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 outstanding contributions to the development of Photovoltaic Solar Energy. It is awarded for the twenty-seventh time in 2019 on the occasion of the European Photovoltaic Conference in Marseille. After a public nomination phase the Prize winner was selected by the Becquerel Prize Committee.

Dr. Pierre Verlinden

is the twenty-seventh Becquerel Prize winner. He receives the award in honour of his scientific and technological merits in the development of high-efficiency solar cells, modules and systems including back contact and rear side passivated silicon solar cells.

Throughout his career, Dr. Verlinden has pioneered the development of advanced solar cell structures, not limiting his work to just scientific progress but focusing on feasible implementation for industrial mass production. This combination of deep scientific understanding and his contributions to the global PV industry makes his work unique for the progress of photovoltaics over the last 40 years. He has been very active in the global photovoltaic scientific community, serving on numerous scientific boards. Committed to education and teaching for decades, Dr. Verlinden has passed on his great passion and deep knowledge of photovoltaics to generations of young scientists as well as manufacturing engineers.

Piotr Szymanski

European Commission Joint Research Centre Director of Energy, Transport and Climate Prof. Joachim Luther

Chairman of the Becquerel Prize Committee