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DIN Außenstelle Pforzheim · Alexander-Wellendorff-Str. 2 · 75172 Pforzheim

To
all chairmen, conveners and secretaries, and
all members, their delegates and experts
of ISO/TC 172 "Optics and photonics"
and its subcommittees and working groups

ISO's 2009 Lawrence D. Eicher Leadership Award goes to ISO/TC 172 Optics and photonics

Dear ISO/TC 172 chairmen, conveners, secretaries, members, delegates and experts,

I am pleased to convey to you greetings and congratulations from the 32nd ISO General Assembly, which was held in Cape Town, South Africa, last week.

It may somewhat come to you at a surprise, and so it did to me, recently, when I have been invited to attend this 32nd General Assembly in order to receive, on behalf of the ISO/TC 172 Optics and photonics community, ISO's 2009 Lawrence D. Eicher Leadership Award for excellence in creative and innovative standards development.

The Lawrence D. Eicher Leadership Award was set up in 2002 by ISO Council to honour the memory of the late Dr. Lawrence D. Eicher, ISO Secretary-General from 1986 to 2002. The Leadership Award is presented at the ISO General Assembly every year in recognition for superior performance by one of the ISO standards development groups.

The 2009 edition has gone to our technical committee, ISO/TC 172 Optics and photonics, thereby including your subcommittee and working groups.

I am honoured to hold in my hands this Award, on your behalf, and on behalf of all those who have formed – over the 30 years of the technical committee's existence – the unique spirit of cooperation that I am privileged to experience in my work with you. In my almost 15 years of service to ISO/TC 172, I have always been impressed by the strong dedication and commitment of the optics and photonics community to ISO. I am convinced that this Award will encourage all of us to even strengthen our efforts, in a common spirit of mutual recognition and understanding, of constructive cooperation and sustainable partnership.

I sincerely thank you for your dedicated commitment to ISO/TC 172. I am proud to work with you and looking forward to our further excellent cooperation. I hope to meet at least some of you at the upcoming ISO/TC 172 meeting in Berlin, not the least to celebrate with you the recognition, by the Lawrence D. Eicher Leadership Award, of the great job the ISO/TC 172 community is doing.

I am sharing with you the deep honour I feel about this Award, and sending attached the address by ISO President Dr Alan Morrison, as well as ISO's press release of last week.

Best regards,

Elisabeth Leitner
Secretary ISO/TC 172

INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATION FOR STANDARDIZATION · МЕЖДУНАРОДНАЯ ОРГАНИЗАЦИЯ ПО СТАНДАРТИЗАЦИИ · ORGANISATION INTERNATIONALE DE NORMALISATION

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ADDRESS

by ISO PRESIDENT *DR. ALAN MORRISON*
under AGENDA ITEM 7.2 of the 32nd ISO GENERAL
ASSEMBLY

Cape Town, South Africa

16-18 September 2009

ISO Members,
ISO Officers,
Distinguished delegates,
Ladies and gentlemen,

ISO's core business is developing globally relevant International Standards. The more we excel in this activity, the brighter the future of our organization. Therefore, it is a particular pleasure for me as ISO President to present the Lawrence D. Eicher Leadership Award which every year provides recognition for superior performance by one of the ISO committees that ensure our core business.

For 2009, The Lawrence D. Eicher Leadership Award for excellence in creative and innovative standards development goes to

ISO/TC 172, *Optics and Photonics.*

The work of ISO/TC 172 covers a very broad field including many products to which we are exposed daily, from reading glasses and contact lenses through to microscopes, telescopes and endoscopes and covers such diverse fields as laser scanners, surveying equipment, ophthalmic goods and many of the components of these systems that make them possible.

At a time when the World Health Organization observes that sight impairment is increasing around the world, therefore necessitating the organization of research for new treatments, we all realize the importance of the work of TC 172.

The market area is characterized by fast changing product techniques and technology. In this context it is commendable that the Committee and its leadership have produced the standards needed by the industry, when they are needed, – some 250 to date – and that the Committee continues to provide the leadership and support that the industry requires.

It is all the more commendable that this Committee, in the 30 years since its establishment in 1978, has positioned itself as a technology “enabler”. In its business plan, the Committee states: “Photonics is also considered as a key enabler in exploiting the potential of nanotechnology.”

I wish to outline the abilities and dedication of the Chair and secretariat to manage a large committee in a highly complex technical area. They have been instrumental in both developing the documents and in placing TC 172 at the forefront of implementing innovative techniques to develop International Standards, including balloting tools and the use of web-conferencing for some meetings of the project teams.

It is clear from the business plan of the Committee that it is very hard working and dedicated and that it has been performing in an incredibly well disciplined manner, respecting commitments and deadlines and keeping up-to-date in terms of the maintenance of the collection.

It is with great pleasure that I now call on the Secretary of ISO/TC 172, Ms. Elisabeth Leitner, to receive The Lawrence D. Eicher Leadership Award for 2009.

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ISO leadership award recognizes "visionary" achievements by optics standardizers

2009-09-17

The achievements of an international team developing standards for optics and photonics – which cover such products as contact lenses and telescopes – were recognized yesterday through the presentation of the **Lawrence D. Eicher Leadership Award** at the 32nd ISO General Assembly in Cape Town, South Africa.

Every year, the award acknowledges superior performance by one of ISO's standards development groups. The 2009 award has gone to ISO technical committee **ISO/TC 172, Optics and photonics**.



ISO/TC 172 Secretary, Ms. Elisabeth Leitner, receives the the Lawrence D. Eicher Award on behalf of the technical committee from ISO President, Dr. Alan Morrison.

The work of ISO/TC 172 covers a very broad field, including many products to which we are exposed daily, from reading glasses and contact lenses through to microscopes, telescopes and endoscopes.

The committee's work also covers such diverse fields as laser scanners, surveying equipment, ophthalmic goods, and many of the components that make these systems possible.

Presenting the award, ISO President Alan Morrison said: "At a time when the World Health Organization observes that sight impairment is increasing around the world, therefore necessitating the organization of research for new treatments, we all realize the importance of the work of ISO/TC 172."

The effort and dedication of the committee are exemplified by the more than 280 International Standards published in this highly complex field.

Since its establishment, the committee has had to face the challenges posed by a rapidly developing market area characterized by evolving product techniques and technology. Despite this, the committee has succeeded in adapting flexibly to changing requirements and to positioning itself as an important player and technology "enabler" in its field. With this in mind, ISO/TC 172's business plan is now looking at photonics as a key for exploiting the potential of nanotechnology.

The ISO President added: "In this context, it is commendable that the committee and its leadership have produced the standards needed by the industry, when they are needed, and that the committee continues to provide the leadership and support that the industry requires."

The Secretary of ISO/TC 172, Ms. Elisabeth Leitner, was presented with the award on behalf of the committee.

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- The Lawrence D. Eicher Leadership Award is named after the late Secretary-General of ISO from 1986 to 2002.