

DAVID PAUL BOULTON (S51-57)

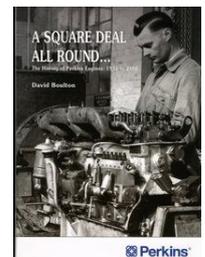
He was born on 25 February 1940 and after leaving the College joined Perkins in Peterborough as a student apprentice in 1957. He gained an ONC in Mechanical Engineering in 1959, followed by Higher National Diploma in 1962. He became a Member of the Institution of Mechanical Engineers in 1967 and is a Chartered Engineer.



His early years with the company were spent in the Engineering Department as a development engineer, followed by a spell as a quality engineer before secondment to the North American subsidiary. On his return to England he was appointed Development Supervisor for the new V8 range of diesels. An opportunity to move to Mexico as Chief Engineer for the licensee company in 1972 expanded his experience and was followed by spells working with Massey-Ferguson and then a new joint venture in Poland before taking a further post as Chief Engineer for the Brazilian subsidiary in 1976. After five years he returned to England, where he occupied a series of managerial posts in Engineering and Quality Divisions until his retirement in 2000.

During his later years he was closely involved with the Perkins Long Service Club and was one of the founders of Perkins's Heritage Group after his retirement, an ongoing interest which has seen the establishment of a small museum and an archive of documents and products.

On retiring he volunteered to write a book on the history of Perkins. The book details thoroughly the company's chronological history including engineering, finance and structure. Because the engines have had a wide range of uses, the story covers agricultural, automotive, marine and industrial applications. In a useful appendix he gives specifications for the various engine models. His account runs from the visionary founding in 1932, through the Massey Ferguson years to the recent period as a part of the Caterpillar group.



'A Square Deal All Round' was published by Landmark Publishing for Perkins Engines Group Limited in 2007 and is catalogued as ISBN: 978-1-84306-349-0

The picture below shows the interior of one part of the Perkins Heritage Centre and includes in the background the one remaining prototype 'T12' engine, built in the 1940s for use in Royal Navy MGBs/MTBs. (Never reached production but is a remarkable engine for its time - over 1000 BHP from a small package!)

