

2015 manus: Fascinating plain bearing applications honoured with awards

The winners were chosen from 467 entries from 34 countries at the Hannover Messe

The manus awards were presented for the seventh time yesterday evening at the Hannover Messe. The creative potentials inherent in the use of polymer plain bearings have been displayed here by developers from around the world. The manus gold was awarded to Jan-Philipp Kobler of the Leibniz University of Hannover, where a system has been developed for use in ear surgery. A special prize was awarded to the company ATS ELGI from India, which uses lubrication-free plastic plain bearings from igus in its car-wash systems.

The manus awards highlight interesting applications with the use of plastic plain bearings that are characterised by technical and economic efficiency as well as the developer's creativity and enterprise. The submissions from 34 countries showcase the whole variety of potential uses of plastic plain bearings, from prototypes up to production applications. The diversity of submissions was vast, from the 3D printer and fitness equipment up to pipetting machines. A difficult task for the 5-member jury, consisting of representatives from industry, research and specialist media. But in the end the winners of the manus gold, silver and bronze were announced. The prize-giving ceremony was held at the Hannover Messe within the stand of igus GmbH. In addition, a special award was presented. The special manus award went to India, the partner country at this year's Hannover Messe.

Gold for ear surgery

Gold was awarded to a medical assistance system used in the non invasive cochlear implant surgery to treat deafness and severe hearing loss. With the help of this device, a branch canal is drilled from the surface of the skull to the basal turn of the cochlea, which can be up to 35 mm below the skull cap. Here the highest precision is required. The system must comply with the medical-

sanitary requirements of medical technology. The iglidur X plain bearings and drylin N-rails used here accomplish this task without any problems.

Silver goes to Austria

Second place went to the company Mai International from Austria for their machine, which removes screed very easily. To adapt to different space widths, the machine can be extended from 2.5 to four metres in increments of 0.5 m. With a maximum working width of four metres, a surface performance of up to 100 m²/h is possible. In this area of work, conventional bearings would fail long term after filling with dust and dirt. Dry-running plastic bearings just push away the dirt and therefore will not fail.

Large 3D printing machine wins the bronze

Although many users had submitted their 3D printers for the 2015 manus, the system of the company Aerosud ITC from South Africa was found to be particularly remarkable. This laser-based 3D printing machine prints metal parts made of titanium, aluminium, steel or even gold. The linear system must run smoothly even under the extreme conditions of up to 150°C and the finest air-borne dust particles, which the drylin linear bearings from igus manage without any problems.

Special manus for India, the partner country

In this car-wash system, the manufacturer ATS ELGI in India uses tough iglidur plain bearings in the underbody wash. Plastic plain bearings do not corrode and have allowed reduced downtimes of the car wash, which is the basic reason for the manufacturer's decision. More than 70 submissions for the 2015 manus came from India alone, which is a record, and therefore necessitated this special distinction among these candidates.

At www.manus-award.com you will find all information on the winners and all other applications of the past years.

Captions:



Picture PM1815-1

Winners of the seventh manus award being honoured at the igus stand. (Source: igus GmbH)



Picture PM1815-2

The manus gold went to Jan-Philipp Kobler of the Leibniz University of Hannover for a system used in ear surgery. (Source: igus GmbH)

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ABOUT IGUS:

igus GmbH is a globally leading manufacturer of energy chain systems and polymer plain bearings. The Cologne-based family business has offices in 36 countries and employs around 2,700 people around the world. In 2014, igus generated a turnover of 469 million euros with motion plastics, plastic components for moving applications. igus operates the largest test laboratories and factories in its sector to offer customers quick turnaround times on innovative products and solutions tailored to their needs.

The terms 'igus, e-ketten, e-kettensysteme, chainflex, readycable, easychain, e-chain, e-chainsystems, energy chain, energy chain system, flizz, readychain, robotlink, pikchain, triflex, twisterchain, invis, drylin, iglidur, igubal, xiros, xirodur, plastics for longer life, CFRIP, dryspin, manus and vector' are protected by trademark laws in the Federal Republic of Germany and internationally, where applicable.