the NPRA Q&A and Technology Forum. The recipients have all served as panelists, program and screening committee members, and, most importantly, have been active participants in the dialogue that is fundamental to the meeting’s success and longevity. Over the course of their careers, the recipients have made significant and sustained contributions to the meeting’s quality and have put into action their belief that sharing knowledge with others is the source of continuous improvement for the industry.

NPRA established the award in 2003 in honor of Peter G. Andrews, who, for many years, was a regular attendee of the Q&A program representing Conoco and Engelhard. His keen interest in catalytic cracking and the importance of maintaining fundamentally sound operations prompted him to take the lead in session dialogues, and challenged many to rethink their approaches to operational excellence.



(l-r Dr. J. Patrick Kennedy, Christina McDowell, Charles LeRoy)

Dr. J. Pat Kennedy, President, CEO, and majority owner of OSIsoft, is a 30-plus year veteran of the petroleum refining industry who has made significant contributions to the success of NPRA as a supporter of the Plant Automation Committee (formerly the Computer Applications Committee) and its conferences. Pat has been on the conference program committee numerous times, made technical presentations at the conference, and served as a Q&A panelist at the 1990 Computer Conference. Pat was also a charter member of the NPRA Cyber Security Subcommittee and has made presentations at the NPRA Annual Meeting.

Charles F. LeRoy, the Vice President of Regional Refinery Operations for Valero Energy, is a 30-plus year veteran of the petroleum refining industry who has consistently focused attention on team building and leadership development of his employees and colleagues throughout his career. He has given a significant amount of time to volunteer organizations such as the Chamber of Commerce, ChildSafe, and the United Way. NPRA has also benefited from Charlie's time and energy over the past 21 years. Charlie was a Q&A panelist for Valero in 1986 and then participated in the Q&A Screening Committee for 16 years. He has also authored numerous papers to share process improvements in the refining industry.

Christina McDowell, is the Air Compliance Superintendent at Tesoro's Golden Eagle Refinery. She has over thirty years' experience in the refining industry, much of it in the environmental arena where she has worked on regulatory development based on best refining practices, and "operations-friendly" compliance programs. Chris has served as a Q&A Screening Committee member for 29 years and was the first woman to serve as a Q&A panelist in 1978.

The NPRA Q&A and Technology Forum features panels of industry experts responding to questions on operations, technology, issues and challenges facing the refining industry, and specific operating problems, with special emphasis on process technology. In the Q&A, Principles & Practices, and Plant Automation sessions, attendees participate in the discussions and network at hospitality functions sponsored by catalyst, chemical and technology companies.