

# Dyckerhoff Prize

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## **Klaus Dyckerhoff Prize for Building Material Research awarded for the second time**

### **Honouring Prof. Henri Van Damme for his life's work**

Within the scope of the 2009 International VDZ Congress in Düsseldorf, Germany, Professor Henri Van Damme was awarded the Klaus Dyckerhoff Prize for his outstanding work in the field of building material research. Van Damme, who has been a professor at École Supérieure de Physique et Chimie Industrielles in Paris since 1999, was honoured for his life's work. According to Professor Karen Scrivener, the first prize winner from 2007, the laudators especially emphasised his outstanding performance in combining a fundamental scientific approach with practice orientation in the investigation of cementitious materials.

Through his own research work, by coordinating complex research programmes and with his continuous commitment towards sharing scientific experience over the last decades, Van Damme has had an invaluable influence on the development of the entire research landscape in the area of cement-based building materials. One example of this is the project on "Industrial materials for civil engineering" that Van Damme scientifically coordinated for the CNRS (National Centre of Scientific Research - Orléans) and the ATILH (French Technical Association of Hydraulic Binder Industries) from 1988 to 1999. This collaborative research provided a deeper knowledge of the technical-scientific properties of cement-based building materials. This also encouraged the development of the NANOCEM research platform on a European level.

The Klaus Dyckerhoff Prize honours pioneering contributions to research or professional work in the development of application and/or manufacturing processes in the area of hydraulic binders. The award is aimed at individuals and working groups at European universities, research departments in scientific-technical institutions in the building and building material industries and research departments of companies in the building and building material industries.

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The prize is endowed with €30,000 and has been awarded since 2007 by the Dyckerhoff Foundation in the Stifterverband für die Deutsche Wissenschaft [Donor association for German science] every two years; hence for the second time in 2009. The foundation, formed in 1994 by Dr. Klaus Dyckerhoff and his wife, Dr. Edith Dyckerhoff, is dedicated to promoting young scientists and honouring outstanding performance in the technologies that are important for cement-based building methods.

(More information at [www.klaus-dyckerhoff-preis.de](http://www.klaus-dyckerhoff-preis.de))