

Press Release

Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler receives ÖkoGlobe 2011 award for Personality of the Year

HERZOGENAURACH, 2011-09-12.

The ÖkoGlobe Institute of Duisburg-Essen University is presenting Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler with this year's ÖkoGlobe for Personality of the Year. The prize honours the achievements in business and cultural and social contributions of Ms Schaeffler, co-owner of the Schaeffler Group, Deputy Chairperson of the Supervisory Board of Schaeffler GmbH and Supervisory Board Member of Continental AG.

"Thanks to her keen awareness of the interests of everyone at the company and her great self-discipline, Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler has managed to build a business with an extremely admirable corporate culture as well as great economic results," the jury explained. "The strategic guidelines that Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler uses to direct the company are determined by high social, environmental and quality standards. She has shaped the group into a successful, global, modern family-owned enterprise and given it a particularly sustainable strategic orientation."

In this context, the jury highlighted the Schaeffler Group's activities in the field of sustainable technologies, including the optimisation of tracking systems for solar power systems, the development of wave energy converters to harness the power of the ocean, and drive train solutions for wind turbines. The jury also pointed to the company's commitment to the field of electromobility and its contribution to reducing the fuel consumption of combustion engines.

Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler said: "It is a great pleasure for me to accept the ÖkoGlobe for the Personality of the Year. I regard this not only as recognition of my character and the work I have done over the 15 years since my husband passed away, but also as confirmation and recognition of the great technological achievements of the Schaeffler Group."

The ÖkoGlobe, launched in 2007, is the mobility industry's first international environment prize. Under the patronage of Environment Minister Norbert Röttgen, the prize is awarded by the insurance group DEVK and the automobile club AVC in partnership with the ÖkoGlobe Institute of Duisburg-Essen University. The winners are selected by a prestigious jury of experts from the fields of science, politics, business 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

Maria-Elisabeth Schaeffler between the other recipients of the ÖkoGlobe award. (from left: Karl-Friedrich Stracke, CEO Adam Opel AG; Dr. Klaus Draeger, Member of the Board BMW AG; Bernhard Mattes, Chairman Ford-Werke GmbH ; Friedrich W. Gieseler, CEO DEVK; Andreas Renschler, Member of the Board Daimler AG; Dr. Klaus Engel, CEO Evonik AG; Prof. Dr. Ferdinand Dudenhöffer, Head of ÖkoGlobe Institute)

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