

31th October 2012

Bernard Steyert, 2012 Fond'Action Special Jury prize-winner

Bernard Steyert, the grandson of Socomec founder Joseph Siat, has been awarded the Fond'Action Alsace Special Jury Prize. The award was officially made at the CREF (Centre de Rencontres d'Echange et de Formation) in Colmar on the 26 October, under the patronage of Philippe Richert, President of the Alsace Regional Council.

With this award, the Alsace Action Fund (Fond'Action Alsace) makes clear its 'hats off' to original and exemplary initiatives. In this case, it's the entire professional and involved citizenship of Bernard Steyert that has been recognized.

Joining the family company in 1966 as an electronics engineer, he worked his way up the company ladder, finally being nominated executive chairman in 1989. It was Bernard Steyert who created the UPS branch that later became the company's second manufacturing division, alongside that of industrial switchgear. He is also credited for having instigated an ambitious strategy of international openness that today sees Socomec maintaining its presence on every continent. Such ambitions continue to be served by constant efforts in innovation : the company sets aside nearly 10% of its turnover for R&D.

The policy of openness fostered by Bernard Steyert is not limited to the Group's business activities. It also involves Socomec in its immediate environment, as for example the production sites being regularly used for concerts and art exhibitions. Bernard Steyert has also been involved in local life in a personal capacity as Mayor of Benfeld from 1977 to 1983, not forgetting his countless local and national representations, especially in professional organizations.

In 2010, he passed the reins over to his son, Ivan. Today, he is chairman of the Holding company which he has continued to develop throughout his professional career.

Fond'Action Alsace was founded in 1985. Its mission : to recognize original and innovative projects that are testaments to 'talent in Alsace' and which contribute to the region's influence. Every year, the Foundation selects twelve prize-winners from various fields : the economy, culture, arts, community, engineering, science and medicine. The prize-winners receive their awards during a public ceremony.

The SOCOMEC Group - an overview:

SOCOMECE is an independent industrial group, specialised in the availability, control and security of low voltage electrical energy for industry and the service sector.

Founded in 1922, the company bases its development on two complementary industrial divisions:

- Solutions for Control & Power:
load-break switches, fuse-combination switches, changeover switches, fuse links, electronic control and protection, energy management systems, enclosures, cabinets,
- Uninterruptible Power Supply Systems:
inverters, load transfer modules, rectifier/chargers, harmonic compensators, 400 Hz converters, etc.

SOCOMECE is a leader and specialist in its markets.

With 2900 personnel in 25 subsidiaries worldwide, SOCOMEC has complete control over the design, production and marketing of its products.

Nine industrial sites (4 in France, 1 in Italy, 1 in Tunisia, 1 in India, 2 in China) operate using the Group's primary areas of technological expertise, guaranteeing consistent quality of production and adherence to deadlines.

In 2011, the SOCOMEC Group achieved a turnover of 425 million euros;

Read more at www.socomec.com

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