

NEWS RELEASE

INTRA receives the Georg-Menges prize 2018 Presentation of the award at the 29th IKV Colloquium

Aachen, 28 February 2018 – During the opening of the 29th IKV Colloquium, the Association of Plastics and Rubber Machinery Manufacturers in the VDMA (German Engineering Federation), along with PlasticsEurope Deutschland and the Association of Sponsors of the Institute of Plastics Processing (IKV) in Industry and the Skilled Crafts at RWTH Aachen University, awarded the Georg-Menges prize for the eleventh time. More than 800 plastics experts from throughout the world attended IKV's 29th International Colloquium Plastics Technology.

The Georg-Menges prize 2018 was won by INTRA – the Interest Group of Innovative Enterprises for Plastics Engineering in the Aachen Region. The prize, which consists of a replica of a hand-made monocular Leitz microscope from 1899 built in Wetzlar, has been awarded since 1999 by IKV, VDMA and PlasticsEurope. This year is the first time an institution and not a person has received the award.

The Georg-Menges prize is awarded for outstanding application-related achievements in research and engineering in the field of plastics processing over the last decade. It aims to encourage dialogue and cooperation between industry and research, and to create a communicative and cooperative climate between them. Against this background, the jury decided to award this year's Georg-Menges prize to INTRA.

The Interest Group of Innovative Enterprises for Plastics Engineering in the Aachen Region (INTRA) is an association of companies founded predominantly as spin-offs from IKV. INTRA was established in 1999 to make the expertise in plastics that exists in the region of Aachen better known. Since it was founded, INTRA's aim has been to support the courageous sense of entrepreneurship that is always behind a spin-off. INTRA pools the high concentration of know-how and creates synergies as a result. This strengthens not only the region but also each individual company. The INTRA companies operate in the following fields: consulting, design, measuring technology, software, PR services, research and development, materials technology, production and quality assurance. The Georg-Menges prize 2018 especially honours this start-up culture and the support of young companies by INTRA.

The laudatory speech was given by the Rector of RWTH Aachen University, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Ernst Schmachtenberg. On behalf of INTRA, Dr.-Ing. Erwin Baur, Managing Director of M-Base Engineering+Software GmbH and a member of the Board of INTRA, accepted the prize.

In his laudatory speech, Professor Schmachtenberg emphasised that, through investment in research and teaching, financial value is again generated if companies are founded on the basis of this research. He is convinced that „innovation is only innovation if you can earn money with it.“

On behalf of all the member companies, Dr.-Ing. Erwin Baur thanked the jury, the Association of Sponsors and Professor Schmachtenberg for the award. He said he was also personally delighted that INTRA had been given so much publicity through the award of the

Georg-Menges prize. After all, it was from Professor Menges that he had „learned everything about plastics.“ He added: „The idea of founding a company from IKV is the most effective form of technology transfer.“

www.ikv-aachen.de
www.intra-aachen.de

The prize-winner

The Interest Group of Innovative Enterprises for Plastics Engineering in the Aachen Region e.V. (INTRA) has been in existence since 1999. The aim of the association is to create synergies and bundle the knowledge and skills of the numerous highly specialised companies of the plastics industry based in the region of Aachen. There are currently 20 members of differing orientation, with companies involved in e.g. the following fields: consulting, design, measuring technology, software, PR services, research and development, materials technology, production and quality assurance. A large number of the companies were founded as spin-offs by former members of the Institute of Plastics Processing (IKV).

The Georg-Menges prize

The Georg-Menges prize honours achievements in the long-term cooperation between science and industry in the field of plastics processing. The award is presented to admirable personalities or groups who have rendered outstanding service in the practical application in industry and science of knowledge gained from research and development, and encouraging dialogue and cooperation between industry and research institutions.

About IKV

IKV, the Institute of Plastics Processing at RWTH Aachen University, is Europe-wide the leading research and education institute engaged in the field of plastics processing enjoying outstanding reputation. More than 300 staff are employed in finding solutions to problems connected with processing, materials technology and part design in the plastics and rubber industries. IKV's close contacts with industry and science, together with its outstanding facilities, enable cutting-edge research in plastics technology and ensure that students benefit from a comprehensive, practically oriented course of study. Plastics engineering graduates from IKV are thus sought-after experts in industry. In organisational terms, IKV is divided up into the four specialist departments of Injection Moulding, Extrusion and Rubber Technology, Part Design and Materials Technology, and Composites and Polyurethane Technology. The institute also takes in the Centre for Analysis and Testing of Plastics, and the Training and Further Education department. IKV is run by an Association of Sponsors, which currently has a membership of about 290 plastics companies from all over the world. Univ.-Prof. Dr.-Ing. Christian Hopmann 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.



Photo (from left to right): Dr.-Ing. Herbert Müller, CEO of Surteco SE and of IKV's Association of Sponsors, Institute Director Prof. Dr.-Ing. Christian Hopmann, Dr.-Ing. Erwin Baur, chairman of INTRA and laudatory speaker Prof. Dr.-Ing. Ernst Schmachtenberg, Principal of RWTH Aachen University (photo: Fröls/IKV)

The photo in high resolution can be found on our website
www.ikv-aachen.de/en/news

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