

Press release



**BERTHOLD LEIBINGER
STIFTUNG**

Award Ceremony of the Berthold Leibinger Laserpreis 2010

**400 Guests at the award ceremony of the Berthold Leibinger
Innovationspreis for Applied Laser Technology in Ditzingen**

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Almost exactly 50 years after Theodore Maiman's press conference about his invention of the laser on July, 7, 1960, the Berthold Leibinger Stiftung presented for the sixth time the laureates for the prizes in laser physics. The prize is the highest remunerated one in the field of applied laser technology. Members of the jury are international laser-experts, among which the German Nobel prize winner Prof. Dr. Theodor Hänsch.

„The knowledge on laser technology has spread like wildfire in the past years“, said Dr. Nicola Leibinger-Kammüller, managing director of the Berthold Leibinger Stiftung. „The excellent applications, that have been handed in for the prize are the best proof of that.“ Thirty scientists, engineers and technicians from eight countries in Europe, North America, Asia and Australia had presented their papers to the jury.

The first prize (30.000 euro) was given to Professor Dr. Thorsten Trupke and Dr. Robert Bardos from Sydney (Australia) for their laser based luminescence imaging of silicon bricks, wafers and solar cells.

The second prize (20.000 euro) was given twice: Professor Dr. Karsten König received it for his clinical multi-photon tomography developed at the JenLab and at the university in Saarbrücken, which helps to discover very early stages of skin cancer using laser light. The other second prize was given to Dr. Alexander Usoskin from Bruker HTS in Alzenau as well as Dr. Ralph Delmdahl, Dr. Kai Schmidt and Rainer Pätzelt from Coherent in Göttingen. They work on a method to improve

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the mass production of ceramic high temperature superconducting tapes.

The third prize (10.000 euro) was given to Professor Dr. Majid Ebrahim-Zadeh from Barcelona/Spain honoring his development of femtosecond light sources spanning from the ultraviolet to infrared which enables him to create laser light in any spectral color.

Since 2006 the foundation also presents the Berthold Leibinger Zukunftspreis. This research oriented prize (30.000,- euro) was received again by a Harvard-Professor: Dr. Federico Capasso was given this prize for his invention of the quantum cascade laser. With this latest type of laser you can detect finest particles of emissions in the atmosphere. Nobel prizewinner Professor Hänsch called this „one of the most promising photonic technologies of the future“.

400 guests from politics, industry, science and media celebrated the prize winners, among them a representative of the Australian embassy the president of the Max-Planck-Society Professor Peter Gruss, many university presidents as well as scientists from Germany and abroad.

Berthold Leibinger Stiftung - 1992 Berthold Leibinger founded the non-profit Berthold Leibinger Stiftung GmbH, which uses the revenues of its capital for cultural, scientific, social and religious purposes. The foundation started the Berthold Leibinger Innovationspreis for applied laser technology in 2000, in the year 2006 the Berthold Leibinger Zukunftspreis for the research, application and generation of laser light was added. The Berthold Leibinger Stiftung holds a 3.8 percent share of the TRUMPF GmbH + Co. KG indirectly via the Berthold Leibinger Beteiligungen GmbH. The capital stock amounts to 9.9 Million euro.