

R.M. Sievert 1898-1966

Rolf Sievert developed the Sievert chamber for measuring radiation dose and the Sievert integral for the calculation of exposure at a point P . He was one of the first members of both the International Commission for Radiological Protection (ICRP) and the International Commission for Radiation Units and Measurements (ICRU). As a pioneer in radiation protection, he was responsible for instigating Sweden's first radiation protection law passed in 1941 and developing the plans for the Swedish Radiation Protection Institute, the SSI. Rolf Sievert devoted much of his life to radiation protection issues and was elected Chairman of the ICRP from 1956 to 1962. In his honour, the General Conference of Weights and Measures (CGPM) in Resolution 5 of 1979 adopted the sievert, Sv, as the special name for the SI derived unit for the radiation protection quantity, dose equivalent. This had been proposed by the ICRP and the ICRU and accepted by the international Consultative Committee for Units (CCU) as Recommendation U 1 (1978). For a biography see <http://www.ki.se/onkpat/radfys/Sievert.html>