

SIPS 2015 tackles key sustainability issues

In early October 2015, the excellent SIPS 2015 (Sustainable Industrial Processing Summit) was held in Antalya, Turkey. *Copper Worldwide* attended the event, which included many key presentations and discussions on state of the art non-ferrous metal processing technologies. The level of awareness of the global climate situation, the detail and length to which speakers at this event had prepared, and the active engagement of the 500 or so delegates, were testament to the ability of organiser Flogen Star Outreach, in particular Dr. Florian Kongoli. The aim of SIPS 2015, as with previous well-attended Flogen Symposia, was to bring together and invigorate a diverse and talented global Scientific Community under a common purpose, that of furthering the technological innovation in resource processing and stewardship.



Dr. Florian Kongoli presenting Lord John Prescott with the 2015 Shechtman International Leadership Award (Photo: Flogen)

The Sustainable Industrial Processing Summit incorporated 23 symposia covering the entire cycle of metals and materials science from mining, extraction, processing, manufacturing, recycling, waste treatment, environmental, health, legal, management, policy, taxation and social issues. Five symposia were dedicated to the lifetime achievements of:

- *Prof. Elias Aifantis* – 2015 honoree with Aifantis International Symposium on Multiscale Material Mechanics and Multiphysics and Sustainable Applications
- *Prof. Heinrich Wilhelm Gudenau* – 2015 honoree with Gudenau International Symposium on Sustainable Iron and Steel Making
- *Prof. John Meech* – 2015 honoree (postmortem) with Meech International Symposium on Sustainable Mining Operations
- *Prof. Cyro Takano* – 2015 honoree with Takano International Symposium on Sustainable Metals & Alloys Processing
- *Prof. Andrey V. Vanyukov* – 2015 honoree (postmortem) with Vanyukov International Symposium on Sustainable Non-ferrous Smelting and Processing

The honorees cover areas of materials sciences that look distinct but are actually related to each other and all have in common sustainability. Plenary sessions included presentations from many scientific personalities and among them a presentation from 2011 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, Prof. Dan



Key SIPS 2015 speakers were (l to r) Prof. Aifantis, Lord John Prescott, Ei-ichi Negishi, Prof. Gudenau, Prof. Dan Schechtman, Prof. Takano, with Dr. Florian Kongoli, Organiser

Schechtman about the challenges of materials science and engineering, a presentation of 2010 Nobel Laureate in Chemistry, Ei-ichi Negishi about the help that metals give to organic life, as well as a powerful address from Lord John Prescott, House of Lords UK, about his view of sustainability issues.

During the event the winners of two FLOGEN AWARDS were announced. The 2015 Fray International Sustainability Award went to: Ei-ichi Negishi, Purdue University, USA, 2010 Nobel prize in Chemistry; Elias Aifantis, Michigan Tech. University USA and Aristotle University, Greece; Cyro Takano, University of Sao Paulo, Brazil; Heinrich W.

Gudenau, RWTH Aachen Germany; and Queiroz Galvão Group, Brazil. The 2015 Shechtman International Leadership Award went to Lord John Prescott, House of Lords, UK (Deputy Prime Minister of UK, 1997-2007).

Many previous FLOGEN AWARDS winners have got further subsequent high recognition. They include:

- *Stephane Dion*, recipient of FLOGEN 2011 Fray International Sustainability Award in the category of politics, who recently became Foreign Minister of Canada.
- *Oscar Gonzalez Rocha*, CEO of Southern Copper Corporation, recipient of FLOGEN 2014 Fray International Sustainability Award in the category of corporations, was

honoured in 2015 as Copper Man of the Year and received the Ankh Award from The Copper Club in New York City. Supporters of FLOGEN, NASA Astronaut Hon. Marc Garneau and Justin Trudeau became in 2015 Minister of Transport and Prime Minister of Canada respectively.

Many positive comments were received about SIPS 2015, including from Prof. Brajendra Mishra (AIME, TMS) – “One of the most well-organised meetings I have attended”, and Julien Rethore, INSA Lyon – “My best conference this year”. The SIPS 2016 venue is being decided during November 2015 and will be announced shortly.

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