

## Robert M. PURGERT

### *Energy Industries of Ohio*

Robert Michael PURGERT, President of Energy Industries of Ohio, is a native Ohioan who began his career at Wright Patterson Air Force Base overseeing contracts for the Air Force Materials Laboratory. He subsequently joined NASA-Glenn Research Center as Chief of the Procurement Operations Branch, later returning to the private sector where he worked at area defense contractors. These included Cleveland Pneumatic Landing Gear, Physics International making anti-armor weapons and Thompson Casting Company. As Vice President at Thompson Casting he was responsible for developing a new advanced squeeze casting process for Metal Matrix Composites (MMC's) along with Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The process called "Metal Compression Forming" was named one of R&D Magazines "Top 100" new technologies. He is a recipient of Ohio's Emerging Technology Award. He holds a patent for lightweight metallic foams and has published a number of technical articles. Mr. Purgert's other experiences include testifying before the U.S. Congress. He was a driving force for creating The Energy Industries of Ohio to aid Ohio's basic energy intensive industries such as steel making, metal casting, aluminum and glass production along with the baseload power generation sector. His organization continues to work with these industries for efficiencies and also the power generation sector by overseeing major programs of international importance for advanced fossil fuel technologies and next generation nuclear systems.

He has co-authored publications in materials engineering, especially new technologies (squeeze casting, squeeze infiltration) and innovative materials (FASAND molding sand, ALFA composites, ALFA syntactic foams) and high-temperature alloys (e.g., "Nickel Superalloys. Recent Developments in Liquid Metal Engineering", 2022).

In 2022, he was awarded The Medal for the Advancement of Research, presented by ASM International.