Winners of the 2019 Filtrex™ Innovations Award Announced

Sector has officially recognized innovation in the filtration industry.

The Filtrex™ Innovation Award, the only award recognizing innovation in the filtration industry, was won by Math2Market for their GeoDict software.

The Filtrex™ Innovation Award recognizes the efforts of all manufacturers of nonwoven based filtration products/ elements and celebrate their continuous efforts for excellence and innovation. Votes were submitted confidentially by industry professionals attending Filtrex™ Europe, the nonwovens filter media conference and tabletop exhibition, held in Berlin on 14-15 May 2019.

After each nominee presented a 10-minute showcase of their innovation, Math2Market was announced as the winners with more than 50% of the vote. This recognition of the industry is represented by a trophy featuring an artist's view of a filter media performance.

Math2Market were honoured for their innovative and easy-to-use FiberFind-AI module of Geodict software. This material simulator claimed to be the most complete solution for multi-scale 3D image processing and material modelling. FiberFind uses modelled nonwoven microstructures to train a neural network to label binder with artificial 3-D scans. After training, the neural network also recognizes the binder in 3-D scans of real nonwovens.

Dr. – Ing Mehdi Azimian (on the right in the photo) stated "On behalf of Math2Market, it is a great honour to win the Filtrex™ Innovation Award 2019 in Berlin. This will motivate us to bring more and more innovative and practical features into our scientific software GeoDict. Many thanks to EDANA team for their great and professional

organization of the Filtrex™ conference. A great place to learn and network."

"We are delighted to see the growing interest in the Filtrex™ Award, and the fact that nominees cover not only nonwoven filter media but also other steps in the supply chain is a great achievement in line with our vision for this contest", concluded Pierre Wiertz, General Manager of EDANA (on the left in the photo).

Nominees shortlisted for the award, were:

- Extia® 1000 by Ahlstrom-Munksjö

Extia® is a 100% synthetic, highly durable, pulse cleanable filter media, designed to last longer in all operating conditions. Extia® can extend filtration lifetime, whilst effectively removing coarse particulates at a lower level of pressure drop.

- micronAir® Gas Shield by Freudenberg

The newest innovation from Freudenberg Filtration Technologies' to reliably protect passengers against harmful gases and unpleasant odors, micronAir® Gas Shield is a premium activated carbon selection for automotive cabin air filters.

- FiberFind-AI module of Geodict software by Math2Market

The innovative and easy-to-use material simulator GeoDict® is the most complete solution for multi-scale 3D image processing and material modelling.

- Welstrat by Welspun

Designed for industrial filtration, Welstrat is a singed and calendared specialty needlefelt, suitable for mid temperature ranges from 140 to 180 °C. Welstrat offers excellent acid, alkali and hydrolysis resistance. High air permeability and lower mean pore size results in better efficiency and less energy consumption.

Filtrex™ Europe highlights the bright future of nonwoven filter media

The 2019 Filtrex™ conference attracted key players from 48 different companies, with a focus on mobility, innovation in filter media and in media design, media converting technology and modelling and testing methods. EDANA closed the 2019 Filtrex™ conference with thanks and satisfaction. "Perfect organisation, good quality presentations and long breaks to allow qualitative networking" highlighted Carsten Bräuer from TWE (Germany).

Delegates had the opportunity to hear leading spokespersons for the industry discuss the future of filtration for vehicles in the age of e-mobility, new developments in nonwoven media, media design and filter converting, as well as modelling and testing for the high performance requirements increasingly expected by the market.

Delegates could also benefit from multiple opportunities to meet and connect. "Great networking, ample time to meet the 'movers and shakers' in filtration" according to Duncan Gunn from Don & Low (United Kingdom). Bill Adams from Canfor Pulp in Canada mentioned the "good collaborative interaction between partners throughout the supply chain". "In today's time of growing transparency and availability of data through sensors and IT technologies, the whole supply chain can more than ever benefit from such forums like Filtrex™ conferences to help building closer partnerships able to deliver the expected performance" said Pierre Wiertz, General Manager of EDANA.

Closing the conference, Dr Joerg Sievert, COO Freudenberg Filtration and Chair of the Filtration Working Group, said that Filtrex™ remains the place for filter makers to hear the latest development from nonwoven media suppliers, and it will be EDANA's continued mission to communicate this. EDANA serves more than 250 companies across 36 countries in the nonwovens and related industries, helping its members to design their future. The Association's mission is to create the foundation for sustainable growth of the nonwovens and related industries through active promotion, education and dialogue. Information about upcoming events can be found at www.edana.org