# CITATION OF PROFESSOR ALFRED AKPORETA SUSU FOR THE AWARD OF THE NIGERIAN NATIONAL ORDER OF MERIT FOR YEAR 2003

Professor Alfred Akporeta Susu was born on 28th October, 1940 in Lagos. He had his early education in Lagos and then proceeded to the United States of America where he undertook his undergraduate and postgraduate studies. He was awarded the Bachelors degree in chemical engineering in 1966, the masters' degree in 1967 and the doctorate degree in 1971. After his Ph.D he worked *for* a number of years with the United States of America before returning home to the University of Lagos as a lecturer. He rose through the ranks to become a Professor in 1982. Professor Susu is married with children.

Professor Susu has carried out research in the areas of processes in refineries, developed new products and technologies and has been very active in professional practice.

In the area of processes in refineries, he has developed an innovative reforming process for refinery platinum containing catalyst which has been applied in local and foreign refineries. This work has generated a lot of interest in the international community and has earned him, a number of awards.

In the area of new products and technologies Professor Susu has developed an indigenous technology for the deodorization of kerosene. In this process, the deodorized kerosene is used for many applications in industry. His development has been commercialized and is saving the country a lot of foreign exchange as it has reduced the need for importation of substitute chemicals, which was the trend in the past.

In this area, Professor Susu has also developed a technology far the pyrolysis of waxy crudes and the pyrolytic degradation of napthalines in the refineries. Professor Susu's interest in the oil industry has not stopped at refineries.

He has been involved in environmental problems caused by the oil industry. In this wise he has proposed methods of stopping kerosene explosions. Perhaps more importantly, Professor Susu has developed a new leak detection system in oil pipelines. This

system will enable the oil companies to detect oil leakages very early and reduce the environmental damage caused by this leakage.

Professor Susu has made significant contributions to professional practice in Nigeria. He has been very active in the professional bodies of Engineers in this country. He has put into practice his research findings. He has designed and constructed plants based on his research findings using locally available materials. This is a very significant contribution as has encouraged local technology development, skill acquisition and has saved the nation costs of importation of plants and finished products. In this area Professor Susu has advanced knowledge by his publications in international and local journals and conferences. He has to his credit 98 journal and conference publications.

He has supervised 27 master's thesis and 12 doctoral thesis. He has written a good number of books in chemical engineering, which have become the standard textbooks in many of the nation's universities. Professor Susu has also undertaken a number of problems solving researches and consultancy projects for Nigerian industries and public institutions.

In spite of the poor facilities available to him, Professor Susu has made very significant contributions to the development of the nation by way of his research, which is innovative and emphasizes the use of local materials and the development of the indigenous technologies. He is therefore presented for award of Nigerian National Order of Merit in recognition of these achievements.