



Jean-Christophe BALOUET, Ph. D. 64 of Orrouy, near Paris, was an environmental forensics expert and valued member of our community who sadly passed away in the early morning of 31st March 2021.

Chris started as a palaeontologist who researched the extinct birds of New Caledonia in the south-west Pacific region and became an environmental expert specialized in environmental forensics investigations of pollutants in air, soil and water.

It is understood that Chris worked with Jacques Cousteau on *Calypso* and later was founder and manager of the Clinic for Oiled Sea Birds from 1978 super tanker wreck *Amoco Cadiz*.

Chris attended University Paris at La Sorbonne University (Jussieu) he obtained a Degree of Advanced Studies in 1982; and a Doctorate in 1984. Chris was a Post Doctorate Scientist at the Smithsonian Institution in 1986, and a Research Scientist in the National Museum of Natural History, Paris.

From 1989-1994 Chris was a Consultant and worked for the United Nations Environment Program (UNEP) Industry Technology and Economics Office, in charge of technology, scientific and regulatory survey worldwide. He was editor of the *OzonAction*, an international newsletter where he collaborated with over 1000 private and public Parties.

From 1993 to 2021 Chris was Manager, Environment International. The company specialized in environmental forensics, consultancy and expertise, science and technology, regulations and standards, surveys, analysis, compliance, anticipation and management issues in various industries. The company consisted of 14 specialists located in various countries of the world including United States and Europe. Environment International Ltd dealt with pollution events, environmental impact, occupational and public exposures to the environment. Expert witness in international legal cases and governmental enquiries (USA, Europe, Australia).

Perhaps Chris's most notable global achievement was leading USAAF Dr Harry Hoffman and Australian toxicologist Professor Christopher Winder with detailed research in the 1990's before publishing the term *Aerotoxic Syndrome* in 1999 to describe the acute and chronic human ill health caused by exposure to toxic oil fumes in most commercial jets. Chris not only raised awareness of this issue but was also instrumental in the decision to change the architecture of the Boeing 787 Dreamliner, which is unique as it does not use unfiltered, unmonitored 'bleed air' for ventilation.

Chris was an excellent multidisciplinary scientist and was also an internationally recognised expert in dendroforensics. He played a key role in establishing the acceptance of dendrochemical evidence in the courtroom. His work involved chemical fingerprinting techniques in trees to characterize and age-date pollutants releases.

Chris's authored 96 peer reviewed publications and his works have been translated into many languages with him contributing to over 300 articles, 150 radio and 70 TV programs in 12 countries. He has Participated in over 90 International Meetings, delivered more than 50 presentations at international conferences, contributed to four international standards committees as chair and to three committees as a member.

In recent years, Chris was the chairman of the scientific committee on Cabin Air Quality at EASA (2017-18). He was listed in France as judicial expert by Amiens' Appeal Court and Secretary General of the Compagnie Nationale des Experts Judiciaires en Environnement and Expert witness in international legal cases and governmental enquiries (USA, Europe, Australia).

Chris will be fondly remembered by those who worked with him and were able to experience his passion for delivering honest, unbiased, factual research to help us understand the truth. Those of us devoted to improving the air we breathe will lament the early death of such a knowledgeable investigator and great friend.