



Paris, 5 March 2014

Press release

Eugène Freyssinet Trophy awarded: young builders take the honours

The Eugène Freyssinet Trophy was awarded on 5 March 2014 by the Association Eugène Freyssinet during a ceremony held at the Maison des Arts et Métiers in Paris.

The Association Eugène Freyssinet, with sponsorship from Freyssinet, organised the latest Eugène Freyssinet Trophy awards. The aim of the Trophy is to honour and reward young builders who have advanced the art of building in the same way as Eugène Freyssinet, one of the 20th century's leading inventors in the field of construction. To win the panel's support, the candidate has to instigate an innovation that represents progress in new materials, or a novel use of existing techniques and materials.

"Eugène Freyssinet left to posterity a new material - prestressed concrete - and associated construction techniques that brought about a revolution in building, the potential of which has yet to be fully realised," says Frank Guyon, Chair of the Association Eugène Freyssinet. "Through his exceptional creativity, courage and refusal to conform in any way, he can and should inspire future generations of builders in their quest for progress. His fight to get the best from materials and optimise construction methods will stand as a useful reference for protecting the planet's resources."

In addition to the usual awards, two Grand Prizes were also given to leading figures in recognition of careers devoted to innovation in the spirit of Eugène Freyssinet.

The candidates' applications were submitted by a selection committee and then voted on by the panel.

"The Eugène Freyssinet Trophy Selection Committee submitted several high quality applications, which meant that the Panel was able to give preference to innovation and creativity, as well as their application to efficiency and cost-effectiveness, in the spirit of Eugène Freyssinet," says Michel Virlogeux, Chair of the Panel. "For the Grand Prizes, the candidates were also chosen on the basis of their international reach and human qualities."

The awards went to:

Joint 1st Prize	Akio Kasuga	Marcel and Philippe Matière
Joint 2nd Prize	François Cussigh	Romain Ricciotti and Guillaume Lamoureux
Grand Prize	Roger Lacroix	Klaus Ostenfeld

Akio Kasuga is a Japanese engineer who specialises in structural design and construction methods; he is the holder or co-holder of over 70 patents. Currently Technical Director of Sumitomo, he has spearheaded the design of numerous structures using the corrugated web bridge technique introduced by Campenon Bernard, as well as extradosed prestressing and the open-web prestressed concrete girders devised by Jacques Mathivat.

Marcel and Philippe Matière are the father-and-son founders of Matière S.A., an independent global company with 320 employees. Focusing on production improvement, automation and robotisation, this family business has designed a number of precast structures such as Matière conduits and devised bridge kits for construction in emergencies.

François Cussigh, Technical Director of Vinci Construction France, is a concrete connoisseur. His achievements include co-inventing Superstresscem prestressing grout. Chair of the FNTP¹ materials committee, member of a number of specialist committees and author of recommendations for use of materials, he also strives to pass on his knowledge by giving training to engineering students and established professionals alike.

Romain Ricciotti, a graduate of the Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées and **Guillaume Lamoureux**, a graduate of the Ecole Supérieure des Travaux Publics, founded the company Lamoureux Ricciotti ingénierie SARL. Recognised for their work on UHPFRC (ultra-high performance fibre-reinforced concrete), their credits include a number of high-profile projects, including the Fort St Jean footbridges and the Church of Saint Laurent in Marseille, and the Jean-Bouin Stadium in Paris.

Roger Lacroix, a graduate of the Ecole Polytechnique and the Ecole Nationale des Ponts et Chaussées and former President of the FIP², is one of the most significant figures in the world of construction. From the early 1950s to the end of the 1990s, he held numerous positions in the biggest companies and the most important bodies, as well as on technical boards and committees. His work has been published regularly in all of the scientific journals devoted to construction. He ended his career with a period at Freyssinet as a technical consultant.

Klaus Ostenfeld was born in Denmark and is a leading civil engineer and recognised bridge expert. Throughout his career, he has contributed to numerous projects in Denmark and worldwide (France, Germany, Sweden, the United States, Canada, Bangladesh, etc.). In particular, he spent four years in France at Europe Etudes (a subsidiary of STUP³ and Campenon Bernard) as a project leader, working on the design for the velodrome, Olympic stadium and Olympic swimming pool for the Montreal 1976 Olympic Games. Having been President of the COWI group, he is now an independent consultant expert.

"It is very satisfying to see that the spirit of Eugène Freyssinet lives on through such rich and varied personalities and career paths," says Jérôme Stubler, CEO of Soletanche Freyssinet. "What better way to pay homage to the founder of a company that is celebrating its 70th anniversary? Today, Freyssinet continues to innovate creatively and proactively in construction and repairs to strengthen its position as the leading specialist civil engineering company."

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¹ Fédération Nationale des Travaux Publics [French National Federation for Public Works]

² Fédération Internationale de la Précontrainte [International Prestressing Federation]

³ Société Technique pour l'Utilisation de la Précontrainte (now Freyssinet)

*The Members of the Selection Committee
(Chaired by Manuel Peltier,
CEO of Freyssinet):*

Paul Acker
Emmanuel Bouchon
Laurent Boutillon
Jean-Marie Cremer
Jean-Bernard Datry
Patrick Guiraud
Patrice Kirschner
Jean-François Klein

Michel Lorrain
Yves Malier
Bernard Raspaud
Jean-Marc Tanis
Jean-Pierre Viallon
Laurent Xercavins

*The Members of the Panel
(chaired by Michel Virlogeux):*

Jean Marc Tanis
Michel Placidi
François Schlosser
Pierre Jartoux
Frank Guyon

Bernard Raspaud
Michel Virlogeux
Manuel Peltier
Jérôme Stubler

About the Association Eugène Freyssinet:



The Association pour la Mémoire et le Rayonnement des Travaux d'Eugène Freyssinet was created in 1992 to commemorate and celebrate the great man's work. Founders Patrick Ponthier, Jean-Marc Tassin and Philippe Guiony, who all hail from near Objat, the village in the Corrèze region where Eugène Freyssinet was born, wanted to spread the word about one of their own.

The Association is independent of any private or public body and aims to honour the memory of Eugène Freyssinet, engineer and inventor of prestressing, in France and throughout the world.

www.efreyssinet-association.com

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About Freyssinet:



Freyssinet, a benchmark in specialist civil engineering, implements solutions with high added value in two major fields: construction and repairs.

With a workforce numbering 5,500 and a presence in over 100 countries, Freyssinet is involved in numerous major projects across the five continents, giving it world leadership status in its specialist areas: prestressing, construction methods, cable-stayed structures, structural accessories and structural repairs, reinforcement and maintenance using Foreva® solutions.

Its services cover all types of civil engineering structures, from major bridge and tunnel projects to nuclear containment vessels, tanks, silos, hydraulic structures, buildings, etc.

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