IPA - Fraunhofer-Institute for Manufacturing Engineering & Automation
Department for Functional Materials
Stuttgart, Germany

Dipl.-Ing. Ivica Kolaric
Department Manager

[Session Chairperson to OZ-18]

Biography

Ivica Kolaric, Dipl.-Ing., MBA is the Head of department for “Functional Materials” at the Fraunhofer-Institute for Manufacturing Engineering and Automation IPA in Stuttgart, Germany and Co-Director Fraunhofer Project Center for Electroactive Polymer AIST, Kansai (Japan). After his graduation at the University of Applied Sciences in Esslingen in the field of mechatronics, he gained his first work experience in an automotive environment before joining the Fraunhofer- TEG as a research assistant. In his first years at Fraunhofer, he has been working in the field of construction and methodical test planning as well as the execution. In a short time, he qualified for tasks and duties with higher responsibility. In the field of nano scaled carbon (CNT), Mr. Kolaric has done important pioneering work and opened up this future technology for the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft. In 2002, Mr. Kolaric has taken over the group and expanded it to a new department, which has been integrated into the Fraunhofer IPA in 2008. In the same year, he has started work on the hot topic “graphene”. To this day, the department “Functional Materials” from Mr. Kolaric is one of the biggest groups worldwide dealing with the application-oriented research of nano scaled carbon.

About Fraunhofer-Institute for Manufacturing Engineering & Automation IPA

Fraunhofer is the largest research organization for applied research in Europe. Its research fields are orientated towards man’s needs: health, safety, communication, mobility, energy and the environment. With nearly 1.000 employees, Fraunhofer IPA is one of the largest institutes in the Fraunhofer-Gesellschaft. It has an annual budget of over 60 million Euros, with more than one third coming from industrial projects.

The 13 departments of Fraunhofer IPA are supplemented by six business units: Automotive, Machinery and Equipment Industry, Electronics and Microsystems, Power Industry, Medical Engineering and Biotechnology and Process Industry. This structure enables us to help our practice partners improve their market position as well as support their market entry into new application fields. The focus of our strategic cornerstones “Mass sustainability” and “Mass personalization” is on sustainable projects with high industry participation. Mass sustainability aims at minimizing the consumption of resources while maximizing the standard of living. In flagship projects, such as the Ultra-efficiency Factory, Fast Storage BW, the Center for Lightweight Production Technology and the Center Smart Materials, we are putting this concept into practice together with our partners from industry, university research and politics. Mass personalization unites the advantages of economies of scale and scope. In ARENA2036, the research campus for functionally-integrated lightweight automotive construction and in Campus Personalized Production, we are working on ways to manufacture personalized products in batch sizes of one at the same price as mass-produced products.