

Presentation of the NETZSCH-GEFTA Award 1983
to Dr. Günter Hentze, Leverkusen/FRG
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The Nominating Committee of Gesellschaft für Thermische Analyse e.V. (GEFTA) has selected Dr. Günter Hentze, Leverkusen/FRG for the 1983 NETZSCH-GEFTA Award.

Günter Hentze was born on January 6, 1921 in Nordhausen/Unterharz, the son of a teacher. In 1940 after his final examinations he was called up into the air force and served there until the end of the war, finally as a pilot.

In 1945 he began studying physics in Jena and graduated with a diploma in 1950, the subject being a slow Wilson cloud chamber. For his doctorate Dr. Hentze worked with a pulsed electron accelerator. At this time Dr. Hentze spent a period of six years as an invited lecturer to universities on the subject of "electronics in nuclear physics".

The first contact that Dr. Günter Hentze had with Thermal Analysis was at the end of 1959 when he began working at BAYER AG in Leverkusen. From 1960 to 1968 in his thermal analytical laboratory there, Dr. Hentze worked on the physical properties of polymers, particularly glass transitions and polymers in their amorphous state.

The main techniques he used there were DTA, DSC, thermogravimetry, dilatometry and calorimetry. In 1968 he began working in the field of safety techniques, generally using self-developed DTA instruments.

From 1972 Dr. Hentze worked almost exclusively in this area of safety techniques for the chemical industry.

The scientific and technical career of the awardee is accompanied by numerous publications in different interesting fields within the last 20 years, most in the field of Thermal Analysis.

As a great number of the measurements strived for could not be achieved with standard instruments, Dr. Hentze modified and specially developed a number of DTA units which met the stringent requirements of work in the area of safety techniques, e.g. long measuring times. These technical developments over the last twelve years are reflected in about ten patents and applications for patents where he is quoted as the inventor or co-inventor.

Dr. Hentze is one of the few people who has participated in every ICTA conference and this shows his deep and long involvement with Thermal Analysis.

Dr. Hentze has been a member of GEFTA almost from its conception and has belonged to its executive committee for many years.

His active participation in the field of standardization of methods and nomenclature must also be pointed out. For more than a decade Dr. Hentze has assisted in the relevant DIN committees, and in recent years has been chairman of the sub-committee "Thermal Analysis".

Dr. Hentze is married to a teacher and his only son is a consultant medical doctor.

We are sure that most of you will know Dr. Hentze. The ones who are better known to him and can be called his friends know of his passion for flying. It has almost become his second occupation. From a total of approximately 5000 hours gliding or motor gliding there are a number of high altitude flights up to 7500 m. These sporting achievements being honored with performance badges.

As a flight instructor Dr. Hentze transfers his skill and enthusiasm to youth. His outstanding knowledge of meteorology and his teaching talents are of great help here.

Amateur radio, also from the glider and then with an effective antenna height of 3000 m links him across the world with other like-minded people.

As if this all could leave some time, Dr. Hentze spends a great deal of time making astronomical observations with a 5" reflecting telescope, most often to the moon and Jupiter.

The NETZSCH-GEFTA Award, sponsored by Netzsch-Gerätebau GmbH, Selb/Bavaria, is awarded annually to a person in recognition of his distinguished record in the Thermal Analysis field.

Outstanding merits in instrumentation and organization in this field are also recognized with this Award.

We present Dr. Hentze, Leverkusen/FRG, with the 1983 NETZSCH-GEFTA Award not only for his many achievements in experimental Thermal Analysis and instrument development in the fields of polymer physics and safety techniques, but also for his extraordinarily deep involvement for almost 25 years in national and international committees in this field and his active and determined work towards standardization.

The NETZSCH-GEFTA Award carries with it an honorarium of DM 3.000,--.

We congratulate Dr. Günter Hentze.