

“EXPERIENCE COMPOSITES”: A PROMISING START

175 exhibitors and more than 4,000 visitors at the kick-off in Augsburg

Augsburg. The new leading international fair for fibre composites, light construction and carbon, “Experience Composites – powered by JEC Group”, celebrated a promising start. After the premier of the event, the creators, Messe Augsburg, the French JEC Group and Carbon Composites e.V. (CCeV), are satisfied to look back on a successful start. 175 exhibitors and 4,120 visitors from more than 30 countries, three congresses and multiple side events, awards and a programme for schools made the fair, held 21st–23rd September in Augsburg, a real success story.



Alexander Gundling, CEO of CCeV, is thrilled by the success of the premier: “The concept of a multi-location event was received positively by the members and guests of CCeV. With 4,120 visitors at the initial event, we are more than satisfied. We are also pleased with the fact that most visitors had a very professional background. With this as our basis, I expect to see a considerable growth in the number of both exhibitors and visitors in 2018.”

As the European fibre composites hub the city of Augsburg proved to be a first-class host for the international world of light construction and composites. The whole region took the chance of presenting itself as a networking and business kingpin for both small and large companies in the fibre composites community. All of the events were received well, in particular, the 8th user conference of the Tudalit e.V.. Numerous participants also attended additional events, seminars and visited companies and institutes. “I am particularly pleased with the response to the programme for schools. 802 pupils from the region were amazed by the innovative forces behind resource-efficient materials. This is a peak value”, says Katharina Lechler, who within the CCeV is responsible for education.

Within the framework of the CCeV Symposium, Carbon Composites e.V. (CCeV) awarded Michael Wilhelm the 2016 study prize for best bachelor thesis and Anja Nieratschker was honoured for her excellent master the-

sis. The laudation was held by Dr. Tilo Hauke, head of company research at SGL Carbon and member of the board of CCeV.

Six trail-blazing products and solutions received awards within the framework of the “Experience Composites 2016 Innovation Award”. The awards, designed by Carbon-Werke Weißgerber using used parts of a wind power system blade and Formula 1 composite materials, were given to Fisco (in the construction and engineering category), Mercedes AMG (automotive and transport category), Cruing (aviation and aerospace category), Cetim (mass production category), M & A Dieterle (equipment category) and the IFB-Institut of Stuttgart University (automation category).

Three startups were honoured with prizes in the first “Startup Awards” under the patronage of Ilse Aigner, the Bavarian minister for economics. The twelve entrepreneurs from six countries presented themselves on

their own stands in the Startup Village which was located in Hall 3. They each gave a ten-minute pitch presentation to a jury of six. Two first prizes (each liaised with 5,000 euros) went to Cobratex from Toulouse (manufacturer of composites products made from bamboo) and Cevotec (market leader in Fibre Patch Placement technology). The third prize (an office for a year at Technologiezentrum Augsburg) was awarded to the startup Sicony.

The highlight for next year will be the CCeV general meeting on 7th March 2017 celebrating ten years of CCeV and the next international symposium in Augsburg in November 2017 which will be organised by CCeV. The second “Experience Composites – powered by JEC Group” in Augsburg will be held 18th – 20th September 2018.

Acclaimed opening of the first “Experience Composites”: Prof. Dr. Hubert Jäger, chair of the board of CCeV, Gerhard Reiter, CEO of Messe Augsburg, and Frédérique Mutel, president and CEO of JEC Group, (center) cut the green tape

