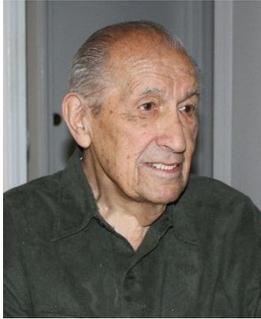


2015 Ammunition Hall of Fame Inductee

JOHN AMERSPEK



Mr. Amerspek is one of the early pioneers of ammunition development and production for the US Army. For over 40 years he worked all phases of program management of ammunition system and components including development of new concepts, research and development, procurement cost control, field service, financial analysis, production and budgeting. Mr. Amerspek was well versed in the system acquisition process from establishment of requirement to fielding. He had extensive experience in armament systems engineering and management. He taught industrial management courses at Fairleigh Dickinson University and at County College of Morris as an Adjunct Associate Professor for 30 years.

Mr. Amerspek was the first president and chairman of the Board of Directors of the Picatinny Chapter, NDIA. He served as leader of the chapter for over 30 years. He developed recognition award programs to recognize people in government and industry that made significant contributions in the defense of our country. He was instrumental in the creation and conduct of a wide number of International Technical Symposia to advance the education of technology for future weapon systems and ammunition.

He served as Chief, Program Management Division, Office of Project Manager Selected Ammunition, a highly classified program identified as Selected Ammunition, for security purposes. Selected Ammunition encompassed all weapon systems for all services to provide superior firepower involving a wide range of weapons for infantry, artillery, mortars, aircraft dispensed, rockets and missiles. Mr. Amerspek was responsible to direct, coordinate and control activities involving planning and execution of Selected Ammunition items, in life cycle, major tri-service program. He served as primary focal point in the Army Materiel Command on all matters pertaining to planning, programming, budgetary, funding, facilities, production, and management. This office was responsible for the development and production of the most sophisticated and complex conventional ammunition systems in the Army. He directly participated in the formulation of the new Scatterable Mine Program. This program provided a new dimension in mine warfare and represents new technical advances, particularly in electronics and fuzing.

As Deputy Project Manager, Cannon Artillery Weapons Systems/Joint Project Manager for Guided Projectiles (Army and Navy), Mr. Amerspek served as the alter ego to the military Project Manager sharing fully the responsibility for the planning, direction, execution and control of the work and resources involved in the acquisition of and sophisticated Armament Systems. . This project included systems management for advanced 155mm weapons and ammunition research and development and production for the new Copperhead Laser Guided (smart) Projectile; for the Army and Marine Corps; the 5” Laser Guided (smart) Projectile for the Navy; the 8” Anti-radiation Projectile for the Army and the new artillery weapon system, the Advanced Major Weapon System for the Army in the 1990s.

Mr. Amerspek performed at Picatinny Arsenal a variety of responsible line and staff positions, of a progressive nature. This included development engineering, staff and supervisory positions. Armament items he had extensive involvement with included: pyrotechnics; 40mm ammunition for infantry and helicopters; mines; hand grenades; missile warheads; nuclear projectiles; artillery and aircraft armament. He performed as Chief of a planning office for a development laboratory, Staff Assistant to chief engineer and Staff Assistant to the Commander.

Mr. Amerspek belonged to the National Defense Industrial Association on several Boards of Directors, Association of the US Army as an Advisory Board member; Fairleigh Dickinson University as a Chairman; and the US Army Armament Research Engineering Center Advisory Council (comprised of top management Picatinny complex and Armament industry) He held the following academic honors: Phi Omega Epsilon, Phi Zeta Kappa, and served as an Adjunct Associate Professor. In 1985, he received the Firepower Award from the American Defense Preparedness Association. In 1981, he received the US Army Exceptional Service Award (highest civilian award). In 1978, he was awarded an Ordnance Medallion. He received US Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award (2nd highest civilian award); U.S. Army Meritorious Civilian Service Award (2nd highest civilian award); was inducted into Honorable Order of St. Barbara Society (Artillery Award); Commanders Award for Civilian Service; Outstanding Civil Service Employer (metropolitan area); and the NDIA Project Management Award.