

## A Severe Loss

### *In Memoriam Dr.-Ing. Andreas Schubert*

Dr. Andreas Schubert was longstanding managing editor of the journal of *Microsystem Technologies*, and one of the internationally best-recognised materials scientists in the field of materials mechanics for electronic packaging from Germany. He suddenly, and unfathomably for all of us, died on the night of January 27th, 2003.

The Fraunhofer Institute IZM was the centre of his professional life. A professorship at the Technical University Berlin was due to be awarded to him, most of all for his remarkable achievements in the area of packaging techniques for microsystem technologies.

After his course of studies in materials science at the Mining Academy Freiberg, he finished his postgraduate studies there with a doctoral degree (being given the top grade *summa cum laude*). For six years, he worked hard specialising on fracture mechanics and micromechanics at the Institute for Mechanics at the Academy of Sciences, Chemnitz, after which he assumed work at the Fraunhofer Institute IZM in 1993, right when it was founded. This year, which sees to 10th anniversary of IZM – *His* institute, would also have been a year in which he could have looked back at 10 years of continuous achievement and success. The numerous excellent presentations, given at important international conferences are example of these, just as much as the large number of papers published in journals and proceedings with a wide circulation and international renown.

At the 50th ECTC, in Las Vegas, the probably internationally best-recognised conference series on electronic packaging, the Electronic Components & Technology Conferences (ECTC), he was awarded the prize of ‘Outstanding Paper’ for his presentation. Above that, IEEE

honoured him by elevating him to *IEEE Senior Member*. A variety of other awards and honours, though, were granted him for best papers or presentation at quite a range of scientific conferences, workshops and symposia.

He was chairman of the organizing committee of the conference series *Micro Materials Conferences*, technical chair of a number of American conferences on advanced packaging materials, and member of several programme committees for other international events. As deputy of the department head of the IZM’s department of Mechanical Reliability and Micro Materials as well as in his capacity of scientific director of the *Micro Materials Center Berlin*, his share in the scientific achievements and the scientific and technical development of core competencies in thermo-mechanical reliability of the IZM was tremendous.

Having supervised many a research project, and also having coordinated the research programme *Reliability and Life-time Evaluation*, and, more over, having been a partner for colleagues as well as customers, here and abroad, who showed commitment more than anything else, Dr. Andreas Schubert’s part in the growth of IZM just cannot be underestimated.

Building on his achievements, we will carry forward his work as we know he would have done. Thus honouring his professional life, we will do our best to keep his memory alive.

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