



THE PHOENIX AWARD® COMMITTEE

1979 PAC Winner

Beuther L. Schmidt

Following his graduation from the University of Louisville, Mr. Schmidt was associated with Aetna Oil Refining Company before joining Corhart Refractories in Louisville as a chemist. It was his association with Corhart that ultimately led Mr. Schmidt to Anchor Hocking in 1941.

At the time he joined Anchor Hocking as a draftsman in the Furnace Engineering Department, the company had twenty-one furnaces in service. Mr. Schmidt was soon named the head of Anchor Hocking's Furnace Department in 1945, and later, Anchor Hocking's Technical Director of Furnace Engineering. Anchor Hocking eventually had eleven glass plants, with a total of thirty-seven furnaces in operation.

During his career Mr. Schmidt contributed to improving the level of performance of both existing and newly designed furnaces. Among his notable contributions were the development of a pier checker configuration for borosilicate glasses that extends the checker life and the design of the two-throat individual refiner furnace.

A major contribution has been Mr. Schmidt's work in pioneering the development of multi-pass regenerators for the glass furnaces to combat rising energy costs by increasing the capacity of waste heat recovery systems.