

Innovations in Glass

Glas-Plus and Prinz Optics jointly celebrate their 25-year jubilee

The commemorative event of the two sister companies GLAS-PLUS in Mainz and PRINZ OPTICS in Stromberg to celebrate their 25th jubilee marked both the end of the festivities as well as their highlight.

To the motto of “Innovations in Glass”, Paul Hinz, CEO of Glas-Plus, and Peter Röhlen, CEO of Prinz Optics, invited their friends, business partners, wayfarers, as well as representatives from politics, the economy and culture to the “Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur” in the city of Mainz.



The Commissioner for Economic Development, Christopher Sitte (right), awards Paul Hinz, the founder and proprietor of Glas-Plus and Prinz Optics, a certificate of appreciation for his commitment to the city of Mainz over the last 25 years.

In their opening speeches, the General Manager of the Rhenish Hesse Chamber of Industry and Commerce, Günther Jertz, and the Commissioner



for Economic Development in Mainz, Christopher Sitte, praised the success story of the two SMEs and their significance as a “figurehead for the innovative capacity of our industrial location”. Their “manageable size and the motivated employees, managed of course by their innovative and strategically skilled managing directors” have been the key prerequisites for this success story.



One of the artworks in the supporting exhibition “Zeitimpuls” by Susanne Kunkel

In the festive event’s main speech, the former Minister of Economic Affairs in Rhineland-Palatinate, Rainer Brüderle, praised especially the two entrepreneurs’ “courage to niche”: “They discovered and took advantage of the niche ›glass coating‹. They led a family-run SME, in which responsibility and performance coincide, to success”. They deserve “to take credit for having developed a wide range of coated glass”. Amongst other things, these include colour filters for every desired ambience mood lighting, filters which block or reflect UV radiation, anti-reflective glass for displays and laser applications, as well as glass coatings with special functions for manufacturers of laboratory equipment and lamps.

As a second line of production in the group of companies, Prinz Optics



also began producing their dichroic glass, also known as colour effect glass, at the end of the 1990s. A fascinating material: transparent glass which shimmers in many colours, depending on the angle from which it is seen and the incidence of light.

The participants of the subsequent panel discussion on the subject of this special glass's "magic", Jens Gussek, professor at Koblenz University of Applied Sciences, the expert for glass processing Reinhold Huber and the specialised journalist Christian Schittich all agreed: dichroic colour effect glass is thus for architects, visual artists and designers "inspiring innovation and cultural enrichment".



Panel discussion, from left to right: Peter Röhlen (CEO Prinz Optics), Christian Schittich (specialised journalist, editor-in-chief of "Detail" until 2016), Heinz-Gert Woschek (moderator), Reinhold Huber (application engineer), Jens Gussek (artist and professor at Koblenz University of Applied Sciences))

With sculptures and objects made of colour effect glass by Hans Mack and Olafur Eliasson, to name just a few, the exhibition "Light becomes Colour" opened on the evening of the event on site at the "Akademie der Wissenschaften und der Literatur" in Mainz and presented some impressive evidence.

Mainz / Stromberg, December 2017



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For more on this and other information:

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