



PRESS RELEASE

Professor Michaeli awarded the Otto von Guericke Medal "Building bridges between industry and academia"

November 2011

The German Federation of Industrial Research Associations (Arbeitsgemeinschaft industrieller Forschungsvereinigungen "Otto von Guericke" e.V. – AiF) has presented Walter Michaeli with the Otto von Guericke Medal. The head of IKV received this prestigious award at the general assembly of the Federation's Scientific Council in Berlin on November 9, 2010.

The medal is held in high esteem in the field of collaborative industrial research. Since it was first awarded in 1967, there have been only 30 recipients. The last was the long-time former AiF President Johann Wilhelm Arntz in 2008.

The AiF acknowledged Michaeli's achievements in furthering collaborative industrial research as follows:

"We like to present a very special token of recognition to people who give such outstanding support to the AiF in the form of the Otto von Guericke Medal [...]. Michaeli's commitment on an honorary basis is quite exceptional. He has been involved for many years in shaping a creative environment for technological innovation in various AiF committees and has also served as a valuable expert consultant in collaborative industrial research. He is one of the key players in the AiF's innovation networks, and has been highly successful in building bridges between industry and science."

The medal bears the Latin inscription "Mens agitate molem", which can be translated as "The mind moves the matter". This motto reflects both Michaeli's and IKV's ideal of providing high-quality teaching and learning, practice-based training, and relevant research in the service of the common good.

The staff at IKV would also like to congratulate Prof. Michaeli on this special award.

*AiF press release from 9 November 2010

About the AiF

Since its foundation in 1954, the AiF – German Federation of Industrial Research Associations "Otto von Guericke" e.V. – has been promoting research and development for the benefit of small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). It lays the foundations for industrial collective research and looks after other governmental R&D support measures. To this end, the AiF has created a network covering 101 industrial research associations and provides practice-driven innovation consultancy. In 2009, around EUR 410 million of public funds were channelled via the AiF into more than 8,000 research projects. (Source: www.aif.de)



About the IKV

The IKV Institute of Plastics Processing at RWTH Aachen University is one of the biggest institutes engaged in this field of research. The Institute has more than 300 employees working on the problems encountered during the processing of the many different types of plastics that are now available. The IKV's excellent contacts with industry, together with its outstanding facilities, ensure that students benefit from a comprehensive, practically-oriented course of study. Plastics engineering graduates from the IKV are thus sought-after experts in industry. Around 50 percent of German plastics engineers with a university degree have received their education at the IKV. In organisational terms, the IKV is divided up into the four specialist departments of Injection Moulding and PU Technology, Extrusion and Further Processing, Part Design and Materials Technology, and Composites. The Institute also takes in the Centre for Analysis and Testing of Plastics, and the Training and Further Education department. It is run by an Association of Sponsors, which currently has a membership of about 250 plastics companies from all over the world. The members of the Association of Sponsors exploit their cooperation with the Institute to ensure that they benefit from new developments at a particularly early stage. Professor Dr.-Ing. Dr.-Ing. E.h. Walter Michaeli is Head of the Institute and Managing Director of the Association of Sponsors. He also holds the Chair of Plastics Processing at the Faculty of Mechanical Engineering at RWTH Aachen University.

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AiF Vice President Dr. Jürgen Stebani presented the Otto von Guericke Medal to Prof. Walter Michaeli (photo: AiF)