**Award winning plastic innovations**

**motan innovation award ceremony during Fakuma exhibition**

**The winners have been confirmed: Three new ideas in the field of raw materials handling were awarded by the motan innovation award (mia) on 18th October 2018. The technology company motan runs the competition every two years to promote ideas and innovations that are too good to be forgotten.**

At the very top of the winner's podium this year is Reinhard Herro with his gravimetric suction box, a new system for recording material throughputs with batch traceability for pneumatic conveying systems. Second place went to Philipp Mählmeyer for his app innovation, which displays status information of plant components on a mobile device while allowing intuitive control of the actuators. Bernd Michael achieved third place with the METRO-Lay system developed by him, increasing the efficiency of laying material feedlines.

The mia jury, a panel of four experts from universities and institutes in the field of plastics research, had short-listed six ideas for the award in July after intensive evaluation. The three winning projects were particularly convincing in terms of innovation level, relevance for the practice in the plastics industry as well as feasibility and market opportunities, and prevailed over the other contenders.

"Innovation and capability are integral parts of our corporate culture. For us at motan the following applies: no good idea must be lost – neither to our company nor to the industry", mia-initiator and CEO of the motan group Sandra Füllsack explains her motivation for the award. "Digitalization and scarcity of resources are changing the world and changing us. We therefore experience that the plastic world, like all branches of industry, reinvents itself. With the mia Award, we have created an instrument with which we can channel creative ideas and further develop them – for the future viability of our company and the entire plastics world."

Sandra Füllsack, CEO and Carl Litherland, CMO of the motan group and the jury members presented the winning trophies at the official award ceremony on 18th October at the Dornier Museum, Friedrichshafen, Germany. The prize money totaling EUR 20,000 is donated by motan holding gmbh, which also supports the winners in patent applications and further development of their innovations right up to market introduction.

**The mia winners**

**1. Reinhard Herro**  
Project idea: GAK system (gravimetric suction box);   
Objective: Automation, control and monitoring of pneumatic conveying systems

**2. Philipp Mählmeyer**  
Project idea: System control on a mobile device;   
Objective: Query status information specifically via QR codes

**3. Bernd Michael**   
Project idea: System METRO-Lay;   
Objective: Efficient creation of routes for material and vacuum lines

**The mia jury**

**Prof. Dr. Martin Bastian** has been since 2006, Institute Director at SKZ in Würzburg, the largest plastics institute in Germany

**Dr.-Ing. Peter Faatz** was a professor of plastics technology and since 2005 has been in charge of the process development for plastics technology at INA Schaeffler.

**Karl Miller** started as Technical Sales Engineer at Colortronic in 1987 and today runs motan-colortronic Ltd. in Great Britain

**Prof. Dr.-Ing. Christian Hopmann** is the Head of the Institute for Plastics Processing (IKV) in industry and trade at RWTH Aachen since April 2011

**The motan group**

The motan group, based in Constance, was founded in 1947. As a leading provider of sustainable raw material handling, it is active in the fields of injection molding, blow molding, extrusion and compounding. The application-oriented product range includes innovative, modular system solutions for storing, drying and crystallising, for conveying, dosing and mixing raw materials for the plastics manufacturing and processing industries. Production takes place at various manufacturing sites in Germany, India and China. motan sells its products, system solutions and services through its motan-colortronic regional sales centers. With currently more than 500 employees, annual sales of around Euro 128 million are achieved. Thanks to its network and many years of experience, motan offers customers what they really need: tailor-made solutions with real added value.

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