

Holger Hanselka Receives August Wöhler Medal

KIT President Honored by the German Association for Materials Research and Testing (DVM)



KIT President Professor Holger Hanselka. (Photo: Andrea Fabry, KIT)

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For outstanding achievements in his field of work, the President of the Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT), Professor Holger Hanselka, is granted the August Wöhler Medal. The medal was handed over at the annual conference of the DVM Working Group on Structural Durability in Ingolstadt. Special emphasis in the decision process on granting the award is placed on the practical use of the results in the industrial context.

According to the Association, Hanselka, who was Director of the Fraunhofer Institute of Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF in Darmstadt from 2001 to 2013 and today is the President of the KIT, made an outstanding contribution to structural durability through his own scientific work and the research projects headed by him. He considerably extended the scopes of the discipline and initiated new interdisciplinary cooperative ventures. The DVM underlines that Hanselka successfully established innovative topics of relevance to the future.

“Knowledge and technology transfer are highly important to me. I am therefore very happy to receive this honor of the DVM that supports exchange between research and industry,” Hanselka said.

Holger Hanselka was born in 1961 and studied mechanical engineering at the Clausthal Technical University. In 1988, he took up work as a scientist at the German Aerospace Center (DLR) and specialized in the fields of lightweight construction and fiber composites. After a professorship at the Otto-von-Guericke Universität of Magdeburg, Hanselka was appointed Director of the Fraunhofer Institute for Structural Durability and System Reliability LBF and Head of Institute for System Reliability and Machine Acoustics of the Technical University of Darmstadt in 2001. From 2006 to 2012, Hanselka was Member of the Presidential Council of the Fraunhofer Gesellschaft. From 2010 to fall 2013, he was Vice-President of TU Darmstadt. In October 2013, Holger Hanselka was elected President of KIT.

The Karlsruhe Institute of Technology (KIT) is a public corporation according to the legislation of the state of Baden-Württemberg. It fulfills the mission of a university and the mission of a national research center of the Helmholtz Association. Research activities focus on energy, the natural and built environment as well as on society and technology and cover the whole range extending from fundamental aspects to application. With about 9400 employees, including more than 6000 staff members in the science and education sector, and 24500 students, KIT is one of the biggest research and education institutions in Europe. Work of KIT is based on the knowledge triangle of research, teaching, and innovation.

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