

Press release

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The purmundus challenge 2019 takes additive manufacturing to the next dimension

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‘Beyond 3D printing’ is the theme of this year’s purmundus challenge, the ideas competition for imaginative, aesthetic and trend-setting product ideas and innovative projects. Once again in 2019, the competition will serve as the international trend radar for creative developments in additive manufacturing. The winners and finalists of the purmundus challenge will be appearing in a special showcase at Formnext 2019 over all four days of the show.

This year, the international competition allows for the fact that additive manufacturing has reached a plateau of productivity and no longer defines innovations solely in terms of technical feasibility. Other important factors include increasing utility and efficiency through tailored solutions and an outstanding and appealing design.

In addition to trend-setting 3D printing products and projects, the purmundus challenge also recognizes innovations from the world of 4D printing. The 4th dimension is achieved through special material properties of additively manufactured products and components, which react with parameters within the environment (heat, humidity, light, magnetic fields etc.) and change form accordingly. This allows workpieces to be manufactured using AM processes, which change their shape after production. The components can also be given sensory properties. Potential areas of application include architecture among others.

The purmundus challenge is open to talented individuals, professionals, organizations, and companies of all sizes who believe their superior design quality, innovation and attention to detail will win over the international panel of high-profile judges, comprising: Christoph Behling (Christoph Behling Design Ltd.), Prof. Richard Bibb (Loughborough University), Isabelle Fröhlich (Volkswagen AG), Tilla Goldberg (Ippolito Fleitz Group GmbH), James Helliwell (McLaren Group), Dr. Alexander Hildebrandt (Festo AG & Co. KG), Frank Kleemann (Selbstständiger Industriedesigner), Andreas Pany (Ernst Strassacker GmbH & Co. KG), Prof. Dali Sun (Beijing Institute of Technology), Graham Tromans (G. P. Tromans Associates) and Rainer Zimmermann (zimmermann produktgestaltung).

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Corinna Ray, head of the purmundus challenge, explains; "Once again in 2019, designers in the 3D and 4D sector can take part in the purmundus challenge completely free of charge. The design competition offers newcomers and professionals alike a great opportunity to boost the confidence of potential customers and sponsors in their additive solution."

Various prizes with a total value of 12,000 euros will be awarded. In addition to the top three places, there is also an Innovation Prize, a Special Mention and an Audience Award up for grabs. The Award Ceremony will take place during the Formnext in Frankfurt am Main on Thursday, November 21, 2019.

With its cross-industry innovations, the special showcase of the purmundus challenge finalists at Formnext 2019 provides an exciting insight into creative innovations in the world of additive technologies. It will also offer interesting inspiration for Formnext 2019 visitors and exhibitors to develop and design their own product ideas and concepts.

The deadline for applications is September 30, 2019. For more information, visit www.formnext.de and www.purmundus-challenge.com

Background information on Formnext

Formnext is the leading trade fair for Additive Manufacturing and the next generation of intelligent manufacturing solutions. It focuses on the efficient realization of parts and products, from their design to serial production. Formnext shows the future of innovative manufacturing. Formnext is organized by Mesago Messe Frankfurt GmbH. (Formnext.com)

About Mesago Messe Frankfurt

Mesago, founded in 1982 and located in Stuttgart, specializes in exhibitions and conferences on various topics of technology. The company belongs to the Messe Frankfurt Group. Mesago operates internationally and is not tied to a specific venue. With 160 members of staff Mesago organizes events for the benefit of more than 3,300 exhibitors and over 110,000 trade visitors, conference delegates and speakers from all over the world. Numerous trade associations, publishing houses, scientific institutes and universities work with Mesago closely as advisers, co-organizers and partners. (mesago.com)

Background information on Messe Frankfurt

Messe Frankfurt is the world's largest trade fair, congress and event organizer with its own exhibition grounds. With more than 2,500* employees at 30 locations, the company generates annual sales of around €715* million. Thanks to its far-reaching ties with the relevant sectors and to its international sales network, the Group looks after the business interests of its customers effectively. A comprehensive range of services – both onsite and online – ensures that customers worldwide enjoy consistently high quality and flexibility when planning, organizing and running their events. The wide range of services includes renting exhibition grounds, trade fair construction and marketing, personnel and food services. With its headquarters in Frankfurt am Main, the company is owned by the City of Frankfurt (60 percent) and the State of Hesse (40 percent). For more information, please visit our website at: www.messefrankfurt.com

*preliminary figures 2018

Background information on TCT (Content Partner)

Since 1992 the TCT Group's mission has been to accelerate the adoption of 3D technologies for design, development and manufacture across all industry sectors. Through events, publications, websites and digital products TCT delivers business-critical insights on 3D printing, additive manufacturing, CAD/CAE, metrology and inspection, as well as traditional manufacturing processes such as molding, casting and CNC machining. The TCT Group is owned by Rapid News Publications Ltd (rapidnews.com), part of Rapid News Communications Group. (thetctgroup.com)

Background information on the Working Group Additive Manufacturing (Honorary Sponsor)

Within the Working Group Additive Manufacturing, more than 120 companies and research institutes collaborate under the direction of the German industry federation VDMA. Here, plant engineers; component and material suppliers; industrial companies that work with metals and plastics; service providers in software, manufacturing, and processing; and numerous researchers all work toward the same goal: the industrialization of additive manufacturing techniques.

(am.vdma.org)