

Short Bio: Prof. Lars Larsson

Prof. Lars Larsson received his MSc degree in Naval Architecture at Chalmers University of Technology in 1969 and his PhD degree in Fluid Mechanics at the same University in 1975. He became adjunct Professor at Chalmers in 1982 and full Professor in 1994. Apart from his academic carrier he worked as a consultant at SSPA Sweden AB in 1971-89, when he founded the CFD software company FLOWTECH International AB. He was its managing Director until 1999, when he became chairman of the board. In 2010 he formally retired from Chalmers, but continued his research work as Professor Emeritus.

Since the start, almost 50 years ago, the focus has been on numerical hydrodynamics. In the 1970s it was 3D boundary layer methods, in the 1980s mainly potential flow methods and since the 1990s Reynolds-Averaged Navier-Stokes methods. The research has led to the commercial software SHIPFLOW developed and marketed by FLOWTECH. Lars has had a keen interest in state-of-the-art assessments of CFD, and in 1980 he initiated the series of Workshops on CFD in Hydrodynamics held generally every five years, and so far alternating between Gothenburg and Tokyo (next one in Wageningen). Most of these workshops have been chaired by Lars.

A sailor since birth Lars has worked on sailing research as a side track until recently, when it became his main interest. He is the author (with Rolf Eliasson and Michal Orych) of the book “Principles of Yacht Design”, which is presently available in six languages. Lars has also participated as a hydrodynamicist in five America’s Cup campaigns.