European Becquerel Prize for Outstanding Merits in Photovoltaics

To mark the 150th anniversary of Alexandre-Edmond Becquerel's discovery of the photovoltaic effect in 1839, the European Commission founded in 1989 the European Becquerel Prize four outstanding contributions to the development of Photovoltaic Solar Energy. It is awarded for the twenty-second time in 2014 on the occasion of the 29th European Photovoltaic Conference in Amsterdam. After a public nomination phase the Prize winner was selected by the Becquerel Prize Committee.



is the twenty-second Becquerel Prize winner. He is awarded the Becquerel Prize for his pioneering work in high-efficiency silicon solar cells.

Dr. Glunz is a pioneering leader in both basic and application-oriented research on silicon wafer-based photovoltaic energy conversion. His research has addressed a wide range of topics that are crucial for increasing the efficiency of solar cells and reducing the cost of solar electricity generation. This includes the analysis of electrically active defects in solar cells, development of performance-increasing technologies for solar cell manufacture, and minimizing the material demand in the production of solar cells. Dr. Glunz took a leading role in transferring research results into industrial production.

He was very active in setting up the European Strategic Research Agenda for Photovoltaics and is the initiator of a highly successful series of international workshops for PhD students (SiliconFOREST). With his engagement Dr Glunz contributed considerably to the worldwide success of photovoltaic electricity generation.

Vladimir Sucha

Joachim Luther

Director-General JRC, European Commission

Chairman of the Becquerel Prize Committee