



AMERICAN CHEMICAL SOCIETY NATIONAL AWARDS SUPPORT FORM

Deadline: November 1

Directions: Any individual, except a member of the award selection committee for that award, may nominate or support *only* one nominee for each award during any given award year. Please save this Microsoft Word document to your hard drive before completing. Complete all fields.

Submittal process: Method of submittal is by email attachment of each of the following: nomination and optional support forms, publications and patent list, and biographical sketch or curriculum vitae, in separate files to awards@acs.org.

Date: October 26, 2007

ACS Award Name: ACS National Award for Industrial Innovation

NOMINEE INFORMATION

First Name: Charles

Last Name: Thomas

SUPPORTER INFORMATION

First Name: Alan

Middle Initial: J.

Last Name: Brown

Company or Institutional Affiliation: The University of Maryland

Present Position (Exact Title): Professor

Address: University Station MJ300

City: College Park

State: MD

Zip: 20770

Country: US

Telephone: 301-471-3761

Home Telephone:

Fax:

Email: ajbrown@umd.ep.edu

RECOMMENDATION

In the space below, paste or type a narrative summary of 500 words or less containing factual information not given on the nomination form in support of the nominee. Describe how you know the nominee and the basis for your support of this nomination. A separate attachment or letter may be substituted.

To whom it may concern,

It is with sincere pleasure for to write this letter of support for the nomination of Dr. Charles W. Thomas of Westport Technology. Dr. Thomas is the kind of industrial scientist and technologist who comes along only once in a generation. More than any other single person, he led the breakthrough research effort at Westport that led to the first major advance in food technology in 15 years. The result of these efforts is a landmark achievement in industrial chemistry that has forever changed the face of modern polymerization science, and has led to a number of multi-million dollar processes which produce stable, longer-chain, heat-stable polymeric food materials than ever believed possible. Moreover, due to Thomas' work, the intimate mechanistic details of catalyst function understood at a level never before thought possible for a fatty-acid polymerization catalyst. I know Dr. Thomas through numerous scientific collaborations, reading his papers and patents, and hearing his invited lectures. He is one of the few who can intellectually span fields as diverse as organo-transition metal chemistry and the food processing business. In addition to these indications of remarkable intellect, I should also emphasize Thomas' leadership abilities, which are absolutely essential to a team-driven technology success. I have seen how he interacts with his research group, mentors young scientists, and am impressed. He commands the utmost respect of his colleagues and brings out the very best in people.

In short, Charles Thomas is a uniquely talented scientist and technologist. I urge you to acknowledge his seminal accomplishments to the field of industrial food chemistry.

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