"KELLY" JOHNSON AWARD – Ronald A. Magnuson

The second annual award for outstanding achievement in Flight Test Engineering is presented to Mr. Ronald A. Magnuson, an active member and officer of the North Texas Chapter and employed at the Bell Helicopter Company as a Flight Test Engineer.

The distinguished Clarence “Kelly" Johnson of Lockheed Aircraft was the recipient of the Society's first annual award at the 1973 Symposium for excellence and outstanding achievement in the field of Flight Test Engineering. This award will be presented each year and will bear the name "Kelly Johnson Award" to honor his extraordinary contributions to the aircraft industry.

The 1974 Symposium Banquet was the forum for the award to Ronald A. Magnuson. Ron joined Bell Helicopter Company in 1969 following graduation at the University of Minnesota with a Bachelor of Science and Master of Science in Aeronautical Engineering. The North Texas Chapter unanimously recognized Ron's achievements on the King Cobra Helicopter test programs. He served in the triple role as Test Director, Flight Test Engineer with its many responsibilities, and liaison between the Military Potential Evaluation Team and Bell personnel. He contributed significantly to the engineering and test development of the "nodal beam" concept for vibration isolation which is being employed on the Bell Mode 214A Medium Utility Helicopter as production hardware for the first such application. His personal drive, devotion, and demonstrated flight test engineering excellence at Bell are a credit to the flight test engineering profession. Ronald A. Magnuson is worthy of the second annual "Kelly" Johnson Award presented at the Fifth Annual Symposium of the Society of Flight Test Engineers.