

PREFACE

In 1954 I had the opportunity to participate as a young delegate in the International Conference on Ship Hydrodynamics, which was held here in Göteborg. At that conference the name International Towing Tank Conference, ITTC, was formally adopted for the organization.

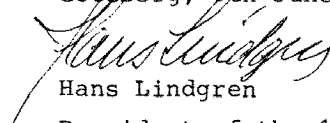
It is now my privilege and pleasure to welcome the 17th International Towing Tank Conference back to Göteborg. It is an honour for us once more to have the opportunity to host this capable group of well-known scientists from all parts of the world. It is my hope and conviction that your stay in Göteborg will be filled with interesting work and stimulating discussions.

The present situation as regards shipbuilding and shipowner activities is complicated, and from many points of view unsatisfactory, as you are all fully aware. It is therefore encouraging to note that ITTC is still such a vigorous organization, well capable of adapting itself to the demands of the market it serves. As an example, today the traditional model basin has also become a computer centre. The task of developing and verifying mathematical models and different new hypotheses has become of significant importance.

If the activities within ITTC today are compared with the situation 30 years ago, it is notable that in principle the work still follows the same main lines. The primary difference is that we have entered new areas, such as ocean engineering, testing in ice and work with high-speed vessels. Furthermore, all the traditional items, as resistance, propellers, seakeeping and manoeuvring have developed in a way that was impossible to predict in 1954. Primarily the introduction of modern measuring techniques and the rapid development of computers have significantly influenced the work within ITTC. It will be interesting to follow the future developments. Will ITTC still exist 30 years from now, and if so what will be its rôle?

Apart from the technical side of ITTC, I am convinced that ITTC has an important mission in furthering international co-operation and friendship between scientists from different countries and parts of the world.

Göteborg, 8th June 1984



Hans Lindgren

President of the 17th ITTC