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International
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»Ideas-Inventions-New Products«
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Press Release

New Jury Chairperson for the iENA Nuremberg Inventors' Fair

Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Oliver Mayer from Bayern Innovativ is the new chair of the iENA expert jury, which assesses the approximately 800 innovations presented at the international inventors' fair in Nuremberg every year. The deputy chair is Katrin Wägemann, who is responsible for technology at Bayern Innovativ's Patent Centre.

Nuremberg – In new jury chairperson Prof. Dr.-Ing. habil. Oliver Mayer, an expert in the fields of electrical engineering and energy technology has been recruited to the iENA expert jury. He received his doctorate from the University of the German Armed Forces in Munich and completed his post-doctoral studies in the field of energy technology. Mayer teaches at the Technical University of Munich and the Munich University of Applied Sciences. His professional career has taken him to developing countries as an expert in solar technology. He has also worked in the field of system logistics and at General Electric's European Research Centre. He has been head of the Energy Technology Cluster at Bayern Innovativ since 2019.

“Bayern Innovativ” is a neutral institution of the Free State of Bavaria that brings together relevant expert knowledge, especially for small and medium-sized companies, so that they can successfully make their innovations a reality.

The deputy chair of the jury, Katrin Wägemann, is Technology Project Manager at Bayern Innovativ's Bavarian Patent Centre. She has been assisting the iENA jury for many years and brings all her experience to this new responsibility. In the industrial sector, Katrin Wägemann worked for a number of years in the patent department of an automotive supplier for headrests, lumbar supports and tank

filler necks. She then moved to TÜV Rheinland GmbH's Bavarian Patent Centre. She was able to gain extensive experience in the field of intellectual property rights and searches during her many years of work there. In 2015, she successfully completed a distance learning course to become a patent attorney.

The iENA jury consists of around 30 renowned scientists and experienced practitioners from diverse fields. This jury conscientiously evaluates the inventions presented at the iENA using examination criteria. In a joint jury meeting, the jury then decides which inventions will be awarded the coveted iENA Medal in bronze, silver or gold in the four categories of Youth, Free Inventors, University Inventions and Inventions from Industry. The official medal ceremony is a highlight for every single inventor hoping that their innovation will be honoured and thus receive a further boost for its future success.

The family of inventors says thank you!

The previous jury chairperson, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Elmar Wagner, and deputy chair Dipl.-Psych. Hartung Neubauer, have held their office with great commitment since 2017 and were already on the jury for many years before that. Together with their jury colleagues, they have conscientiously assessed several thousand inventions at the iENA over this time, evaluating them and awarding them prizes. iENA Project Manager Sandra Hübner says this in farewell to the long-standing jurors: "We'd like to thank Professor Dr. Wagner and Mr Neubauer for their dedicated work on the iENA expert jury and wish them all the best. They professionally guided the jury with their technical know-how and, via their critical assessments, they were able to assist numerous inventors to take the next steps with their innovations. On behalf of the international family of inventors, we'd like to express our sincere thanks to these two former chairpersons, as well as the entire iENA jury, for this!

"Ideas – Inventions – New Products" at iENA trade fair

The international inventors' trade fair iENA is the most important networking platform for innovators from all over the world and at the same time marketplace for ideas, inventions and new products. National and international entrepreneurs, scouts and investors visit the iENA Nuremberg every year to be inspired. The innovations presented include both high-tech developments and practical inventions for everyday life. Youth inventors also make an important contribution to the iENA as committed young professionals and present their innovations there. The iENA will take place from the

29th of October to the 1st of November, 2020 in Hall 3C of the Nuremberg Exhibition Centre. For more information, go to: www.iena.de/en

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