

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 for four outstanding contributions to the development of Photovoltaic Solar Energy. It is awarded for the twenty-third time in 2015 on the occasion of the European Photovoltaic Conference in Hamburg. After a public nomination phase the Prize winner was selected by the Becquerel Prize Committee.



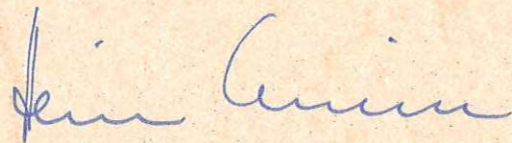
Prof. Andrés Cuevas



is the twenty-third Becquerel Prize winner. He receives the award in honour of his scientific achievements in the development, characterization and modelling of silicon solar cells.

Prof. Cuevas is one of the pioneers in the development of bifacial silicon solar cells, and contributed significantly to the development of high-efficiency silicon solar cells. He made very substantial contributions to determine and model the most important properties of silicon solar cells, including Auger recombination, bulk defect characterization, emitter properties, and detailed characterization of many types of surface passivation. His work on the characterization of carrier lifetime parameters contributed considerably to the development of widely-used key measurement methods like the quasi-steady-state photoconductance method.

His superior understanding of the physics of solar cells has made him to one of the key authorities in the field. With his engagement and his outstanding presentations Prof. Cuevas has inspired generations of students and young scientists.



Heinz Ossenbrink

European Commission, DG JRC
Institute for Energy and Transport



Joachim Luther

Chairman of the Becquerel Prize Committee