

Press Release

Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler receives the Karmarsch Medal from the Association of Friends of Hanover University

HERZOGENAURACH, 2007-12-03.

Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler was awarded with the Karmarsch Medal by the Leibniz University of Hanover last Wednesday. The medal of honor is awarded by the Association of Friends of the Leibniz University of Hanover for "outstanding achievements in technology and business". Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler is not only a very dedicated businesswoman, but also a personality for whom social responsibility and dedication still means something. The President of the Leibniz University in Hanover, Prof. Dr.-Ing. Erich Barke, emphasized in his speech that the phrase "Ownership has its responsibilities" is particularly applicable to Mrs. Schaeffler.

In her speech, Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler said "receiving the Karmarsch Medal is one of the highlights of my life as a businesswoman and represents a personal duty to remain closely involved with our company, with society, and especially with the University of Hanover." Mrs. Schaeffler donated a rolling bearing test stand to the Institute for Machine Elements, Design Engineering and Tribology on the occasion of receiving the award. The medal, which is named in honor of the founder of the University of Hanover, Karl Karmarsch, was presented during a special ceremony where special awards were also given to outstanding doctorate theses and degree dissertations. Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler is the first woman to receive the Karmarsch Medal. During the medal's 80-year history, personalities such as Oscar von Miller, Olaf Henkel, Hermann Scholl, and Ferdinand Piech have all received the award.

Background:

Since the death of her husband Georg Schaeffler in 1996, Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler and her son Georg have been successfully continuing his life's work as the sole proprietors of INA Holding Schaeffler KG. Georg Schaeffler founded the company with his brother Wilhelm in Herzogenaurach in 1946.

Since taking on this responsibility eleven years ago, the sales volume has quadrupled and the number of employees has doubled. The Schaeffler Group and its 63,000 employees achieved sales of 8.3 billion euros during the financial year of 2006. With its brands INA, FAG and LuK, the Schaeffler Group is present

at 180 locations in 50 countries worldwide and is among the world's leading manufacturers of rolling bearings and a renowned supplier to the automotive industry.

Alongside her commitment to the company, Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler is dedicated to many aspects in social and charitable work, education, the arts and culture.

Schaeffler Group – We pioneer motion: The Schaeffler Group has been driving forward groundbreaking inventions and developments in the field of motion technology for 80 years. With innovative technologies, products, and services for electric mobility, CO₂-efficient drives, chassis solutions and renewable energies, the company is a reliable partner for making motion more efficient, intelligent, and sustainable – over the entire life cycle. Schaeffler describes its comprehensive range of products and services by means of eight product families: From bearing solutions and all types of linear guidance systems through to repair and monitoring services. Schaeffler is with around 110,000 employees and more than 250 locations in 55 countries, one of the world's largest family-owned companies and one of Germany's most innovative companies.

Press picture

In his speech, Dr. Ing. Hans-Dieter Harig, Chairman of the Association of Friends of the Leibniz University in Hanover described the development of the Schaeffler Group and honored the dedication of Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler. The award is "an award in recognition of the person and the company" and fosters the dialog between research and business.

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CONTACT:

Gerhard Zaiss
Schaeffler KG
Head of Corporate Communication
Industriestraße 1 – 3
91074 Herzogenaurach
Tel.: +49 9132 82 2277
Fax: +49 9132 82 3584
E-Mail: presse@schaeffler.com