



THE INTELLECTUAL PROPERTY LAW ASSOCIATION OF CHICAGO

Proudly Presents

2010 Creative Achievement Award

RICHARD J. ERNST

IPLAC recognizes Richard J. Ernst for inventions and related patents covering construction fastening systems. Mr. Ernst is the sole inventor or joint inventor on more than 55 U.S. patents covering inventions for such systems sold under trademarks including Tapcon®, E-Z Ancor®, TrakFast® and Epcon® adhesive systems. These fastening systems, respectively, include masonry anchors, drywall anchors, collated fasteners to attach tracks to walls and adhesive fastening systems to attach metal rebar to concrete bases or dowels to hollow walls, for example. Mr. Ernst has been employed by Illinois Tool Works for the past 35 years, and has received multiple awards from his employer for the numerous patents and commercial success of his inventions. He has also been named to the National Inventors Hall of Fame as a “Distinguished Corporate Inventor.”

