

PRESS RELEASE

Fakuma 2017 – Plastic optical components from Aachen

IKV, ILT and IPT will present optical research projects on the joint NRW stand

Aachen, July 2017 – At this year's Fakuma, the Institute of Plastics Processing (IKV) in Industry and the Skilled Crafts at RWTH Aachen University, together with the Fraunhofer Institutes for Production Technology (IPT) and for Laser Technology (ILT), will show the latest developments in the injection moulding of optical components. On the joint stand of "kunststoffland NRW", the three partner institutes will present "Plastic optical components from Aachen" in Friedrichshafen, Germany, from October 17 - 21, 2017.

Research and development in the field of optical components enjoys a long tradition at RWTH Aachen University. Fairly recently, plastics have proved to be the materials of the future for optical devices such as lenses with a wide variety of different technological applications under economical production conditions. Many fields of application have arisen in the automotive industry, such as primary optics and diffuser lenses, but also in mobile phone cameras, displays and lifestyle products.

IKV together with the IPT and ILT Fraunhofer Institutes will present the latest developments in this field, starting with the design of the optical systems, through the construction of the tools and mould inserts, to optics replication.

The main topics will be injection-moulded and compression injection-moulded optics, continuously manufactured optical film, and innovative optical materials and applications.

At the heart of the exhibition, however, will be the production of micro-structured lenses of liquid silicone rubber (LSR). Because of its temperature and UV stability, this innovative material is particularly interesting for LEDs. The particular flexibility and elasticity of LSR also open up innovative design concepts.

The close cooperation between the three Aachen research institutes offers comprehensive expertise at all stages of the production chain. After Fakuma, the institutes will present this expertise on April 10 - 11, 2018 at the Aachen Polymer Optics Days. This will be the third such conference in Aachen.

At Fakuma 2017, you will find IKV and its partner institutes, Fraunhofer IPT and ILT, on the joint stand of "kunststoffland NRW e.V." in Hall B4, Stand 4404. Here, you will be able to see a live demonstration of the injection process for the production of micro-structured LSR lenses.

www.ikv-aachen.de

www.ilt.fraunhofer.de

www.ipt.fraunhofer.de

www.aachen.polymeroptics.de



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.

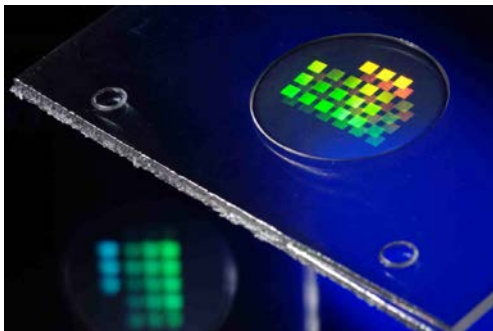
Photo in high resolution to find on our website together with the press release at www.ikv-aachen.de/en/news

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Injection-moulded plastics optical components with microstructures (Photo: Fraunhofer ILT)

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