

Biographical Sketch for Robert W. Powitz

Robert W. Powitz is a graduate of Stuyvesant High School in New York City. He received his undergraduate education in agronomy and plant pathology from the State University of New York and the University of Georgia. He holds a Masters in Public Health with a specialty in institutional environmental health and Doctor of Philosophy degree in environmental health, with a specialty in environmental microbiology and epidemiology from the University of Minnesota. Dr. Powitz also holds a Certificate from the North American School of Conservation.

Dr. Powitz began his professional career in environmental health as a state Sanitarian and municipal Health Officer in New Jersey. He is currently Principal and Technical Director of R.W.Powitz & Associates, PC, a professional corporation specializing in environmental and public health, contamination control and safety advisory services to industry, law firms, insurance companies and governmental agencies.

For over twelve years, he was the Director of Environmental Health and Safety and Biological Safety Officer at Wayne State University in Detroit, Michigan; where he also held the title of Adjunct Associate Professor in the College of Engineering. Dr. Powitz served as Director of Biological Safety and Environment for the United States Department of Agriculture at the Plum Island Animal Disease Center, a high-containment laboratory and diagnostic facility. He is currently serves as part-time Health Director for the Towns of Franklin, Lebanon and Salem in the State of Connecticut.

Dr. Powitz was co-author of "Tools for Environmental Health", a regular column on portable instrumentation that appeared in the Journal of Environmental Health. He is on the editorial board of Food Safety Magazine and authored a column featuring regulatory issues for retail food establishments. He also authored columns in American Jails Magazine and Corrections ManagersqReport, and is currently a regular contributor to Executive Housekeeping Today. In addition to his writing, he presents tutorials and workshops on contamination control and toxin-free cleaning initiatives; environmental health, safety and professional development for public health, correctional, housekeeping and food production professionals.

Dr. Powitz serves on the NSF International, Council of Public Health Consultants and is chairman of several NSF/ANSI standards development joint committees. He also serves on the Underwriter Laboratories, Consumer Advisory Council.

Dr Powitz is licensed as a Sanitarian in several states as well as being registered as a Sanitarian by the National Environmental Health Association; where he is also credentialed as a Certified Professional - Food Safety.

Among his honors, Dr. Powitz is the recipient of the NSF/NEHA Walter F. Snyder Award for achievement in environmental health; the American Academy of SanitariansqDavis Calvin Wagner Award for excellence as a Sanitarian and advancing public health practice, and the Harry R. H. Nicholas Award from the New Jersey Environmental Health Association. He is the first to hold the title of Diplomat Laureate in the American Academy of Sanitarians. Dr. Powitz is a Diplomat with the American Board of Forensic Engineering and Technology and is a member of Phi Theta Kappa.