
A tribute to Tony F.W. Embleton

Tony F.W. Embleton, FRSC, passed away on 13 November 2020. He was a leader in acoustics in Canada and internationally. Tony was a founding member of the Canadian Acoustical Association and the first Editor-in-Chief of its journal.

Tony was born in Hornchurch, Essex, England, 1 October 1929. He earned a PhD in physics in 1952 from Imperial College London, under R.W.B. Stephens. A one-year post-doctoral fellowship at the National Research Council in Ottawa turned into a four-decade career there.

Tony has been a guiding light for acoustics in Canada. In the early 1960's, he was a key participant in discussions to form a national acoustics organization in Canada. He was elected as the first Secretary of the Canadian Acoustical Association (then known as the Canadian Committee on Acoustics). A few years later when it was decided that a regular newsletter was essential, Tony became the first Editor-in-Chief of Acoustics and Noise Control in Canada / L'acoustique et la lutte antibruit au Canada which later became Canadian Acoustics / Acoustique canadienne. A major event for the CAA was hosting the 1986 International Congress on Acoustics – Tony Embleton was the Technical Program Chair for this meeting. He also served on the CAA Board of Directors.

His research addressed many significant and practical concerns in Canada. His earlier work focussed on the noise generated by suction rolls in the paper industry. The intense siren-like noise generated by the large suction rolls had become a matter of major national concern. This was followed by work on noise reduction in centrifugal blowers and axial-flow compressors, quietening jet engines, precision reciprocity calibration of microphones, and the outdoor propagation of community noise. His work showed how theoretical and experimental research could go hand-in-hand to solve practical problems. Early in his career (1964), his scientific skills were recognized with the ASA's R. Bruce Lindsay award.

Tony also participated in many other organizations, Canadian and international. He chaired the Acoustics and Noise Control Committee of the Canadian Standards Association. Tony served in many capacities for the Institute of Noise Control Engineers (INCE) and for the International-INCE. With the Acoustical Society of America (ASA),



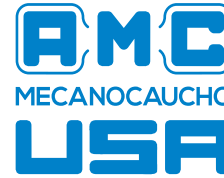
he has chaired their Technical Committee on Noise, served on numerous committees, led the society as its President, and been their Standards Director. In 1986 he was awarded their Silver Medal in Noise and, in 2002, he received their Gold Medal. He was Technical Chair for ASA meetings in 1968 (Ottawa), 1978 (Honolulu), 1988 (Honolulu), and 1996 (Honolulu) and General Chair for the 1981 ASA meeting.

His research was significant and of the highest quality; his service to societies was diligent, efficient, and cooperative. He was always willing to help, whether you were a society president or a student new to acoustics. At meetings, he was often surrounded by people, young and old, wanting to access his vast store of knowledge. Tony was predeceased by his wife Eileen in 2016 and is survived by his daughter Sheila and granddaughter Anne.

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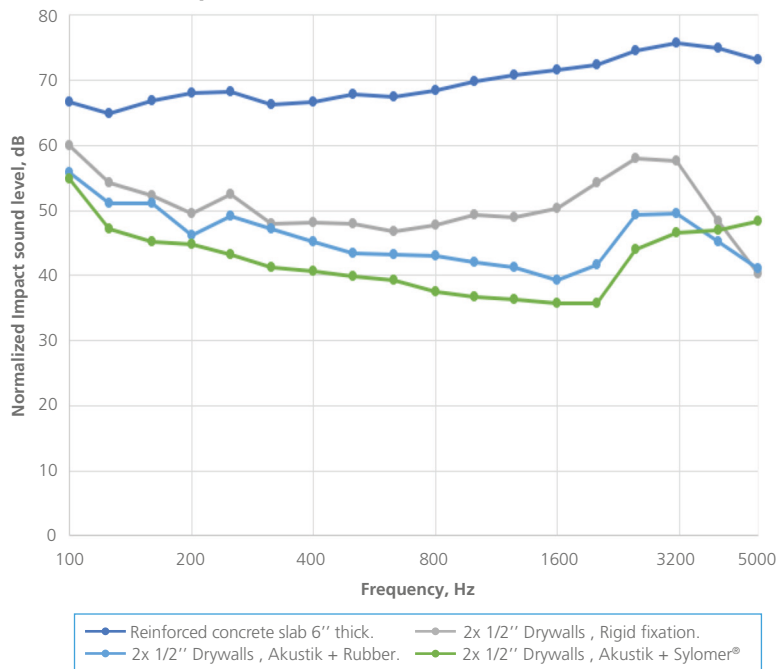


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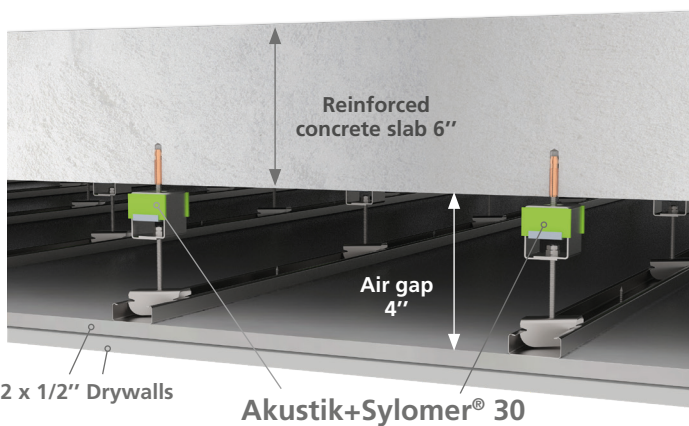


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