



Rudolf Diesel Medal 2019:

WITTENSTEIN wins with the “Most Sustainable Innovation”

WITTENSTEIN SE has just been honored with the Rudolf Diesel Medal 2019, Germany’s oldest innovation award, for the “Most Sustainable Innovation”. Dr. Manfred Wittenstein, Chairman of the WITTENSTEIN SE Supervisory Board, was presented with the award last Friday afternoon in Munich for Galaxie®, the radically new gearbox class.

The Rudolf Diesel Medal, Germany’s oldest prize for industrially successful and enterprising innovation achievements, has been awarded since 1953 in memory of innovator Rudolf Diesel. The medal, which is bestowed every year in four different categories by the nonprofit German Institute of Inventions (D.I.E e.V.), is designed to honor the people behind special innovative performances and give them a public face.

In winning the award, Dr. Manfred Wittenstein joined an elite group of inventors, innovators and patrons who have made an indelible mark in the German innovation landscape such as Carl Friedrich Benz, Ferdinand Zeppelin, Roland Faber-Castell, Claudius Dornier, Wernher von Braun, Gottlob Bauknecht, Arthur Fischer, Christof Bosch, Nobel Laureates Herrmann Staudinger and Ernst Ruska or, more recently, Hans Peter Stihl as well as SAP founders Dietmar Hopp and Hasso Plattner. Throughout his many years at the helm, Dr. Manfred Wittenstein – the present Chairman of the WITTENSTEIN SE Supervisory Board – was the architect of WITTENSTEIN’s evolution from a small, family-run company to a flagship for Germany as an industrial location.

More than 200 invited personalities from the German innovation scene attended the official ceremony in the Hall of Honor at the Deutsches Museum in Munich. In his laudation Professor Eckard Minx, Chairman of the Board of the Daimler and Benz Foundation, paid tribute to Dr. Manfred Wittenstein’s life’s work as an engineer, commenting that the name WITTENSTEIN stands for the exemplary rise of a small, family-owned firm of machine builders to become

April 15, 2019

WITTENSTEIN develops customized products, systems and solutions for highly dynamic motion, maximum-precise positioning and smart networking for mechatronic drive technology.



Dr. Manfred Wittenstein (right) is winner of the Rudolf Diesel Medal 2019.

WITTENSTEIN SE

Walter-Wittenstein-Straße 1
97999 Igersheim · Germany

Contact: Sabine Maier
Press Officer
Tel. +49 7931 493-10399
Fax +49 7931 493-10301
E-Mail: sabine.maier@wittenstein.de
www.wittenstein.de

world market leader for drive technologies. The jury's decision to award the Rudolf Diesel Medal 2019 to WITTENSTEIN SE and its Galaxie® Drive System as the "Most Sustainable Innovation" was founded on a number of factors: in short, Galaxie® is regarded as a new gearbox class, and hence a basic technology, which enables two key sectors of the German economy – engineering and automobiles – to make the next developmental advance in terms of precision, energy consumption and material use. As the WITTENSTEIN Group makes the transition from a drive manufacturer and mechatronics corporation to a "Leader in Cybertronics", it is at the forefront of efforts to shape digital transformation in a controllable way for companies and their employees.

For WITTENSTEIN as a family-run enterprise, the Rudolf Diesel Medal 2019 is further confirmation of Galaxie®'s status as an extraordinary innovation achievement. Since making its debut back in 2015, the new gearbox class has enjoyed the highest possible recognition, winning several prestigious awards: following on from the Hermes Award 2015 and the Innovation Award of the German Economy 2016, it was nominated last November for the Deutscher Zukunftspreis 2018.

Dr. Bertram Hoffmann, Chairman of the Board and CEO of WITTENSTEIN SE, also described this latest top award as strong motivation for all employees: "Unconditional excellence and a passion for innovation – that's our ambition as a leader for mechatronic drive technology. It's what we try to prove to our customers every day – and it's what we burn for!"

Pictures:

01 Dr. Manfred Wittenstein, Chairman of the WITTENSTEIN SE Supervisory Board, is presented with the Rudolf Diesel Medal 2019 for the "Most Sustainable Innovation". He is shown here on the right together with the winners in the other three categories: Klaus Eisert (Phoenix Contact GmbH & Co. KG, "Most Successful Innovation"), Martin Verg (GEOlino, Gruner + Jahr GmbH, "Best Media Communication"), Stefanie Herrmann and Thorsten Rudolph (AZO Anwendungszentrum GmbH Oberpfaffenhofen, "Best Innovation Support").

Photo: Daniel Hinz, A.P.I.

02 Galaxie® – A completely new gearbox concept: separate teeth instead of rigid gear wheels
Copyright DZP / Ansgar Pudenz

WITTENSTEIN SE

Walter-Wittenstein-Straße 1
97999 Igersheim · Germany

Contact: Sabine Maier
Press Officer
Tel. +49 7931 493-10399
Fax +49 7931 493-10301
E-Mail: sabine.maier@wittenstein.de
www.wittenstein.de

Texts and photographs in printable quality can be downloaded from presse.wittenstein.de.

The Rudolf Diesel Medal

The Rudolf Diesel Medal, Germany's oldest prize for industrially successful and enterprising innovation achievements, has been awarded since 1953 in memory of innovator Rudolf Diesel. The medal honors special achievements by natural persons or institutions in the field of inventions and the culture of innovation. The Rudolf Diesel Medal is bestowed every year by the nonprofit German Institute of Inventions (D.I.E. e.V.). The winners are selected by the Board of Trustees, representing Germany's industrial management elite with technological expertise. The Board is comprised of some 50 chief technology officers from global leaders among small and medium-sized high-tech companies that together employ half a million people.

WITTENSTEIN SE – one with the future

With around 2600 employees worldwide and sales of €433.5* million (*provisional figure) in 2018/19, WITTENSTEIN SE enjoys an impeccable reputation for innovation, precision and excellence in the field of mechatronic drive technology – not just in Germany but internationally. The group comprises six pacesetting Business Units with separate subsidiaries for servo gearboxes, servo actuator systems, medical technology, miniature servo units, innovative gearing technology, rotary and linear actuator systems, nanotechnology and electronic and software components for drive technologies. Through its 60 or so subsidiaries and agents in approximately 40 countries, WITTENSTEIN SE (www.wittenstein.de) is additionally represented in all the world's major technology and sales markets.

WITTENSTEIN SE

Walter-Wittenstein-Straße 1
97999 Igersheim · Germany

Contact: Sabine Maier
Press Officer
Tel. +49 7931 493-10399
Fax +49 7931 493-10301
E-Mail: sabine.maier@wittenstein.de
www.wittenstein.de