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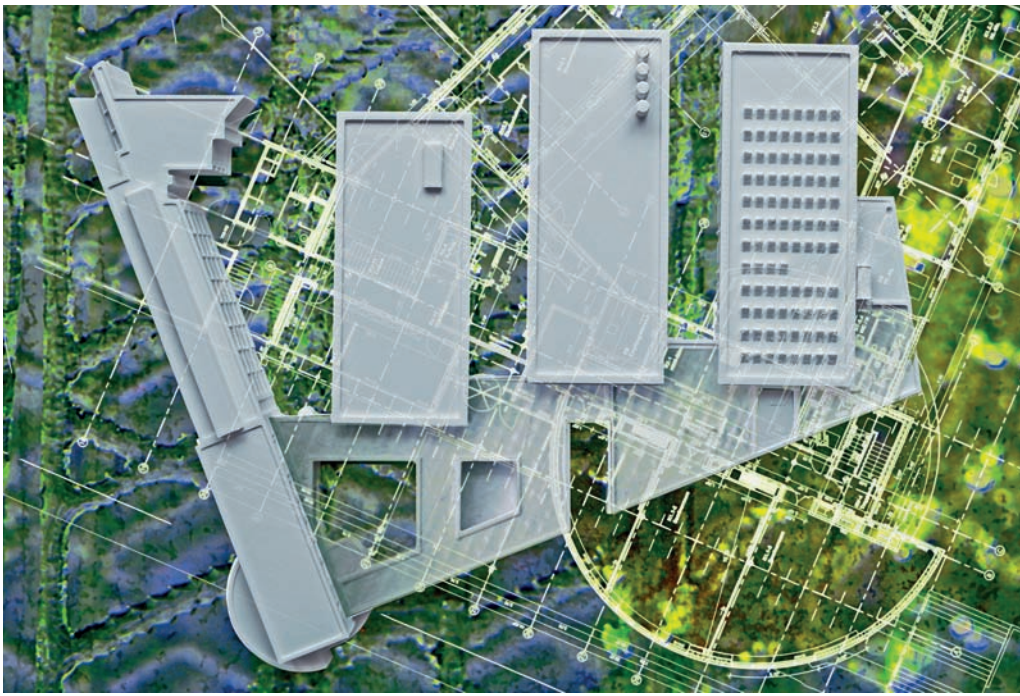

30th International Colloquium Plastics Technology

11 - 12 March 2020, Aachen

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Talents · Network · Innovation

INSTITUT FÜR
KUNSTSTOFFVERARBEITUNG
IN INDUSTRIE UND HANDWERK AN DER RWTH AACHEN

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Institut für Kunststoffverarbeitung (IKV)
in Industrie und Handwerk an der RWTH Aachen
Lehrstuhl für Kunststoffverarbeitung

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Preface

Dear guests of the 30th IKV-Colloquium,

this is an exciting time for researchers and development engineers in plastics technology and plastics processing. It is a time when computer science is spreading into many fields of processing technology and digital materials are attracting scientific interest. Biologically inspired computing supports humans in discovering patterns, relationships and correlation in a massive amount of data and new algorithms lead to improved and entirely new models of complex systems. It is inevitable and obvious that these technologies will affect plastics technology tremendously – and challenge plastics engineers to generate suitable applications in plastics processing.

At the same time the society is heavily challenging the plastics sector to reduce its ecological footprint and to fully implement a circular economy for plastics. While intense research in recycling has already been done, its commercial success is still limited. Scientific research is now needed to realise the vision of a circular plastics economy, as a broad variety of success factors need to contribute, such as new and better materials, new and more efficient processes and a more 'circular thinking' when designing a product. In addition, a strictly science-based evaluation of the environmental sustainability is imperative to re-create the credibility of the plastics sector.

These two topics are decisive for the future of plastics and that is why the 30th International Colloquium on Plastics Technology is particularly addressing them.

We, the IKV – Institute for Plastics Processing, aim to frame answers for those and many more aspects of plastics processing by sharing and exchanging latest research results and offering a platform for discussion and networking. We cordially invite our audience to join the discussion by critical thinking about the future of plastics.

Sincere welcome to the 30th IKV colloquium!

Christian Hopmann

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