



Kenneth Richard Seddon

Prof. Kenneth Richard Seddon was born in Liverpool in 1950, and graduated from Liverpool University with a first class BSc(Hons) and a PhD, whence he moved to a research Fellowship at St Catherine's College, Oxford, and later to a Lectureship in Experimental Chemistry at the University of Sussex, where he twice attracted grants from the Venture Research Unit. In 1993, he was appointed to the Chair in Inorganic Chemistry at the Queen's University of Belfast, where he is also a co-director of QUILL (Queen's University Ionic Liquids Laboratories), an industrial-academic consortium. He is a Professor *Catedrático Visitante* at ITQB (New University of Lisbon), holds a Visiting Professorship of the Chinese Academy of Sciences, and is Associate editor of *Australian Journal of Chemistry*. He has published over 420 papers and patents, co-authored four books, and co-edited twelve books: he has been cited over 25,000 times and his *h*-index is 77.

Prestigious Awards and Achievements:

(i) ‘TEAMWORK IN INNOVATION’ AWARD (2014); ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY

In 2014, QUILL and PETRONAS received this joint award for the teamwork leading to the development and commercialisation of an innovative technology for mercury removal from natural gas. This award is in recognition of collaborative teamwork to achieve an innovative solution or process and is open to teams of any size working in industry, academia, or collaboratively between the two.

(ii) ROYAL SOCIETY SUMMER EXHIBITION (2014); FEATURED EXHIBIT

QUILL won the honour to exhibit “Ionic Liquids: A Solution for Pollution, featured in the highlights webcast (<http://sse.royalsociety.org/2014/ionic-liquids/>).

(iii) INAUGURAL LECTURE OF THE “FRONTIERS OF KNOWLEDGE LECTURE SERIES”, HOUSE OF COMMONS

Seddon was selected out of 147 applicants to deliver the first lecture to a joint audience of the House of Commons and the House of Lords, on “Ionic Liquids: Solutions for Pollution”.

(iv) NICKLIN MEDAL (2013); ICHEMÉ

The Don Nicklin Medal, which is awarded to the best entry of the IChemE Awards programme from the previous two years, was awarded to the Queen's University of Belfast and PETRONAS in recognition of their 2013 IChemE award winning project based upon new technology to remove toxic mercury from natural gas more efficiently.

(v) THREE ICHEM E AWARDS (2013)

In addition to collecting the *Award for Outstanding Achievement in Chemical and Process Engineering*, QUILL was presented with the *Sustainable Technology Award* and *Chemical Engineering Project of the Year Award*.

(vi) BRITISH INNOVATION MOST LIKELY TO SHAPE THE 21ST CENTURY

QUILL won the vote which was part of the Science Museum's Initiative on Great British Past and Future Innovations, sponsored Engineering UK, The Royal Society, British Science Association, Royal Academy of Engineering and Department for Business Innovation & Skills.

(vii) TOP CITED UK CHEMIST (2011)

In 2011 The Times Higher Education supplement published a list of the Top 100 Chemists in the World, based on the citation impact of their work over the previous decade. Seddon was independently assessed by Thomson Reuters as the #1 chemist in the UK (of four), See: <http://www.sciencewatch.com/dr/sci/misc/Top100Chemists2000-10/>.

(viii) TOP CITED PAPER IN THE WHOLE FIELD OF CHEMISTRY (2007)

The following *Nature* paper was independently assed by ISI as the most cited in the whole field of chemistry in the year 2007: Earle, M.J., Esperança, J.M.S.S., Gilea, M.A., Canongia Lopes, J.N., Rebelo, L.P.N., Magee, J.W., Seddon, K.R. and Widgren, J.A., "The distillation and volatility of ionic liquids", *Nature*, **439**, 831-834 (2006).

(ix) THE QUEEN'S ANNIVERSARY PRIZE FOR HIGHER AND FURTHER EDUCATION (2006)

In 2006, the QUILL Research Centre received this high-status award for a submission entitled "*Ionic Liquids: A Green Solution for Pollution*". This award is the UK's most prestigious form of national recognition open to a UK academic or vocational institution. The honour is distinctive in recognising the institution rather than an individual or team.

(x) THE US EPA PRESIDENTIAL GREEN CHEMISTRY CHALLENGE AWARD (2005)

In 2005, Seddon received this award for a submission entitled "*A Platform Strategy using Ionic Liquids to Dissolve and Process Cellulose for Advanced New Materials*", which is sponsored by the US EPA in partnership with the ACS Green Chemistry Institute.

(xi) ROYAL SOCIETY OF CHEMISTRY'S 'TEAMWORK IN INNOVATION' AWARD (2005)

In 2005, QUILL and Merck received this joint award for their ionic liquid-based team work. This award is in recognition of collaborative teamwork to achieve an innovative solution or process and is open to teams of any size working in industry, academia, or collaboratively between the two.

**(vi) EPSRC/ROYAL ACADEMY OF ENGINEERING CLEAN TECHNOLOGY FELLOWSHIP
(1995-2000)**

This prestigious fellowship released Seddon from teaching and administrative duties, allowing him to focus solely on research.

(vii) THE QUILL CENTRE FOUNDATION (1999)

In 1999, Prof. K.R. Seddon founded and co-directed the Queen's University Ionic Liquid Laboratories (QUILL) Research Centre to capitalise on the potential of ILs. QUILL is an Industry University Co-operative Research Centre (IUCRC), and is the leading IUCRC outside the USA and the only one worldwide focussing solely on ionic liquids.